

PART III.

CHAPTER III.

HISTORY FROM 1844 TO 1898.

- Para. 61.—Famine of 1865-66
„ 62.—Effects of the famine.
„ 63.—Zamindars.
„ 64.—Zamindars at the British accession.
„ 65.—Talukdars.
„ 66.—Makadams and sarbarakars.
„ 67.—Kharidadars.
„ 68.—Nationality of zamindars.
„ 69.—Residence.
„ 70.—Caste.
„ 71.—Profession.
„ 72.—Transfer of estate.
„ 73.—Sales.
„ 74.—Prices.
„ 75.—Subdivision of proprietary right.
„ 76.—Remission.

914
30
884

HISTORY FROM 1844 TO 1898.

61. *Famine of 1865-66.*—The settlement of 1837 to 1845 was for a period of 30 years, expiring in 1868. In that year, however, owing to the disastrous effects of the famine of 1865-1866, the period was prolonged for a second term of 30 years. It may now be convenient to give some account of the great famine (1) and of the floods which followed it in 1866.

The famine was due to the early cessation of the rains in 1865. From June till September, the rainfall was much below the average and no rain fell after the middle of the latter month. Distress was felt as early as November, when importation of grain into the town came to a stop. Merchants closed their stores and there was no paddy upon the market. There were scarcely any stocks of grain in the District, the previous season had yielded a full crop which had been largely bought up by Telegu merchants who exported in that year 800,000 maunds. By December when such crops as proved worth reaping were brought in, the market revived a little; but in fact most of the produce was left to rot upon the field. There was no grain in the year. In the north of the district the outturn was less than 2 annas, although in parts of the south it averaged about 8. The poor began to flock into the towns, isolated grain stores were looted and crime increased to an alarming extent. By the month of April, even the well-to-do peasants had to subsist on a single scanty meal a day, while the poorer classes attempted to satisfy their hunger upon roots, herbs, tamarind leaves and the pith of plantain trees.

In February 1866 relief operations had been commenced and food was gratuitously distributed in Balasore town. In June Government found it necessary to import rice from Calcutta, and centres for relief work were opened at Bhadrak, Soro, Basta, and other places. By this time the mortality was extreme and cannibalism was even reported. From July to November Government maintained in the District 22 centres for the distribution of gratuitous relief and 10 shops for the sale of rice at prices considerably below the market rates. In August and September there were disastrous floods and the distress was much augmented. In September the new crop came into the market and though the rate of mortality continued high for some time owing to cholera, the famine came to a close from November.

During this terrible year the price of rice rose as high as $2\frac{1}{2}$ seers to the rupee. In the town of Balasore alone 10,000 paupers succumbed to starvation and disease. The total mortality was estimated to 217,608 of which 31,424 were deaths ascribed to diseases resulting from starvation, 29,558 persons emigrated, many of them to the Gurjats, and the total loss of population was therefore, 247,167 or one-third of that existing in 1865. It was long before the consequences of the calamity ceased to operate lands were thrown out of cultivation, holdings had been abandoned in large numbers, many resident raiyats were forced to transfer their hereditary lands and rights of occupancy in inadequate prices while others were left impoverished and indebted.

EFFECT OF THE FAMINE.

62. The famine Commissioners appears to have been of opinion that the effects of the famine due primarily to absence of food and of communications by which it could be supplied, were rendered particularly disastrous by the impoverished condition of the raiyats. This was ascribed to the defective operation of the rent laws and to the oppressive exactions of the zamindars. Naturally it was the latter class which suffered least from the effect of the famine, although the high price of grain and the impossibility of realising rents told hardly upon all and especially upon the poorer. A remission of revenue amounting to Rs. 80,965 and the continuance of the settlement for 30 years was, however, considerably more than the proprietors had a right to expect on account of their own depressed circumstances. The difficulty was to relieve the raiyats and the question of a permanent settlement was discussed. The Commissioners, however, remembering what a late writer in the "Nineteenth Century" appears to have forgotten, properly decided that this while benefiting the proprietors would still leave the tenants exposed to uncertainty and extortion."

The ill-effects of the famine were augmented by the severe floods of 1866 (2) when 83,000 acres of land were inundated and the estimated loss of produce in the Mogalbandi alone was 842,000 maunds of paddy, calculated on the average of an ordinary year, and valued at $6\frac{1}{4}$ lakhs of rupees (3). Even on the high grounds the depth of water was three feet while on the lower parts it varied from 8 to 12 feet and the period of submersion was generally from 10 to 20 days. No lives were lost either in this or in the still more disastrous flood in 1855, but the effect was severely felt and the inhabitants of the inundated area numbered one quarter of the total population. In 1868 followed the greatest flood the District had experienced within the memory of man. It occurred in June and it was therefore found possible to re-sow the greater part of the submerged area, but had it like that of 1866 been as late as September, scarcely any crop would have been reaped throughout 750 square miles in the south of the District. (4)

[1] Famine Commission Report dated 1867.

[2] Inundation Committee's Report of 1869.

[3] Calculated at the ordinary value of 12 annas per maund. At the price actually current in 1867 the value would have been 10 lakhs.

[4] See also paras. 190 and 191.

It was clear that in the midst of such calamities, the country was in no fit state to be harassed by a new settlement. The population (5) was thrown back to the figure which it had reached in 1855, and it was not till 1872 that it recovered to the point at which it stood before the famine. By that date, however, cultivation appears to have reached its former limit, and no physical disaster of any magnitude occurred in subsequent years to retard the progress of the District.

ZAMINDARS.

63. I may now give some account of the zamindars of this District, showing how the title originated, what parties were admitted to settlement at the British accession and the various changes which have taken place in their class and nationality. This will naturally lead to the question of transfers, including particulars of the various descriptions of sales and the prices paid; and some remarks on Subdivision of proprietary and interests and suspensions and remissions of revenue will bring the fiscal history up to the date of the present settlement.

Even if the word proprietor had never been authoritatively defined by Mr. Ilbert as the owner of certain interests in land that do not exclude the co-existence of any number of other interests of any number of other persons in the same land, the question whether the persons first admitted to settlement under British sale were or were not proprietors appears to possess only an academic interest. It is however necessary to make some mention of the circumstances regarding the manner in which the ancestors of those who are now known collectively as zamindars came into possession of their estates. The officials already mentioned in chapter I as having been directly responsible for the collection of the revenue from the raiyats were Talukdars and Makadams and it has been stated that while the former were freely ousted under the Mahrattas, the latter, who had previously paid their revenue through the Talukdars, were frequently admitted to direct engagements with the ruling power.

At the British accession all persons whose names stood in the Mahratta accounts were admitted to settlement although the greater number of the Talukdars whose names were so entered had been dispossessed of their estates for years. The condition of this class at the time was in fact most wretched; they were naturally ignorant of revenue matters and inexperienced in the management of the estates which had been wrested from them. They were described by Mr. Ker, the first Collector of the Province, as being in an abject state of poverty and depression and he further summed up the situation with the statement that the Mogalbandi had ever been held khas by the Mahrattas under the management of their amlis."

ZAMINDARS AT THE BRITISH ACCESSION.

64. All authorities are agreed that with an exception here after noted (6) the only right possessed by the persons admitted to settlement in 1804 was that of paying over to Government the "mofasal" or raiyti revenue subject to certain deductions and allowances for expenses of collection. It is true the right was theoretically hereditary (although even under the Mogals the inheritors had made a practice of obtaining the ratification of his appointment under a "Sanand") but in practice the right had been constantly disregarded. The local officials, however, had been directed by the revenue board to take engagements from the zamindars "or other actual proprietors of the soil" and the idea of the non-existence of such persons was repugnant to a Bengal Collector's notions of fiscal management. The result was that those who had previously possessed only a hereditary right of collection were shortly constituted "malikani jamin" or proprietors of the land, and became known as zamindars. This title was originally applied to the holders of the military jagirs or kilas (7) and later to some of the talukdars who held entire parganas, but towards the close of the Mahratta period, the words zamindar and talukdar were often used synonymously. Very few persons, however, were entered in the Mahratta accounts under the description of zamindar and these few included the jagirdars referred to as well as some of the more important talukdars. The classes and origins of the person admitted to settlement may now be noted. They were as follows :—

Talukdars.	|	Sarbarakars.
Makadams.	|	Kharidadars.

TALUKDARS.

65. The word taluk means a dependency. In the early settlement literature of Bengal a distinction appears to have existed between the zamindari and the talukdari tenure and in this minute of the subject, Mr. Shore remarks 'these taluks in general appear to have been originally portions of zamindaris, sold or given by zamindars, and to have been separated from their jurisdiction either with the consent, or by the interest of the talukdars with the governing power.' The peculiarity of this District is that while we know that larger estates of the pargana officials underwent a similar process of subdivision, it was not the custom to distinguish the parent estate as zamindari and its subdivisions as taluks. In fact the word zamindar, as used by Mr. Shore corresponds with the word "taluk" as in use in the Mahratta accounts, while his little "taluk" represents the "makadami," "sarbarakari" and "kharidgi" classes recorded by the Mahrattas under "majkuri." The classes grouped under the heading talukdars may be enumerated thus :—

Sadar kanungos.	|	Vilayati kanungos.
Choudhuries.	|	Gomasta of kanungos and choudhuries.

(5) Para. 27.

(6) Para. 67.

(7) Paras. 45 and 92.

The sadar kanungos and their gomastas introduced by the Mogals were Bengalis and the manner in which they gained possession of their estates has already been described, nor did it differ from that by which the remaining classes attained the same position (8). It may be added that the class of kanungos was largely recruited from makadams. Mr. Stirling distinctly states that the following were the only descriptions of taluks found in the Mahratta accounts and the extracts given by him from these accounts confirm the statement.

Taluk choudhuri.
„ Kanungo vilayati.

Taluk kanungo.
„ sadar kanungo.

“Majkuri” estates (in which kharida were included) were separately recorded as such. It may, therefore, be asked, “what became of the zamindars and the old non-official talukdar and their descendants” and again “how were the gomastas of kanungo and chaudhuries, who were known to have come into possession of estates, recorded”? The only answer appears to be that they had been absorbed and the conclusion is that, those who were not successful in obtaining the posts of kanungos or choudhuries were recorded as “majkuri.” The word “majkuri” must therefore be taken to have included all estates which were not held by official proprietors.

MOKADAMS AND SARBARAKARS.

66. This was the title applied by the Moguls to the old village headman or padhans. These as has been noted, all originally paid revenue through the talukdar and those who continued to do so, remained proprietary tenure-holders under which heading they will be discussed. Others from whom the Mahrattas took direct engagements were in 1805 admitted as proprietors. They were entered in the Mahratta papers as majkuri or “recorded makadams” the term specifying the fact that they had been admitted to direct engagements.

These also were specified as “majkuri” and the above remarks apply the titles differed however, in origin, since the sarbarakar had not been a hereditary headman of the village, but a person admitted for the purpose of collecting the rents. Majkuri sarbarakari estates were certainly very few in number.

KHARIDADARS.

67. The term implies a “purchaser” the talukdars had from early times been allowed the privilege of selling portions of the waste lands which were held by the purchasers at a quit rent or rent free. In the latter case they were assessed to rent as soon as they were found profitable to the purchaser or when the taluk changed hands. In some cases kharidadars were admitted to direct engagements and entered as majkuri in like manner to makadams. These estates were composed of small parcels of land scattered over many villages and parganas and were entered generally under the designation “Patna” some further particulars regarding the kharida titles which survived in the shape of tenures will be found in para. 116. The kharidadars were certainly the only persons out of all admitted to settlement in 1804 who had any claim to be considered proprietors, since, as Mr. Stirling points out, they brought the actual ground under deeds admitting of no ambiguity.

NATIONALITY OF ZAMINDARS (10).

68. I have already given some description of the sale policy of the early part of the century and of the displacements of the old Uria zamindars, and I propose now to proceed to a consideration of the nationality, profession and caste of zamindar as a class, sixty years ago and at the present day.

During this period the total number of recorded shares has risen from 1,509 to 7,481 or by five times (9) and in order to consider whether any class has proportionately increased or decreased it will be necessary to note whether its number has advanced by more or less than this amount. The Bengalis number 885 of the total, as against 174 at last settlement, the Urias 6,090 as against 1,181 and the Musalmans 505 as against 153. The proportion of Bengalis has therefore remained stationary, while the Urias have somewhat advanced at the expense of the Musalmans, Bengalis naturalised in this Province have been included with the Uriyas, and the number of Bengalis will show roughly those who gained a footing in the country by purchase of estates at the commencement of the century. This class as noted is not now making any appreciable advance in its proprietary rights.

Subdivision of title is quite as common with the Musalmans (1) as with the remaining classes, and their decline is to be ascribed to debt. They are most numerous in the neighbourhood of Bhadrak and very many of them have parted with shares in their estates to Uria mahajans, Urias number no less than 81 per cent. of the total number of recorded sharers, while Bengalis are 12 per cent. and Musalmans 7 per cent.

RESIDENCE (2).

69. The resident zamindars number 7,210, the non-resident being only 271, and the proportion of the latter has decreased from 5 to 4 per cent., a circumstance which it is satisfactory to be able to note. Most of the non-residents are either inhabitants of Cuttack town

(8) Para. 47.
(9) Appendix N.

(10) Appendices N and Z.
(1) Appendix Z.

(2) Appendix N.

like Babu Rai aribalav Bose Bahadur or of parganas on the south side of Baitarani. A few are resident of Midnapur and Calcutta. It was stated in 1853(3) that one-third of the proprietors resided in their estates and the proportion is about the same at the present day.

CASTE. (4)

70. The most important are, Khandaits 28 per cent., Brahmans 27 per cent. and Karans 18 per cent. These castes include therefore 73 per cent. of the total number of recorded proprietors. Of the remainder 7 per cent. are Musalmans, 6 per cent. Telis (5), 15 per cent. Tamilies (6), and 4 per cent. Kayasthas. The balance of 5 per cent. includes generally inferior castes. The following classes show an increase in number; Khandaits 8 per cent. Telis 5 per cent. Brahmans 3 per cent. and Tamilies 2 per cent. On the other hand karans have decreased by 6 per cent., Musalmans by 3 per cent., and Kayastha, Baisnabas and Khatriyas by 2 per cent.

Khandaits (7) who number nearly one-fifth of the entire population have always supplied one of the most considerable classes of proprietors. They were originally militia, holding service lands in lieu of payment, and in several parts of the District, as in parganas Soro and Senaut, considerable improvement is noticeable in their physical circumstances.

The Brahmans as proprietors are known to be on the decline, and the increase shown in their number may be ascribed to the excessive submission which prevails amongst them.

The Karans though not numerous are a leading caste and include many of the middle class proprietors. Their number has decreased through debts and sale.

The Telis and Tamils are classes of growing importance. The former are the largest holders of ready money and do a thriving business as mahajans having thus special facilities for purchase. Babu Bhagaban Chandra Das is the best known amongst them, and another family is that of Chandrapara in Adarapeya. The increase in the Tamilies is also due to purchases and chiefly to those of Raja Baikunth Nath De Bahadur and the Kar family of Balasore. Another large holder is a shop-keeper of Bhadrak.

Tantis, Kentas, Barheis, Dhobas, Sundis, Kamilas and others of the lower caste also appear to be making purchases.

PROFESSION. (8)

71. 44 per cent. of proprietors are without ostensible professions, whereas at last settlement the proportion was 61 per cent. It appears to be natural that the non-professional proprietors, being without other sources of income, should suffer some decline. On the other hand zamindar mahajans have increased from 9 to 15 per cent. About one-third of these are persons who in addition to being Proprietors, have some money-lending business, and the balance are professional mahajans with whom ownership of estate is subordinate to their business as money lenders. Both classes are purchasing estates but the latter most freely.

Cultivators have advanced from 10 to 24 per cent. owing to numerous purchases generally of petty shares. Pleaders and Mukhtiaris are a largely increasing class on the other hand the old revenue official families (9) are declining, the proportion having fallen from 5 to 2 per cent. Among the chief of these are the descendants of the sadar kanungos, established by the Moguls at Bhadrak, Soro and Jaleswar. The first are the Mahasay family of Kaupur, the second the Mahasay family of Kedarapur and the third the Mahasay of Lakshyannath.

TRANSFERS OF ESTATES. (10)

72. On the 1,417 existing estates three were created at this settlement. Of the balance 584 or 42 per cent. have during the last 60 years passed wholly by inheritance, 284 or 20 per cent. have passed partially by inheritance portions of them having been sold. 432 or 30 per cent. were transferred by private sale, 38 or 2 per cent. by sale under Civil Court decree and 76 or 5 per cent. by revenue sale for arrears.

The fact that only 584 estates are now found entirely in the hands of the descendants of the last settlement holders shows the enormous extent to which transfers have taken place. Though it is true that 284 estates still remains partially in possession of the old families it may be said, putting these two figures together, that transfers have been effected to the extent of almost half the proprietary rights of the District.

The figures already given show that no special class is benefiting or losing to any remarkable extent by these transfers, yet the mere fact of their number is in some degree alarming. The small number of sales for arrears shows that the blame cannot be laid on over assessment. It is not inability to pay the Government Revenue which forces proprietors to dispose of their estates, but rather their inherent habit of extravagance and indebtedness (a)

(3) Sir Henry Ricketts' Report on the District of Balasore,

(4) Appendix IV.

(8) Appendix N.

(a) I may note under this heading a practice which is now growing of transferring estates to the names of shrines or dieties. The proprietary entry runs "Shrithakur" marfat the proprietor who thus becomes trustee of the shrine. The practice does not arise from religious motives, but is prompted by the desire to prevent alienation, (para. 81). Raja B.N. De has thus transferred several of his estates.

(5) Oil Merchants.

(6) Sellers of betel leaf.

(7) Swordsmen.

(9) Appendix Z.

(10) Appendix O.

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SALES.

73. *Private sales of estates* : (1)—The figures to which reference is made apply both to permanently and temporarily-settled estates, but as the number of the former is only 150, the conclusions with regard to the latter are not materially affected by the circumstance during the last 10 years only thirteen sales of entire estates are recorded while the number of sales of portions of estates was 2,018. The latter figure includes many cases where the property was sold piecemeal as most frequently happens. The prevailing class of purchasers are zamindars who far outnumber any other. The total purchase money realized was $10\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs of rupees.

Sales under Civil Court Decree.—Out of 38 sales of entire estates during the 60 years five were sold during the last five years while the shares sold numbered 167 zamindars again being the most general purchasers.

Of the 67 revenue sales of estates or portions of estates for arrears further particulars are given in the next paragraph.

PRICES.

74. A survey of prices is interesting as showing the value of estates at the time when the zamindar was a mere hereditary collecting agent (2) again during the early years of British rule, and lastly during the course of the settlement which has just expired.

Mr. Stirling says "after carefully examining a vast number of bills of sale of old dates I can confidently affirm that from one-fourth to one-half of the jama was the ordinary selling price of a zamindari or talukdari both in the Mogal and Mahratta times." According to the same authority the selling price in 1821 was from 50 per cent. to 100 per cent. on the sadar jama or from 15 to 20 years purchase of the admitted profit (3). After last settlement there was an immediate enhancement of values, and in 1850 estates in Cuttack were selling at revenue sale for $4\frac{1}{2}$ times the sadar jama. In Balasore District only five estates were sold for arrears between 1829 and 1842 (4) and the price realised was three times the sadar jama. From 1842 to 1855 eleven estates were sold and the price had risen to nine and-a-half times the sadar jama. From 1855 to 1868 eighteen estates were sold including nine in the year following the famine and the price realised was 9 times the revenue. From 1876 to 1885, 22 estates were sold and the price averaged 30 years of the revenue. From 1886 to 1896 the number of sales was 17 and the price averaged 14 years of the Government revenue. Since that date the sales have been 8 and average price 26 years of the revenue.

Turning now from the prices realised at revenue sales which like all enforced auction sales do not represent the market price in appendix O will be found particulars showing the average prices realised for the various decennial periods since last settlement.

The average prices expressed in the number of years of the Government revenue were as follows:-

No. of years.			No. of years.			No. of years.		
From 1840—50	...	7	From 1861—70	...	20	From 1881—90	...	24
„ 1851—60	...	18	„ 1871—80	...	31	„ 1891—96	...	16
Since execution of kabuliyats 22.								

The Price rose, therefore, consistently until the period 1871 to 1880. After a slight fall towards 1890 to be attributed to the expectation of settlement it reached its lowest limit between 1891 and 1896. The price has now again risen.

I can only give particulars of one considerable estate which has been sold since execution of kabuliyats. It fetched 18 times the Government revenue or 18 years purchase of the present estimated profits, the revenue of the estates (Tappa Purusandh) having been assessed at 50 per cent. Other estates are reported to have been sold for 20 times the revenue. Although as a matter of convenience the purchase price is usually named in terms of the Government revenue it obviously depends upon the profits which the purchaser expects to derive. Calculated in profits 20 years purchase would be an average price where the Profits were reasonably secure. As during those years immediately before settlements the profits or proprietary incomes averaged nearly twice as much as the revenue estates would have been sold for an average price of 35 times the revenue had there been no expectation of a coming settlement. The insecurity attendant on ignorance as to how each estate would be dealt with and how far the profits would be cut down (5) caused the price in fact to be no more than 8 or 10 times the revenue. It is occasionally difficult to gauge the motives guiding the purchaser as to the price to be offered. One estate in 1895 was sold for 66 times the revenue, and it is probable that there were extraneous reasons for the purchase. Very often the smaller cultivating classes pay an exorbitant price for a share in an estate (6) and several insignificant khas-mahals sold by the collector also fetched very high prices. In such cases

(1) Appendix O.

(2) Appendix O.

(3) It appears then that an estate sadar jama Rs. 100, might have been sold for Rs. 200 and the latter sum representing 20 years purchase of the profits the latter would have amounted at that time to Rs. 10 per annum.

(4) The figures are from the Inundation Committee's Report dated 1868 (Sir Henry Ricketts' Report on the District of Balasore dated 1853) gives a different number of sales, but the same prices.

(5) I believe zamindars as a rule thought the last settlement rate of malikana would be maintained.

(6) Sometime in excess of 100 times the revenue.

it is the desire for freedom from exaction or for the social status of a proprietor that adds an additional value and leads, therefore, to a higher price. In the neighbourhood of Bhadrak, where there is a large middle class society (7) it is a common thing to find sales of an often infinitesimal portion of an estate containing little more than the purchaser's residence and land.

SUB-DIVISION OF PROPRIETARY RIGHTS.

75. The number of estates increased during the 60 years from 803 to 1,414. Excluding a very few cases where new estates were created by the Collector, the increase is almost entirely due to partition. Many estates were partitioned during the last settlement proceeding, the proprietors having availed themselves of the facilities afforded. It may be said that in 60 years Partition has caused an increase of 75 per cent. in the number of mahals. But a clearer idea of the extent to which sub-division has taken place gained from the fact that the number of recorded proprietors has increased during the same period from 1,509 to 7,481 or by nearly 5 times. As early as 1831 this matter was exciting attention, and in that year Mr. Ricketts, Collector of Balasore, pointed out that there were 1,084 proprietors recorded for 680 estates and that the number of Proprietors had almost doubled during the preceding five and twenty years. He adds that the principle of inheritance according to Hindu law had not been acknowledged before the conquest, and the recognition of the privilege was injurious both to the Zamindars and Government as tending to pauperise proprietors as a class. Although it is too late at the present day to consider the advantages which might have accrued had Government admitted the right of one person only to engage for each estate, the question of sub-division certainly deserves attention. While at the commencement of the century there was but a single proprietor to each estate, in 1840 there were two and at the present date there are more than five. There can be no doubt that the extension of the settlement in 1868 did much to land to this result 'by placing at the disposal of proprietors for another 30 years an enormous increment of assets, and thus giving an opportunity for a great and sudden rise in the standard of living. With the Uria zamindar such an opportunity was generally synonymous with a temptation to extravagance and improvidence.

It is not to the Hindu system of inheritance so much as to the transfer of portions of estates that the increase in proprietors is due. As already noted 2,000 shares have been sold during the last 10 years, and it is no uncommon thing to find, especially in the south of the District, estates held by 30 or 40 proprietors most of whom have come in during recent years as purchasers of small interests.

REMISSION. (8)

76. From 1827, previous to which date there are no separate records for this District up to 1831 no remissions were allowed. From 1832 up to 1867 the remissions on the ground of inundation and drought were about equal, the total remission on the former ground being Rs 6,25,844 and on the latter Rs. 6,18,660, making a total of nearly 12½ lakhs. In five of these years remissions were granted upon both grounds, and the greatest amount remitted in one year was two lakhs in 1832 on account of damage done by the great cyclone. In four other years the amount was in excess of a lakh. Remissions were granted fourteen times on account of inundation and eight times on account of drought and for a total of seventeen years out of these thirty-five. The average yearly remission on each account exceeded Rs. 17,000 and the total average was therefore 10 per cent. of the revenue.

Since 1867 there is little to note with regard to this subject. In 1875-76 a sum of Rs 8,600 held in suspension since the famine year, was remitted and in the four following years a sum of Rs. 200 is shown as remission on account of lands taken up for the construction of the Coast Canal. This was more probably an abatement. The revenue reports show that since that time no remissions have been granted. In 1892-93 a sum of Rs. 2,989 was held in suspension on account of drought. The absence of considerable remissions or suspensions since 1867 does not imply the freedom of the District from physical calamities. The extension of the settlement was no doubt held to cover bad collections on all accounts. Since 1876-77 the collections have generally averaged 99, 90 per cent. and have never fallen below 99 per cent.

(7) Known as khusbas or easy living.

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(8) Appendix P.

PART IV.—ACCOUNT OF THE PRESENT SETTLEMENT.

CHAPTER I.—TRIBUTARY STATES AND PERMANENTLY SETTLED ESTATES.
TRIBUTARY STATES.

77. Before coming to some account of the present settlement of rents in revenue-free estates and of rents and revenue in temporarily-settled estates, I may briefly notice the Tributary States and the permanently-settled estates of the district.

The Tributary States* are three in number, and engagements were taken with the chiefs in 1805 at a tribute fixed for ever. The following are the sums paid:—

					Rs
Morbhanj State	...	...	...	...	1,067
Nilgiri State	...	...	...	...	3,900
Keonjhar State	...	...	...	...	1,976
			Total	...	6,943

In the Hindu times these States were held upon a species of feudal tenure and subject to the performance of certain military services, to which was added by the Moguls the payment of a money tribute. †

Morbhanj contains an area of about 4,000 square miles, of which some three-eighths are under cultivation. The State contains a fine series of hills, which rise at one point to a height of 3,800 feet and extensive tracts of sal jungle, which will prove of great value as soon as proper means have been devised for its clearance and export. Large areas of virgin soil exist, and much of it is of excellent quality. The average outturn of paddy per acre is stated to be over 20 maunds, and the rent-rates vary from Rs.2-6-0 to Re. 0-12-0. The population numbers 532,000. The revenue on all accounts is 7 lakhs, though Sir W. Hunter gave 27 years ago as 1 lakh. The present Raja, backed by an able staff, has effected great improvements in the administration.

Keonjhar extends along only a small portion of the south-western boundary of Balasore. Its area is 3,096 square miles.

Though Nilgiri pays the largest tribute it is by far the smallest of the three States, and has a total area of 251,600 acres of which 47,600 are under cultivation. The best lands are those which lie in a long strip between the hills and the Mogulbandi on the west side of the district. The average outturn of paddy per acre is given as 16, 12 and 8 maunds for the three classes of land but the figures, for which I am indebted to the Manager, are certainly underestimated. The population was 56,000 according to the census of 1891.

The estate contains valuable quarries of muganit a black stone from which utensils are manufactured and exported in great quantity. A considerable revenue is also derived from the sale of fuel and small sal timber. Raiyats from the Mogulbandi bring down these articles on pack-bullocks and forest guards, stationed at the Ghats or passes, realise from them fees, which vary from 2 to 4 annas per load.

PERMANENTLY-SETTLED ESTATES.

78. These are 150 in number and lie in eight parganas in the north of the district. They were originally contained in Midanapur and borne on the Revenue Roll of that district, but were transferred to Balasore on revision of the boundary in 1868. The area of these estates, according to the old Revenue Survey map, was 127,118 acres, while, according to the Mahalwar Register in the Collectorate, it amounted to 148,990 acres. The present survey exhibits the area as 121,276 acres.

The total revenue paid is Rs. 34, 835.

CHAPTER II.—LAKHRAJ BAHAL LANDS AND RAIYATS OF BAHALDARS.

LAKHRAJ BAHAL LANDS.

79. These are lands which are claimed as revenue-free, and in the course of resumption proceedings **at last settlement were found to be held on valid titles and were accordingly confirmed as lakhraj.

The area is now 109,036 or 170 square miles, being in the proportion of 19 to the total temporarily settled area. The Lakhraj area at last Settlement was 106,015 acres, and the increase amounts therefore to 3,021 acres or nearly 3 per cent. The area claimed as lakhraj at this Settlement was 110,256 acres, and of this 1,220 acres in 3,260 holdings were amicably resumed and assessed to an aggregate rental of approximately Rs.2,000 with the consent of the Bahaldars.

*An account of the three States will be found in Sir W. Hunter's Orissa Statistical Account.

†See Fifth Report of 1812, Vol. II, page 6.

‡Para. 211.

**Paras. 67 and 127.

The lakhraj lands are situated in 3,368 out of the 3,607 villages in the district, and 24 villages are entirely Bahal, being held under a single general number in the Collectorate B Register. These are generally Debottar properties. Appendix Q contains details of the various classes of Bahal lands, and I proceed to give some particulars with reference to each class.

DEBOTTAR.

80. These are by far the commonest description, and cover an area of 60,032 acres, or more than half the total. These lands were granted in support of Hindu shrines, the deity being legally regarded as the proprietor, and the sebait or trustees of the shrine were generally Brahmans and Baishnabs, but included also a small number of Karans, Khandaits and Malis. The whole income of the lands was originally intended to be devoted to the support of the shrine and to charitable purposes, but owing to various causes, of which absence of supervision and decline of the religious sentiments are perhaps the chief, the profits have been perverted, and only a small portion of them is now expended on the original purposes. The subdivision of rights among the Sebait has contributed to the same result. Some sort of Seba or worship is however always made, and cases, where no portion of the produce of the lands is devoted to the shrine, are very rare and occur only where the lands have been transferred by sale or mortgage. If there are several sons who jointly inherit the property each will take charge of the shrine during a portion of the year and maintain a priest, cook and attendant—offices which may also be combined in a single person, either by salary or by a grant of rent-free land. Wealthy Bahaldars occasionally supplement the income of the shrine with a fixed annual contribution. For the other hand the Sebait of Amruta Manohi grants* are accustomed to pay a merely formal sum to the Jagannath mohants, while devoting the balance to maintaining themselves in comfort and luxury.

SALES OF DEBOTTAR.

81. Sales of Debottar land have occurred to a small extent by means of deeds known as "Smarpan Patra," or instrument of transfer.

The sale deeds generally contain a recital that the vendor in performing the *Seba Puja* contracted debts which there is no prospect of paying out of the other properties of the shrine in the interest of which the sale is therefore made. In some cases the reason given for the sale is that it is necessary in order to provide for unavoidable expenditure for *Jani Jatra*† of the shrine. The reasons given for the sale are such as to make it appear that it is effected solely in the idol's interest. Sometimes charges on account of other expenditure, such as repairs to the temple, are put forward as pretext for the sale. In some deeds the purchaser undertakes to perform the whole or a part of the *Seba*.

The case of mouza Barak in pargana Bayang presents, however, peculiar features. Since under a civil court decree against the Sebait as debtor, the property, without any mention of the *Seba*, was sold at auction, the purchaser being a nephew of Rai Hari Ballabh Bose Bahadur.

Debottar lands are occasionally mortgaged, the pretexts being similar to those given for sales. It is made to appear that the mortgage is effected in the idol's interest. A somewhat prominent instance of Bhogbandhakt‡ afforded by the shrine Bangsidhar Shyama of mouza Baragan-oger in pargana Banchas. The Sebait, Bhobanananda Deb Goswami, has parted in this manner with a large part of the extensive landed properties of this idol.

A much commoner method of transference is the execution of an *istemrari patta*, or permanent lease at a nominal rent, the price paid for the consideration being almost as high as that which would have been fetched by sale. Such leases often purport to be made for the benefit of the shrine, and frequently contain a condition with regard to the *Seba*, the lessee agreeing to pay a fixed sum for certain occasion, e.g., Re. 1 for the celebration of the *Dol-purnima*. Such stipulations are inserted only as a matter of formality, and in order to afford some protection against action by any interested party in the civil court for annulment of the lease.

It must be added that at this Settlement some attempts were made by the proprietors to have Debottar lands recorded as Brahmottar or Khairat, because the latter record would have strengthened the proprietary title and presented greater facilities for alienation.

BRAHMOTTAR, KHAIRAT, PIROTTAR AND MAHATRAN.

82. *Brahmottar*.—The area of these properties is 34,041 acres, and, as the name implies, they were originally grants to Brahmans as spiritual heads and religious teachers. Alienations have taken place to a considerable extent, for, while all such grants were necessarily recorded in the names of Brahmans at last settlement, only 83 per cent. are now found in their possession, the balance having been alienated to Khandaits (7 per cent.), Karans (5 per cent.), Musalmans (3 per cent.) and others (2 per cent.) including Goalas, Tantis, Telis and even Gokhars.

Khairat.—The word means 'gift' and the grants were made in charity to poor Hindus and very frequently to Baishnabs. The area is 7,316 acres.

* Those devoted to the support of the Puri temple.
† Ceremonies.
‡ Usufructuary mortgage

Pirottar.—These were grants in support of Muhammadan musjids and mosques, and the present area is 4,720 acres. This is only one-twelfth of the Debottar area, and the reason is that the Muhammadans are far less numerous than the Hindus in this district, and even in the best days of the Mogul rule the Muhammadan population did not form the dominant class, except in detached villages, more especially in the southern part of the district. The Muhammadan landed interest received too serious a shock in the Marhatta regime that followed that of the Moguls. Owing to these properties having been jealously watched by the Musalman population, alienations of any kind have been extremely infrequent.

Mahatran.—The word signifies a grant to a gentleman, and the recipients were well-to-do Hindus.* The grants were generally for barri[†] or khanabari[‡] and were considered as marks of respectability. The area is found to be 2,250 acres.

OTHER KINDS OF LAKHRAJ BAHAL.

83. In other grants ¶ are included the following descriptions :

Madatmas.—Grants to Muhammadans either in charity or as a mark of respectability. These were usually for khana or khanabari.

Khusbas.—The word signifies literally 'happy-living' and so middle class. These differ in no respect from Mahatran except that the recipients were both Hindus and Musalmans.

Dahir Jai.—The meaning is obscure and the word is locally corrupted into Dahijia. These were grants made by a father to his son-in-law on the occasion of marriage of a daughter.

Aima.—A grant of Musalmans.

HINHAYATI LAKHRAJ.

48. These were lakhraj grants held to be valid only during the life-time of the party in possession when the resumption proceedings were held. They have now ceased to exist, having been resumed by the Collector as each fell in on the death of the grantee. They have been constituted estates, and either settled as khas mahals with the heirs or sold, and either course, I think, is to be deprecated, as it swells the number of petty estates on the tauzi roll. The number however was only five; two of these were constituted khas mahals and the remaining three were sold.

SUB-DIVISION OF BAHAL PROPERTIES.

85. Examination of records shows that single proprietors were generally recorded at last Settlement. When Act VII of 1876 compelled the proprietors to register their names in the Collectorate B Register, all shareholders customarily recorded their names. At the present Settlement, apart from actual sub-division of the lands each several shareholder has also been recorded.

A comparison of the proprietors recorded on these separate occasions shows that for every 100 recorded in the last Settlement records there were 176 recorded in the B Register, while in records of this Settlement the number has increased to 209.

Turning from the subdivision of proprietary rights to that of actual holdings, the number of properties at last Settlement was 33,647, whereas the number is now 54,315, the latter figure representing the actual number of khatians, each of which will have a separate entry in the Collectorate B Register. The average size of holdings has accordingly decreased from 3.15 to 2.01 acres.

Perhaps a more clear impression of the great extent to which subdivision has taken place is gained from the fact noted above that the number of proprietors has doubled. Thus the present number of recorded sharers may be estimated at 67,000 against 33,647 at last Settlement, and the average area of each share has accordingly declined from 3.15 acres to 1.62 acres.

CULTIVATION AND INCOME OF LAKHRAJDARS.

86. Of the total Bahal area 49,147 acres¶, or rather less than half, are cultivated by the proprietors themselves; 7,791 acres of this amount are uncultivated, and most of this area is covered by houses, temples and other buildings, very little of it being culturable. From the cultivated area of 41,356 acres it may be estimated that on an average yield of 15 maunds of paddy to the acre, the proprietors derive a total produce of $41,356 \times 15 = 620,340$ maunds of paddy, equal in value to Rs. 6,97,900 at an average price of Rs. 1-2-0 per maund.

If it be wished to estimate the total income derivable from the Bahal lands a reference to the raiyati statistics** will show that the total money rents payable to Bahaldars amount to Rs. 96,440, to which is to be added first the Dhulibhag, or half produce rent of 5,251 acres, which may be taken as $5,251 \times 7\frac{1}{2} = 39,382$ maunds of paddy, value Rs. 44,300; and secondly, the computation of the sanja rents amounting to Rs. 1,110. The total income may therefore

*Karans, Khandaits and others.

†Garden.

‡House and Garden.

¶¶Area 677 acres.

¶¶Which is equivalent to the number recorded in the B Register.

¶Appendix Q.

**Appendix Q. C.

be stated at Rs. 8,39,750. Taking the number of khatians as representing the number of families†† it is seen that the average yearly income for each amounts to Rs. 15, from which the expense of cultivating that portion which is in their possession is to be deducted.

It is to be remembered, however, that there are a number of wealthy lakhraj-dars, such as Choudhary Gopendra Nandan Das Mahapatra, Zamindar of pargana Bhograi, whose income is almost entirely derived in the form of rents from raiyats, a small proportion of the area being reserved for cultivation by their servants. There are, however, not many lakhraj-dars in possession of more than one or two Bahal properties. The smaller lakhraj-dars cultivate the greater part of their holdings with their own labour or that of servants, and nearly all have other sources of income, in the shape of baziatti or other tenancies.

With the baziattidars, they constitute the bulk of Uriya middle-class society, and as priests, zamindars, amla, petty tradesmen, sarbarakars or village school masters supplement the income derivable from their lands. In many parts of the district, where caste rules do not stigmatise manual labour as degrading, the lakhraj-dars hire out their services as field labourers, and some of them were even known to serve as coolies on the earthwork of the Railway.

TRANSFERS OF LAKHRAJ.

87. Something has already been said on the subject of transfer of Debottar lands, and this may be supplemented by statistics* showing three several descriptions of sales of lakhraj lands; that is, by registered deeds, by decree of a civil court and for non-payment of road cess.

The following statement exhibits sales by registered deeds during the last ten years :—

Number of transactions.	PURCHASERS.					Purchase money.	Estimated purchase price per acre.	Estimated area sold.	REMARKS.
	Mahajans, traders or money-lenders.	Zamindars.	Baziattidars.	Raiyats.	Others unspecified.				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
7,723	450	1,308	4,233	1,013	719	Rs. 5,25,377	Rs. 70	Acres. 7,500	

It appears from statistics compiled for 20 sales between the years 1889 and 1899 that the average purchases price per acre amounts to Rs. 70. I believe that, on the whole, the purchase prices entered in registered kabalas are reliable, though it must be remembered that in cases where the sale is necessitated by debt, the price recorded as paid by the creditor as purchaser often includes accumulations of interest. In such cases the lands are valued, and this value entered in the deeds, the debtor receiving the balance, if any, after deduction of the debt and interest. On the other hand, where the accumulated debt exceeds, as it often must, the value of the land, the kabala would record a sale price equal to such debt, and therefore fictitious. It is known that the actual value of Bahal lands varies from Rs. 50 to Rs. 100 per acre, and Rs. 75 would probably represent the average price. Assuming it, however, to be Rs. 70 in accordance with the actual sale deeds examined, and dividing this into the total purchase money, we may estimate the area sold during the last ten years at 7,500 acres as shown above. This amounts to one-fourteenth of the total lakhraj area.

As scarcely a single case exists where sale deeds of Bahal are not registered, the figures given may be taken as inclusive. No separate account of mortgages† is, however available, and to estimate the total transfers, those effected by istemrari leases must also be considered, probably to say that 12,000 acres or one-ninth of the total area had been transferred during the last ten years would not be far from the mark. The number of transactions was 7,723, and therefore 11 per cent. of the total number of revenue-free properties changed hands, and if this be compared with the area sold it is seen, as would naturally be expected, that it is the smaller properties which generally come into the market.

The proportion of baziattidars among the purchasers is certainly noticeable, and the reason probably is that, on account of the Seba—Brahmans are the most likely buyers, since a purchaser of any other caste has to incur the expense of employing a Brahman for the purpose. But Brahmans are by far the largest holders of baziatti lands, and the circumstance is therefore accounted for.

††But in fact the number of families is much less, for there are several large lakhraj-dars who hold large areas scattered in many villages.

*Compiled from the books of the Sub-Registrar at Balasore.

†Para. 180.

‡Entered in the Sub-Registrar's book as "Intermediate tenure-holders." Baziattidars only are shown under this heading, for what reason I am unaware.

The following figures exhibit execution sales under civil court decrees during the last ten years:—

Number of transactions.	PURCHASERS.					Area sold in acres	Purchase money.	Average price per acre.
	Zamindars.	Mahajans.	Raiyats.	Peasants and Mukhtars.	Others.			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
220	42	46	8	5	119	1,269	Rs. 23,769	Rs. 20

The average price per acre cannot be accepted as illustrating the actual value of lakhraj lands, and indeed the purchase money realised at civil court sales is never a true criterion of value.

It is interesting, however, to note that only one out of every 250 revenue-free properties has been sold on this account during the last ten years. A civil suit is always the last resort of a creditor, and is only filed after every other expedient has failed.

For non-payment of road-cess demand 15 lakhraj properties were sold during the last three years. Of the purchasers 4 were zamindars, 3 mahajans, 2 mukhtars and 6 unspecified. The area sold was 91 acres and the purchase-money Rs. 942, giving an average price of Rs. 10 per acre, which again is no criterion of value.

RAIYATS OF LAKHRAJDARS.*

88. The area shown as held by raiyats of Bahaldars is 59,889 acres, of which 871 are uncultivated. These raiyats number 64,413, and except in the case of Dhulibhag and Sanja paying tenancies almost all have been recorded with occupancy rights, their landlords having received the status of tenure-holders.

The average size of these raiyati holdings amounts only to 0·93 of an acre, and they are therefore considerably smaller than mahal holdings, a circumstance which appears natural enough. The acreage paying money rents amounts to 51,405, the total rental being Rs. 96,440 and the incidence per acre Rs. 1·14-0. 3,007 acres are held by raiyats niskar or rent-free, and many of these tenants are those referred to in para. 86; in return for the grant they perform the Seba of the shrine. The Dhulibhag† paying area is 5,251 acres, and the value of the rental has already‡ been computed at Rs. 44,300 which gives an incidence of Rs. 8-7-0 per acre. 226 acres pay sanja which is a fixed proportion of the produce generally expressed in local measures "pouties and gounies§". Paddy, rice, ghi, 'birhi' and 'munga' are all paid as sanja rents, and converting the local measures of paddy into standard seers, and estimating the total value of the commodities so paid at the average market rate, the aggregate sanja rent is to be estimated at Rs. 1,110, giving an incidence of Rs. 4-14-7 per acre. Dhulibhag rents are generally considered to press less hardly upon raiyats than sanja, and though the incidence of the former considerably exceeds the latter, I believe to the general opinion. It is obvious that a sanja rent will cause extreme hardship to a tenant in a season of short crops since there may be little or nothing left to him after payment of the rent, whereas under the Dhulibhag system he is entitled to half the entire produce, whatever it may be. It may be added that an impression seems to prevail among the Bahaldars and their raiyats that under local custom occupancy-rights do not attach to tenancies paying produce rents, though, if the matters were to be legally raised, there appears to be no doubt that the courts would hold this custom inconsistent with the provisions of Bengal Tenancy Act, which attaches no inferiority of right to the payment of a produce rent. Section 40 of the Bengal Tenancy Act having been extended to Orissa, commutation may be applied for, but I have never heard of any such applications being made. Raiyats fully recognise the custom, and disputes, where they existed, always turned upon the question whether tenant paid a money or produce rent, the decision of this question being held to decide that of occupancy-right. But the impression of the absence of occupancy-right is not confined to produce-paying tenants. All raiyats of Bahaldars have been accustomed to looking on themselves as under-raiyats. In fact, notwithstanding the provisions of Act X of 1859 and of the Bengal Tenancy Act, ideas on this subject are largely governed by the traditions of last Settlement, since which time pattas have continued to be regarded as the symbols of occupancy-right. In spite of the educative influences of the Settlement camps, and although these raiyats have now been recorded as "sthitiban", the fact that they have not received 'khatians' like mahal raiyats has still left some doubt in their minds on the subject of their rights.

* Appendix Q.
† Or half produce.
‡ Para. 86.
§ Para. 219.

TRANSFERS BY RAIYATS OF LAKHRAJDARS.

89. It is natural, in view of these circumstances, that no attempt has hitherto been made by raiyats to transfer their holdings, though it appears that the question is now being debated by them, and the general opinion is that, not having received khatians they have no right of transfer. Attempts would certainly be strenuously resisted by the Bahaldars, and I believe that the superiority in the title of the Bahaldars to that of the zamindar has impressed the tenants they would generally admit that greater insecurity has attached to the tenancy of Bahal than of mahal lands. Again inalienability of Debottar properties, though it is actually infringed, will have led raiyats to the belief that they cannot exercise a power which is denied to their landlords.*

CHAPTER III.—TEMPORARILY-SETTLED ESTATES. ASSETS AND REVENUE.

CLASSIFICATION OF TEMPORARILY-SETTLED ESTATES.

90. The Tributary States and the permanently-settled and revenue-free estates having been considered, we may now turn to the temporarily-settled estates.†

These number 1,417‡ as against 803 at last Settlement, and the increase is due almost entirely to partition, the number of new estates created by the Collector being scarcely a dozen. These latter were resumed hinihiayati grants§ or lands acquired for police outposts or similar purposes, and subsequently being no longer required, constituted into estates, and either sold or held as khas mahals. The following statement groups all existing estates under their various classes:—

(1) Baziafti estates, constituted of lands resumed at last settlement	...	137
(2) Taluks ||	...	308
(3) Mujkuri estates ...	...	596
(4) Kharidgi estates, including patnas, numbering 107¶	...	313
(5) Nankar Batitaanki and Muajib estates**	...	30
(6) Resumed hinihiayati lakhraj estates	...	5
(7) Khas mahals ...	...	19
(8) Killas ...	...	4
(9) New estates created at this Settlement	...	3
(10) Jalkar or fishery mahals ...	...	2
Total	...	1,417

KHAS MAHALS.

91. Some description of the first six of these classes has already been given, and it only remains to note the four last. In 1845 the numbers of khas mahals, excluding those held khas on account of recusancy, was 8, and the gross assets Rs. 17,480. In 1851 the number had risen to 12, and the assets to Rs. 17,456. In 1853 they numbered 12 and paid a gross rental of Rs. 16,170, of which Rs. 15,076 was contributed by Noanand, and Rs. 755 by Birso, the remainder being petty estates. The assets of the 19 existing khas mahals before Settlement were Rs. 31,826, and the gross settled rental is Rs. 39,675. They cover a total area of 21,797 acres, and with the exception of taluks Noanand, Birso and Bichitrapur called for no detailed mention.

The estate of Noanand paid in 1806 a sadar jama of Rs. 9,456, and was sold in 1807 for Rs. 5,013. In 1818 it was again sold for arrears and purchased by Government for one rupee. It was settled by Mr. Ricketts, Collector of Balasore, in 1834, and the gross assets were then Rs. 15,502, but were subsequently reduced. The Settlement was for 25 years, and was made with the sarbarakars on the understanding that during its currency they were not to interfere with the rents paid by the raiyats. Sixty out of the sixty-seven villages in 1840 were so held by sarbarakars, who had a prescriptive right of possession. The estate was again settled in 1870, when the gross assets were Rs. 20,247. The sarbarakars have been gradually dispossessed, and the tenants now pay rents direct to Government. The total of the assets as they existed before Settlement was Rs. 27,311, and the gross settled assets are Rs. 31,457. The collections are made by a tahsildar with a small staff of moharrirs, under control of the Subdivisional Officer of Bhadrak. The arrears have latterly considerably increased owing partly to discontinuance of the sarbarakari collecting agency.

Taluk Birso†† originally formed part of Noanand, and was separated from it for convenience of collection, subsequent to last Settlement.‡‡ The assets previous to this Settlement were Rs. 1,933, and have now been enhanced to Rs. 2,236.

* For much information on the subjects noted in this Chapter, I am indebted to Babu Srigopal Bhattacharji, Assistant Settlement Officer.

† Appendices R and T.

‡ Including one estate, Touzi No. 1374, claimed as permanently settled, the circumstances of which are still under enquiry.

§ Para. 81.

|| Para. 47.

¶ Paras. 47, 116, 55.

** Subsistence lands or others granted first revenue free, and subsequently assessed by the Moguls and Marhattas.

†† Also purchased by Government for one rupee. It was then combined with Noanand, but afterwards separated as noted.

The so-called khas mahal of Bichitrapur * in pargana Sahabandor on the river Subarna-rekha deserves some mention. It consists of lands taken for the purposes of salt manufacture, though never so used, in the early part of the century, on an istemarari lease from the proprietors of mahal Barapal. The annual jama payable under the lease is Rs. 799, and the area which includes 3,549 acres as sub-let by the Collector to Babu Kailash Chunder Roy Mahasay, who has been very successful in bringing it under cultivation. Up to 1872 when the lease was granted to the Mahasay nothing whatever was realised from these lands, while Government had continued to pay the istemarari rent of Rs. 799 ever since the year 1809. The cultivated area is now 2,267 acres and the assets settled for the present year are Rs. 3,547, on which it is proposed to allow the ijaradar a sum of 20 per cent. It will, however, be some years before the revenue now derived from the lands recoups Government for the half-a-lakh of rupees so unprofitably spent on it before 1872. The istemarari rent continues fixed at the former amount.

KILLAS.

92. There were originally four estates under this denomination in the district—Ambahatta, Patna, Mangalpur and Ambo. They were held on military tenures subject to the payment of a tribute, and their circumstances differed little from those of the present Tributary States until the British accession, when the Bhuyans of Mangalpur and Patna, and the Mangraj of Ambo placed themselves under the protection of Government with a view of obtaining some security against the oppressions of the Garjat chiefs.

From that time, although assessed with special leniency, these three killas have been held on the same terms as estates of ordinary zamindars.

Killa Ambahatta was wrested from the Keunjhar Rajas in the time of the Moguls by the ancestors of one Bikram Sing Bidyadher. It was resumed by the Marhattas and ceased to be a killa in anything more than name.

Killa Patnat was sold in 1897 under a civil court decree for debt, the purchaser being Babu Radha Charan Das who had lent large sums of money to the Bhuyan. The latter is now in wretched circumstance, and maintains himself with difficulty from the income of his 'Debottar' lands.

The two remaining killas Mangalpur and Ambo remain in the hands of the old families. By right of primogeniture these estates pass to the eldest son, any others being provided for by grants of 'biradaran'† jagir lands. There exists a very large area of these grants at the present day, and it is said to have increased in the early times as a result of the doctrine of 'primæ noctis,' which used to prevail in the killas and gurjats. The Bhuyan of Mangalpur is an energetic landlord, and is said to have doubled the value of the property since his accession.

NEW ESTATES CREATED AT THIS SETTLEMENT.

93. These number three, and the principal estate is that constituted of the Paik jagir lands near Chandbali and settled with the Paik Sardar. The area of these lands is 570 acres and they originally formed a part of mahal Thukura from which they were separated in the time of the Moguls and granted rent-free to one of the brothers who owned the estate, on condition of his maintaining a body of Paiks, to each of whom he was to give a certain area of jagir lands, for the protection of the Mogulbandi from the incursions of the chiefs of Aul and Kanika. The present Paik Sardar is a descendant of the original jagirdar, but was lately dismissed by the District Magistrate. No proceedings were taken for the resumption of the jagir, but the police attempted to collect the rents and failed. Certainly no resumption proceedings would have stood the test of the courts and the Sardar could not now be ousted from his lands.

The second estate kharij mouza Bangarpada has an area of 137 acres in pargana Balikhand. These were lakhraj lands resumed at last Settlement, but owing to some mistake omitted from assessment.

The lands were originally held by a group of Brahmans who established upon them a Sasan in the time of the Marhattas. It was divided into eight shares, and each included some homestead and a small area of rice lands, the largest share being that of the Panigrahi or headman. The Sasan has now been settled with the Brahman shareholders and leniently assessed. The third estate Bhagapur Bajiafti-mouza contains an area of 13 acres only. It is a portion of a lakhraj property found in excess of the valid area and resumed by consent at this Settlement.

JALKAR MAHALS. §

94. The fishery estates so-called number two, and the larger is the property of Mandal family. The property consists in the fishery right in the bed of the Burhabalang and its tributaries within tidal limits. There is no title in the river bed or in the water, and it does not appear why these fisheries were ever entered as estates; the revenue is properly a miscellaneous item of receipt. The proprietors let out portions of the water to fishermen on annual leases, and there are also miscellaneous profits. The fish are disposed of at good profit in the Mandals market in Balasore town. The combined revenues amount to Rs. 350.

* See also paras. 185, 204.

† See note in Appendix O.

‡ Maintenance lands.

§ Touzi Nos. 764 and 765.

AVERAGE SIZE OF ESTATES.

95. The following statement will show the size of the Balasore estates with reference to the revenues payable at last Settlement and before and after the present Settlement :—

Period.	No. of Estates paying a revenue.				Average Revenue of Estates.
	Above Rs. 10,000.	From 5—10,000.	From 1—5,000.	Below 1,000	
At last Settlement ...	4	7	66	726	462
Before the present Settlement	2	9	63	1,340	262
After the present Settlement ...	6	14	108	1,289	445

The average revenue payable decreased by 43 per cent. during the currency of the Settlement owing to partition. After expiration of the Rasadi terms now allowed, the average would rise in the year 1908 to Rs. 445 calculated on the present number of estates, but as there will be many cases of partition that figure will not in fact be reached. The number of small estates is noticeable, and of those paying less than Rs. 1,000, before the present Settlement by far the greater number were paying under Rs. 200. Of the 1,289 estates paying settled revenue of less than Rs. 1,000, half are paying under Rs. 300.

The average size of each estate in acres is 676. The smallest estate is less than one acre, and the largest Taluk Mobarakhpur contains an area of 38,293 acres.

PRESENT SETTLEMENT

Areas.*

96. For purposes of comparison of these and other figures I have divided the parganas of the district into five groups† under the titles Northern, Upper Central, Lower Central, South-Eastern and South-Western. In this chapter I propose to give, so far as possible, a general survey of the statistics, while details will be confined to Chapter VIII.

The total area of the temporarily-settled estates increased during the sixty years from 942,800 to 959,400 acres, or by rather less than 2 per cent. Apart from the creation of a few small estates the diversity is fully accounted for by the different system of measurement pursued. In many parts of the district, as in the waste lands along the sea face, and in the wooded country on the northern and southern portions of the boundary between the Mogulbandi and the Tributary States, or in the impenetrable jungle bordering the tidal creeks in the north-east, accurate measurement at last Settlement was either extremely difficult or impracticable. The areas entered for such tracts were almost invariably under-estimated. There has also been diluvion as well as alluvion along the sea-coast, and when it is further considered that the measurement of the whole was previously made with a rod, it is not a matter for surprise that the difference in the total area amounts to no more than something under 17,000 acres.

Assessed Area.‡

97. The area assessed to rent and revenue which was 493,600 acres at last Settlement, or

NOTE—Figures as finally revised have been entered in the provincial Report and will not quite agree with these figures.

S. C. M.

little more than half the total, has now increased to 692,400 acres or by 40 per cent., and constitutes at the present day no less than 72 per cent. of the whole. The figures will be subsequently dealt with a greater detail, § but it may be noted here that the increase in the assessed area amounted to 47 per cent. in the north of the district as against 38 per cent. in the south. The difference is chiefly accounted for by the enormous extension of cultivation in parganas Bhograi and Sahabandar in the north, where the increase in assessed area was 121 per cent. and 183 per cent. respectively. On the other hand, the highest percentage of increase reached in the south is 72 per cent. in pargana Ambahatta. Excluding, however, isolated cases it is none the less true that the extension of cultivation has been far greater in the north of the district, where population was comparatively sparse (as indeed it is still), and cultivation consequently in a backward state. The fact that the population of the area open to cultivation was much larger in the north shown by a reference to the detailed figures, from which it appears that the unassessed area was considerably greater than the assessed area at last Settlement, whereas precisely the reverse was the case in the south.

Cultivated Area. ||

Coming now to figures of cultivated areas, the difference between the cultivated and assessed area is represented, firstly, by the sites of houses, and, secondly, by the lands for.

* Appendix R.

† Appendix S.

‡ Appendix R.

§ Paras. 186, 188, 189, 19, 196.

|| Appendix R.

which no assessment is imposed *, either upon the tenant or the zemindar.† These latter now include what is called thani-minhat, or portions of thani holdings held free of rent, the chakran jagirs, § and also small areas such as tanks or sites of temples granted free for public purposes. Other jagirs such as chaukidari, khandait, paik and patwari having now been resumed, the difference between the assessed and cultivated area is much less than it was at last Settlement. The area under cultivation has increased from 521,300 or 55 per cent. of the total last Settlement area to 697,300 or 73 per cent. of the total present area. In the preceding paragraph I pointed out that cultivation shows the greatest extension in the north, and if the figures of the five groups be referred to it will be seen that in the lower central parganas where there is little jungle and cultivation, was in an advanced state, sixty years ago the extension has been least. ¶

FUTURE EXTENSION OF CULTIVATION. ¶

93. The area recorded as open to future extension of cultivation is 10,000 acres or 41 per cent. of the unassessed area. This figure does not purport to be accurate, but it represents the total area which under the most favourable circumstances may be expected to come under cultivation in the future, and is compiled from the estimates given in the reports of the principal estates. If the notification under the Embankment Act** with reference to the Subarnarekha be worked with leniency, if the left bank of the Baitarani be protected by an embankment or that on the right bank be destroyed††, and if some method be devised for excluding tidal waters from the lands on the east of the coast canal, north of the river Burhabalang‡‡ the whole of the area mentioned might come under cultivation. But as the last two at least of these conditions are improbable contingencies, it is not likely that during the currency of the present settlement cultivation will extend over a greater area than 40,000 acres, and I do not think increase in assets derived from this source will much exceed half-a-lakh of rupees. In the lower central parganas the area open to extension is very slight, and in the south-eastern no large areas will be brought under the plough, while the present liability to flood continues. In the south-western there will be considerable advance, but generally over unfertile lands. Cultivation is extending in the upper central parganas, and in the northern there is much virgin soil of excellent quality which will be cultivated so far as the Embankment Act will permit.

MOFASSAL JAMA. §§

100. The gross assets at last settlement amounted to Rs. 5,75,600 and they increased during the 60 years to Rs. 9,88,800 or by 71·8 per cent. The gross assets as now settled amount to Rs. 11,51,400 and the enhancement now effected is therefore 16·4 per cent. The increase in the settled assets over those of last settlement is 100 per cent. It may be interesting to consider what portion of the 60 years increase was due to extension of cultivation and what to enhancement of rentals by zamindars, and this matter will be found discussed in para. 101.

The increase in assets during the 60 years varies from 65 per cent. in the Banchas Oger Parganas to 75 per cent. in the South-Western. In the Banchas estates there was less enhancement of rents and less increase in assessed area than elsewhere, and in the South-west the large increase in assets is to be ascribed both to extension of cultivation and to enhancement.

Considering now the incidence of the Mofassal Jama or gross assets per acre we make the following comparison :—

	On total area. Rs. a. p.	On assessed area Rs. a. p.
Incidence per acre of gross assets at last settlement.	0 9 9	1 2 8
Incidence per acre of gross assets previous to present settlement.	1 0 6	1 6 10
Incidence of the settled gross assets per acre	1 3 2	1 10 7

COMPARISON OF THE ASSETS ¶¶.

101. Of the gross settled assets of eleven and-a-half lakhs of rupees nearly 8 lakhs are contributed by the pahi raiyats and nearly two lakhs by holdings at fixed rents including

* Thus the assessed area minus house sites (area 6,300 acres, see Appendix J) and that portion of the homestead (41,700 acres, Appendix J) which is uncultivated and plus the rent-free lands, equals the cultivated area.

† With the reservation that the uncultivated lands yielding 'sairat' or miscellaneous dues are shown as unassessed.

‡ Appendix U.

§ Village servants. Appendix X.

¶ The particulars of lands reserved for grazing and other purposes (see Appendix V.)

¶¶ Appendix R.

** Para. 184.

†† Para. 192.

‡‡ Para. 183.

§§ Appendix T. The figures in the body of the report have been revised to agree with the figures in the provincial report.

¶¶ Appendix U.

kharida, baziafti and thani. Other miscellaneous tenancies are responsible for less than half-a-lakh, and the balance, something over a lakh, consists of valuations for revenue. The various tenancies will subsequently be considered in detail, but it will be convenient here to glance at that portion of the assets which is composed not of rents received by zamindars, but of valuation on account of various other sources of income. The total of those valuations is Rs. 1,8,600 falling under the heads of "rent free tenancies granted by zamindar," nij-jot, nij-chas and sairat. Of the sairat or assessment on account of miscellaneous dues it may be said that it is fully covered by the receipts of the proprietors on these accounts. The nij lands are a source of profit very well capable of bearing the assessment imposed, and the only item which is not covered by receipts is that first mentioned. It is small in amount, Rs. 15,200, and forms a very insignificant portion of the gross assets. The tenancies in question will be noted hereafter*, but it may be said of them generally that the zamindar receives from nearly half of the holders services which are far more in value than the assessment, while from the balance there is no return.

PROPRIETORS' LAND.

102. The nij-lands amounting to 46,600 acres are assessed at Rs. 81,100 at an average incidence of Rs. 1-11-10 per acre or nearly two annas less than the pahi. 4,069 acres are cultivated by raiyats of nij-jote † and a great quantity of the balance by unrecorded raiyats paying produce rents. These lands differ much in quality occasionally they are those abandoned by raiyats on the ground of infertility, but commonly they are not inferior to the pahi lands, and it is well known that the zamindars look for large profits from them by allowing tenants to cultivate at produce rents

The nij-jote or proprietors "sir" lands amounted at last settlement to 20,400 acres. Some of his area has lapsed and become absorbed in nij-chas and the area now recorded as nij-jote is probably not in excess of 20,400 acres.

SAIRAT. ‡

103. The Total assessment imposed upon the zamindars at last settlement on account of the receipt of miscellaneous dues was Rs. 10,700, and the ammount of the present assessment is Rs. 12,200 composed as follows :—

Fisheries (Jalkar)	...	...	...	Rs. 6,580
Orchard dues (Phalkar)	...	...	...	„ 1,050
Market dues (Hatkar)	...	...	...	„ 760
Jungle dues (Bankar)	...	...	...	„ 2,000
Grazing dues (Chara)	...	...	...	„ 1,810

The fact that the increase in the assessment is so slight is due to the circumstance that there is a much less area of jungle and grazing grounds than at last settlement. The items under these heads have been generally much reduced, especially in the smaller estates, while the item for fisheries has been increased.

The bulk of the fishery dues come from the estate upon the sea coast especially in Paraganas Ankura and Dusmalang. It may suffice to note that they are a valuable source of income, and that the receipts having been ascertained with excessive difficulty by local enquiry amongst the fishermen, the assessment was made with great moderation and after allowing a deduction of 25 per cent. and sometimes more, to provide for the contingency of depreciation. The dues are realised in cash by the zamindars, and all fisheries of importance are disposed of annually by lease, sometimes at auction. Orchard dues are the assessments on orchards and fruit trees situated on the waste lands in the zamindar's possession. The receipts from these are generally in kind. The fruit is mostly used for home consumption, but is also sold to some extent. The fruit crop is very precarious in this District owing to the prevalence of storms in the months of march, April and May, the mango which is the commonest fruit exhibits also a preference for a south or east winds and a west wind blowing constantly when the tree is in blossom destroys all promise of crops.

Market dues § have already been noted; jungle dues are levied by the zamindars from each household at a rate varying from 4 to 6 annas per annum, for every bullock used to convey the fuel. These dues are prevalent in the estates bordering upon the hills in the west of the district and also in parts of the north-west. In addition to these fees there are large receipts especially in the Killas from the sale of sal wood for building purposes.

Grazing dues, including those derived from the cutting of "bena" or thatching grass and "giria," the ash of which, when burnt, is used for washing cloths, are generally derived from the sea-coast lands, especially in Ankura and Das Malang and also in the north-west of the district. Large herds of cattle and buffalo pasture upon the lands on the east of the coast canal, and the dues are realised sometimes in the shape of a yearly cash payment, generally 4 annas annually per head of cattle and also in kind. In the latter case the fee is generally half a seer of ghi annually for each buffalo.

* Paras. 156, 157.

† Appendix U.

‡ Appendix U.

§ Appendix F and (Para. 33).

With regard to all these dues it may be said that the effects of the zamindars to conceal them were very difficult to defeat †, and that the assessment imposed falls short of the receipts derived.

REVENUE.*

104. Sadar jama was taken at last settlement at percentages varying from 70 to 60. In 132 estates the percentage was 70, in 644 it was 65, and in 438 estates it was 60.† In the earlier settlements made malikana was allowed at 30 per cent. In 1840, however, Lord Auckland decided that 35 per cent. should be the minimum to cover allowance risks and expenses, and that 40 per cent. should be granted when the special circumstances of the estate seemed to require a more liberal rate. The orders were not retrospectively applied though Mr. Mills desired that they should be.

The total revenue was Rs. 3,77,300, which is 66 per cent. of the gross assets. The revenue now settled for 1899 amounts to Rs. 5,77,500 which is 50 per cent. of the gross assets and the percentage of revenue varies chiefly from 50 to 65:—

RASADI TERMS.

105. Rasadi terms have been allowed in many estates for periods varying from three to ten years, and the following are the annual revenues from 1899 to 1908.

						Rs.
1899	...	...	...	...	...	5,77,500
1900	...	...	...	...	...	5,80,900
1901	...	...	...	...	...	5,86,900
1902	...	...	...	...	...	5,90,400
1903	...	...	...	...	...	6,12,700
1904	...	...	...	...	...	6,13,200
1905	...	...	...	...	...	6,13,600
1906	...	...	...	...	...	6,13,700
1907	...	...	...	...	...	6,13,700
1908	...	...	...	...	...	6,29,000

In some cases triennial terms were allowed, but the ordinary period was for five years. Thus the largest increases come in 1903 and 1908. In the latter year the final revenue of Rs. 6,29,000 will become payable. This is at 55 per cent. of the settled assets, but as the latter will undergo some increase owing to extension of cultivation and enhancement of non-occupancy rentals, the revenue of 1908 will probably represent 53 or 54 per cent. of the gross assets of that year. The total concession granted to the proprietors under the rasadi terms amounts to the aggregate of the differences between the revenues given for each year and the ultimate revenue of 1908, and is no less than Rs. 2,58,400. Concessions of this nature have been most generally granted in the northern Parganas ‡, where there was great increase of assets coupled with liability to flood. The same conditions prevailed in some of the parganas of the south-west, especially in Bayang, and here also rasad was allowed in many estates.

INCREASE IN REVENUE.

106. The largest increase in revenue was obtained in the south-western Parganas where the revenue for 1899 shows an increase of 73 per cent. on the previous jama, while that of 1908 yields an increase of 86 per cent. The lowest increase is found in the Banchas Oger group where the primary increase is 48 per cent. and the ultimate 60 per cent.

The total increase of the revenue for 1899 and 1908 over that fixed at last settlement is 53 per cent. and 67.0 per cent., respectively. If revenue had now been taken at 60 per cent. it would have amounted to Rs. 6,90,800 or more than half-a lakh in excess of the actual revenue taken for 1908, and the concession allowed for the whole term of settlement is 30 times this amount or 18 lakhs.

INCIDENCE OF REVENUE.

107. It may be interesting to compare the incidence of revenue on each acre of area.

	Per acre of assessed area.	Per acre of total area.
Total area. { Incidence at last settlement ...	Re. 0 12 3	Re. 0 6 5
Incidence on the revenue for 1908 „	0 14 6	„ 0 10 6

Sterling states that from 472 to 1132 A. D. the revenue of Orissa was almost uniformly five kahans of cowries on every 20 acres. The value of the kahan is however very difficult to estimate. In 1786 2½ kahans were equal to the rupee and in 1790 the exchange was 2½

* See Para. 218.

† Appendix T.

‡ This includes of course the bajiafti mahals, which paid revenue 50 per cent. The following figures compare the number of estates under various percentages paid at last settlement and at the present settlement.

	46% and under	50%	55%	60%	65%	70%	over 70%	
Number at last settlement	9	153	8	438	644	132	21	} Those over 70% are in khas-mahals.
Number at present settlement	22	480	730	125	33	3	16	

§ See Cols. 19 and 20 of Appendix T.

¶ See Cols. 22 and 23 of Appendix T.

kahans.¹ In 1805 the rate was $3\frac{1}{2}$ kahans. If in the early period referred to the exchange was not more than 2 kahans this would give an incidence of Rs. 2-8-0 for 20 acres or 2 annas per acre.

In the year 1794 Colebrooke[¶] gave the incidence of revenue in Bengal Rs. 184 to the square mile or $4\frac{1}{2}$ annas per acre. It is seen that in this district the incidence was Re. 0-6-5 at last settlement and is now Re. 0-10-6. The incidence per acre of assessed area is Re. 0-14-6 as against Re. 0-12-3 at last settlement.

CHOWKIDARI FUND.

108. The revenue as already stated includes a sum of Rs. 10,500 as chowkidari funds. This represents 85 per cent. of the rental assessed on resumed chowkidari lands, 15 per cent. having been allowed to the proprietors for expenses of collection.

MALIKANA* OR PROPRIETARY ALLOWANCES.

109. This subject has been partially treated by implication under the heading Revenue. The total malikana allowed to proprietors at last settlement was Rs. 1,98,300 at the rate of 34 per cent. on the gross assets. Immediately before settlement the total proprietary income had increased to Rs. 6,11,500 or by 208 per cent. The aggregate malikana allowed for 1899 is Rs. 5,73,900 at 50 per cent. of the gross assets, and the reduction caused in proprietary incomes for that year is accordingly Rs. 37,600 or 6 per cent. The aggregate malikana for 1908 will amount to Rs. 5,22,400 at 45 per cent. and the reduction in the proprietary incomes existing before settlement will be Rs. 89,100 or 14 per cent. This excludes consideration of the increase in assets which may extend to half-a-lakh of rupees in the course of the ensuing ten years. In that case the total reduction will amount to Rs. 39,100 or 6 per cent.

Had no "rasad" been allowed and revenues taken immediately at 55 per cent. the loss in proprietary income would have been 15 per cent. and had revenue been taken at 60 per cent. the loss would have been 24·7 per cent. Had this reduction of income occurred, I believe the proprietors could have supported it if it had fallen equally upon all. But as the effect would actually have been to cause a loss of 5 per cent. in some estates and of 50 per cent. in others, discontent, hardship and ruin would have followed in many cases. It is clear to any one who examined the circumstances of individual estates that very lenient terms were in many cases required in order to save the proprietors. Excluding special instances where the increase in assets as in many lakhraj baziafti estates was so great that to take revenue at only 25 per cent. doubled or trebled the sadar jamma and caused a loss of 10 per cent. income, it may be said of a great number of the Balasore estates, and especially of the large ones that malikana at the rate of 45 per cent. was requisite in order to avoid hardship. Even among these however, there were numerous exceptions where the increase in assets had not been considerable, and in these as well as in the majority of the smaller estates it was not considerations of reduction in income which warranted a malikana of more than 40 per cent.

NOTE.—The Secretary of State's orders were, however, very definite.

RECUSANCY.

110. The facts detailed in the preceding paragraph go a great way to show the leniency and moderation of the assessment, and if further proof is wanting it is found in the fact that no estates have yet been reported to the Collector as recusant[†]. There were 38 cases of recusancy before Assistant Settlement Officers, and these were chiefly in the estates of Musalman proprietors in the neighbourhood of Bhadrak; most of them subsequently came to terms. In nine out of these cases reported to the Settlement Officer the parties attended before him and executed kabuliats. Two cases still remain for report. There is in fact very little likelihood that a single estate in this district will be finally reported as recusant, and I hope the explanation lies as much in the accurate method of computing the assets as in the liberal orders of Government with reference to the rate of malikana.

CHAPTER IV.—ZAMINDARS AND PROPRIETARY TENURE-HOLDERS.

ZAMINDARS. ‡

111. Something has already been said on the origin, caste, nationality and profession, while some remarks given elsewhere on collection (a), illegal cesses (b), and raiyati indebtedness (c), will also furnish some information regarding the relations of zamindars with their tenants and improvements made in their estates. Amongst the appendices ‡ will be found some particulars regarding the chief proprietors of the district.

¹So it appears from the deeds quoted by Sterling. On page 327 of his History Sir W. Hunter bases an estimate for the 14th century on the assumption that 6 kahans purchased a rupee. For later values of the kahana, see Mr. Toynbee's History, page 56. It is certain that during the first 30 years of the century the value of the price depreciated from about 4 to 6 kahans per rupee, but I cannot estimate at what time the depreciation had commenced.

[¶] Colebrooke's *Husbandry of Bengal*.

*Appendix T.

†One has been reported since the above was written.

‡Appendix Z.

(a) Paras. 213, 214, 215 and 216.

(b) Para. 210.

(c) Para. 201.

Though the question of their treatment by the Tenancy Act is beyond the scope of this report, reference may be made to the common complaint that the law is all in favour of the raiyats, and for themselves nothing but a curtailment of privileges. Thus the local custom of absence of occupancy right in produce-paying lands is directly in conflict with the Act, and when this question coupled with that of commutation of rents, is brought into the courts, as it shortly will be, the landlords will find their rights and profits, especially with regard to nij-chas lands seriously diminished. They object again to the provision allowing the recovery of interest at 12 per cent. on arrears, and they urge with some acuteness that as this rate is less than one-third of that which prevails in the mofassal the raiyat in want of ready money will prefer to be indebted to his landlord on these terms rather than borrow at a far higher interest. The Act, they say, has made them under compulsion lenders of money at 12 per cent. when the market rate is 37 per cent. Their objections generally are ingenious rather than ingenuous, but their uncompromising position towards the Act is shown, amongst other points, by their total disregard of the provisions regarding counterfoil receipts. The zamindars, who use such receipts, may be counted upon the fingers of one's hand. But it is no wonder that the provision has been disregarded when no attempt whatever has been made to enforce it. It is said* that there is some doubt upon the question as to what court can inflict a fine for contravention of the section. Such doubts will never be solved until the jurisdiction has been tested. There will always be insecurity for the raiyat and trouble, delay and miscarriage of justice in the trial of suits as long as worthless palm-leaf receipts are admitted as evidence; and until some steps are taken to render the law effectual, half the benefit of a record of rights is wasted. In all suits for arrears where it is shown that a landlord does not issue counterfoil receipts, he should, if the decree is in his favour, be fined the sum decreed. If it is subsequently shown that the court trying the case has no power to inflict the fine, though it appears that it must have been the intention of the Legislature that this power should exist, I presume the law may be amended. It is not likely to be amended until it has been shown to be inoperative in execution.

* ATTITUDE OF ZAMINDARS TOWARDS THE SETTLEMENT OPERATIONS.

112. Some interest is derivable from a consideration of this point. The attitude was one of reserve, and in some cases of hostility none applied for enhancement of rents. Such neglect might be due to the knowledge that pahi rents could suffer no enhancement which would give a fair prospect of realisation. Yet many rents met with were too low, and it is impossible but that amongst all the raiyats of the district, a certain percentage must now be underassessed. It is therefore more likely that the zamindars were influenced by the consideration that enhancements of rents implies enhancement of revenue. The theory that a large enhancement of rents under circumstances such as those of the settlement recoups the loss of income resulting from the higher revenue does not usually commend itself to the zamindar who has to collect the enhancements and knows that the labour of collecting each additional area of rent is a work of increasing labour and expense. Many zamindars have preferred to look to miscellaneous receipts, such as the imposition of abwabs and the letting of nij-chas lands for a recoupment of their income. Some have done away temporarily with the cultivation of sugarcane and tobacco; others have refused to allow cultivation of waste lands for which the raiyats have clamoured for four or five years. Resort to collusively low rents occurred in Balikhand† and probably in Makhura and Phulwar, where, if the rents were not collusive, they were certainly lower than the lands ought to have paid.

PROPRIETARY TENURE HOLDERS‡

113. These are of three classes:—

Makadams.
Sarbarakars,
Kharidadars, including Prusethis.

The Makadams, Sarbarakars, Prusethis and certain kharidadars have been admitted to engagements at this settlement, the total number being 822 and the area 95, 556 acres.

MAKADAMS.

114. Something has already been said¶ with reference to this class, it has been shown how many of them attained the position of zamindars and were in 1805 admitted to engagements as such|| Of the remainder from whom engagements were taken as tenure-holders, many were dispossessed in the early years of British rule, by being compelled by the Zamindars to abrogate their hereditary rights and enter into forming leases for short terms of years. The Makadams of this district were of two classes:—

- (1) Mourasi or hereditary.
- (2) Kharidgi or purchasers of a Mokadami right from Talukdar.

* I have heard this alleged; and see Messrs. Rampini and Finucane's Bengal Tenancy Act, remarks to sec. 56.

† See Appendix Z.

‡ Appendix Y.

¶ Para. 47.

|| Regulation XII of 1805 admitted to direct engagement all hereditary Mokadams who had paid revenue direct to Government for 5 years Past.

Mr. Sterling points out that both classes occupied a most prominent place in the revenue system under native rule. In their own villages they exercised almost the same functions as the talukdar in his taluk. They exercised the power to sell or mortgage, and to alienate their lands by the creation of kharidgi " tenures. Though their origin was different there appears in fact to have been no distinction in the rights of the two classes. It is doubtful whether the talukdars had the power of creating Makadami tenures in pahikast "villages, and the sales appear to have been only effected on account of the former tenureholder falling into arrears. The purchaser gained all the rights of the hereditary Makadam, just as did the Revenue Official who purchased the estate of a defaulting talukdar. No distinction was made between the two classes at last settlement. Both were recorded as mourasi Makadams, both were acknowledged as heritable and transferable, and their rights over the areas and tenants included in their tenures were admitted to be the same as those of zamindars over the villages in their direct management.††

The rate of allowance granted at last settlement was 25 per cent. in case of liability to flood and 20 per cent. in other cases. There exists at the present day four tenures in which allowances were granted at the former rate and 108 in which 20 per cent. was allowed. The number of Makadami tenures in the year 1872* was 86, but I am unable to give the number at last settlement. The allowance to the zamindar was 15 per cent. in both cases. Of the 112 existing tenures the area at last settlement was 34,400 acres, giving an average of some 300 acres to each tenure. It has now decreased to 32,600 acres. The gross assets of the tenures as now settled are Rs. 36,300 as against Rs. 20,200 at last settlement. Excluding the three years rasad generally allowed in these tenures, in order to avoid immediate large loss of income allowances have now been granted at 26 per cent., with the effect of reducing the total profits of the Makadams by 35 per cent., increasing the allowances of the zamindars from Rs. 3,000 at 15 per cent to Rs. 5,900 at 17 per cent., and of enhancing the Government revenue from Rs. 13,100 at 63 per cent. to Rs. 20,500 at 57 per cent.

During the 60 years the profits of the Makadams had increased from Rs. 4,100 to Rs. 15,500 and it was impossible to avoid considerable reductions of their incomes. It is not necessary here to explain the system upon which rasad was allowed to the proprietary tenureholders, but it may be noted that it was more liberal than that pursued at last settlement, when, as Mr Ricketts observed, rasad was only granted when the effect of settlement was to reduce the income to a half or a third of what it had been before.

Particulars of the estates in which these tenures exist will be found in Appendix referred to, The estates number 16 and are situated chiefly in Parganas Bonchasogir and Dhamnagar.

SARBARAKARS. †

115. While the Makadams were the successors of the village headmen or padhans of the Hindus who had often actually founded and developed their villages and exercised over them a hereditary and proprietary right which some think to have been in fact superior to that of the talukdar over his taluk, the sarbarakars were originally mere collecting agents, either servants or farmers, installed by the talukdars. After a long course of possessions they gained an admitted right of collection, and after further lapse of time the right often became hereditary. The essence of the distinction was therefore that the makadam's right originated independently, whereas the sarbarakar acquired a right carved out of that of the talukdar. The result was naturally that there was an extraordinary variety in the rights claimed by the sarbarakars at last settlement.‡ Some possessed all the rights of makadams, others only that of a collector of rents liable to dismissal at any moment. Some had held at the same rent for many years, others paid rents subject to annual adjustment. Some had sub-divided their tenures, while to others the privilege had been refused

The following extract ‖ summarizes the opinion of the Government with reference to the sarbarakars at last settlement: "All parties agree in defining a sarbarakar as one whose ancestor having been invested long ago with the management of one or more villages as servants of the zamindars paid by percentages on the collections, now claims a hereditary right to continue as manager independent of the zamindar's permission to the payment of a fixed rent to the zamindar and to appropriate to himself a certain percentage."

The sarbarakars found in possession at last settlement were of three classes.—

- (1) Mourasi or hereditary
- (2) Miadi or for a fixed period.
- (3) Sarbarakars who were mere rent collectors with no hereditary rights.

The order of the Board with reference to these three classes may be summarised thus:—

- (a) Where there were several joint sarbarakars the Collector with concurrence of the zamindar might select one or more as managers of the tenure.

* Purchased see para. 67.

** Villages under their direct management.

†† Called 'Hasbhud' or formerly "pahikast"

* Mr. Fiddian's report on the Tenures of Balasore, dated 1875.

† Appendix Y.

‡ Letter of Mr. Ricketts, Collector of Balasore, dated 20th October 1831 to Commissioner.

‖ Government of Bengal No. 1769, dated 23rd September 1838.

- (b) They were not to be ousted except for default or mismanagement proved before the Collector.
- (c) They were not to be admitted as hereditary unless they had been in uninterrupted possession from before October 1803 up to within a year of settlement.
- (d) Where the condition (c) was not fulfilled, but the sarbarakar had been long in possession, he might be made a temporary sarbarakar on such conditions and for such term as the case seemed to require.
- (e) There was to be no alienation or decision without the consent of the zamindar.

The three classes were accordingly treated as follows where their claims were admitted:—

The first or hereditary were allowed 20 per cent. malikana, the second or miadi 15 per cent. and the latter 10 per cent. on the gross assets. Of these the miadi class were for the most numerous. I cannot give the respective numbers at last settlement, but of the 731 tenures now existing only 14 belong to the first class, 712 to the miadi class and 5 to the latter class. It is clear that had the zamindars fully exercised their rights, only 14 tenures might now have survived, but owing chiefly to ignorance of the terms on which the tenure-holders were admitted to engage the zamindars have scarcely ever interfered except in cases of default, and thus inheritance and sale during a period of sixty years have given the miadi sarbarakars privileges not inferior to those of the mourasi. It is perhaps unfair to blame the zamindars for ignorance on the matter, because the kabuliats executed by the tenure-holders are silent upon the question of their rights and contain merely a recital of the names of the parties, of the gross assets and of the percentage and amount of allowance and of rent. The ruidads contain very little information on the subject, and the only guide to the status of the tenureholder is in fact the percentage of malikana granted.

Looking at the 731 surviving tenures, it is seen that the area, which has slightly decreased since last settlement, amounts to 61,300 acres, or an average of some 85 acres to every tenure. The settled assets are Rs. 78,300 as against Rs. 42,500 sixty years ago, and the profits of the holders advanced during the same period from Rs. 6,400 to Rs. 32,700. Excluding the figures of the three years rasadi term generally allowed, the average malikana now granted to the tenure-holders is 29 per cent. while that of the zamindar is 20 per cent. and the percentage of revenue payable to Government 51. The result is a reduction of 36 per cent. in the incomes of the sarbarakars, an increase from Rs. 8,700 at 21 per cent. to Rs. 15,100 at 20 per cent. in those of the zamindars and an enhancement of the Government revenue from Rs. 27,400 to Rs. 41,600.

The tenures are comprised in 29 estates* chiefly situated in Banchasoger, Senaut and Soso. There has been a considerable lapse in the class since last settlement. Thus the 67 sarbarakars of the khas mahal taluk Noanund who held 16,300 acres had all disappeared at the settlement of 1876; again in Araj Dograi mouza Dolsobi 9 sarbarakars with a gross area of 1,100 acres were ousted for default, and the area brought under the 'hastbud.'

KHARIDADARS.*

116. The privilege exercised by the talukdars and makodams of disposing by sale of small areas of land has already been noted. These areas were known as kharida† and consisted in theory of waste lands known as "baujar kharij jama"‡ unassessed and unoccupied, and were purchased with a view of establishing a plantation or garden or as sites for villages known as "patuas". The actual land was purchased, and the proprietary title of the kharidadars was probably the strongest of any class found holding an interest in the soil at the British accession. Though in theory the lands were waste it sometimes happened that cultivated lands were fraudulently disposed of in this manner. The grants were therefore occasionally scrutinised by the Revenue officials, and where necessary brought under assessment. When originally purchased the lands were generally rent-free, but a quit-rent was sometimes paid.

There were three classes of kharidadars in existence at last settlements—"mafi", "Tanki" and "sarbarahi". The first, as the name implies, were those held rent-free, and these claims were investigated at last settlement in like manner with those to lakhraj lands and the areas were generally resumed and assessed to rent as 'baziafti.' No 'mafi-kharida' lands now exist in this district under that title, and all that did exist were included at last settlement under lakhraj bahal. The second class or tanki were lands held at a quit rent, and are not found in this district. || The third class sarbarahi were, as the name shows, those assessed theoretically at ordinary rates, and it is this class with which we are concerned. Before proceeding to note their treatment at last settlement it is necessary to mention a distinctive class of kharidadars called prusethis. || According to Sterling those

* Appendix Y.

† Or Kharidgi-purchased.

‡ Mr. Sterling's minute.

|| There are however, some estates recorded as bati-tanki. and those had the same origin. The name designate the quit rent assessed, *vis.*, one rupee per 'bati' or twenty mans of land.

|| The derivation of the word is obscure, but it may be cognate with Sanscrit (prastha) equivalent to "Makadami."

'patuas' which either escheated to Government or were assigned as the perquisites of particular public departments were managed by the prusethis or headmen elected by the inhabitants. The prusethis are stated in Mr. Mills' minute to have been equivalent to sarbarakars as regards their rights and privileges and to have been similarly dealt with in the matter of malikana. But the word was very loosely used at last settlement and in his report on the assessment of Patua Bagbrindaban ¶ the Deputy Collector noted that at last settlement kharidadars of the first class were in the habit of calling themselves prusethis, and the custom prevails at the present day. The Prusethis received in fact a larger malikana than sarbarakars at last settlement, the rates having been 30 per cent., 25 per cent., and 20 per cent., for the three several classes.

A further description of kharida known as 'muskis,' is stated by Fiddian to have existed in this district. The term signifies that it was held as a quit-rent, and it appears therefore to have been similar to the 'tanki kharida' already noticed. I find, however, no trace of the existence of any muskis kharidadars in the records, and if any existed they appear to have been included in the ordinary kharida class at last settlement. The history of the Estate Patua Bagbrindaban already referred to exemplifies the circumstances of the kharida tenure, and may therefore be briefly referred to. It was instanced by Sterling as one of the most remarkable of the kharida mahals, and at last settlement was composed of parcels of lands in 72 villages of 12 parganas, and these had been purchased by private individuals who under the Mahrattas paid revenue through the thana darogas. One of these kharidadars, Jagannath Nanda, obtained a darogaship, and at the time of British occupation he was collecting and paying the revenues of the various parcels into the Treasury. He was accordingly admitted to engagements, and henceforth assumed the title of Zamindar, while the kharidadars and prusethis who had paid their revenue through him were constituted proprietary tenure-holders. At last settlement in addition to the hastbud lands which were the original kharida of Jagannath Nanda with subsequent additions there were in this estate 55 patuas held by the kharidadars and prusethis.

NOTE.—There is one case in Sunanth pargana. In the present proceedings certain specified lands yielding sufficient to cover the demand of the kharidadar have been transferred from the one to the other, and the tenure, *qua* muskis, will cease to exist.

S. L. M.

TREATMENT OF KHARIDADARS AT LAST SETTLEMENT.

117. The orders of Government prescribed different treatment for kharidadars at last settlement according to the circumstances of purchase having been made from the zamindars, the makadam or the sarbarakar. The purchase was in each case to confer the rights possessed by the seller, and those kharidadars who had purchased from zamindars were entitled to all the immunities of proprietorship including malikana of recusant. Examination shows that the following rates of allowances were granted :—

		Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
To Prusethi Kharidadars	...	30	25	20
To Sikmi Kharidadars	...	30	25	20
To Kharida Jamabandidars	...	30	and	20

Though the last two classes are differentiated in title, there is no actual distinction between them and the variation in name appears to be the result of caprice. In all cases the grants of 30 per cent malikana signified that the tenures were of the first class, that is, those purchased from zamindars, while 20 per cent. was given only to the second class tenures, which had been purchased from makadams or sarbarakars. In the case of prusethis 25 per cent. was the only rate of allowance granted in one estate* and the records do not mention whether the tenures were of the first or second class, nor are there any indications to decide the point. In the other estates of the same name † the rates were 20 per cent. and 30 per cent. Allowance at 25 per cent. appears to have been granted to second and not first class sikmikharidadars; at any rate the tenure of this description shown in the Appendix is stated in the old records to have been second class.

TREATMENT OF KHARIDADARS AT THIS SETTLEMENT.

118. Prusethi kharidadars are seventeen in number and exist only in the two estates previously noted. In one estate ‡ they all received malikana at 25 per cent. and in the other§ the first class 30 per cent. and the second 20 per cent. The area is now 760 acres as against 740 at last settlement, and the gross assets of the tenures have been settled at Rs. 1,032 as against Rs. 613 at last settlement. Allowances, after expiration of rasad amounting to Rs. 314 at 20 per cent. and 3 per cent. have now been granted, while the zamindars receive Rs. 192 and 30 per cent. as against Rs. 63 at 13 per cent. at last settlement. The total reduction in tenure-holders' incomes amount to 26 per cent. and the revenue payable to Government is enhanced from Rs. 389 to Rs. 526.

¶ The most important of the Patuajat estates or estates composed of numerous portions of kharida lands under the name of Patuas scattered in the various parts of the district. There are two estates of this name, and they are the only ones in which prusethis exist.

* Tauzi No. 737.

† Patua Bagbrindaban Tauzi No. 925.

‡ Tauzi No. 928.

§ Tauzi No. 739.

Of kharidadars only who were either of the first class and found holding considerable areas or of the second class and holding a whole village have now been admitted to execution of kabuliyats. The large balance of this class will be found treated under the head of Mahal-tenants. The twenty-two kharidadars noted received allowances amounting to Rs. 143 at 25 per cent. at last settlement, and held an area of 751 acres. This has now increased to 955 acres by the inclusion of portions of other tenures of the same description. The gross settled assets amount to Rs. 1,263 as against 535 at last settlement, and the kharidadar's allowances after expiration of 'rasad' amount to Rs. 437 at 35 per cent. the reduction in income being 48 per cent. The assets having increased during the sixty years by Rs. 700, it was necessary to grant a more considerable rate of allowances at this settlement, and even so the reduction in income is large. The zamindars' malikana is increased from Rs. 49 at 10 per cent. to Rs. 133 at the same rate and the Government revenue from Rs. 340 to Rs. 693.

TRANSFERS OF PROPRIETARY TENURES.

119. Transfers have been common. The lapse of sarbarakari tenures has already been noted, and sales have occurred to a great extent. In one estate alone 289 out of 453 existing tenures are held by purchasers, 00 entirely so and the remaining 89 partly. The area thus sold in this estate was 3,000 acres. Transfers of entire tenures are not common, but several have been purchased by the zamindars of the Banchas Estates, who thus hold both the maurasi and zamindari right. I may add that attempts were also made by the zamindars to record as maurasi in their names tenures which had lapsed by the death of the holders without heirs, and to which therefore no maurasi claim could lie. It appears very doubtful whether in the case of any of the miadi sarbarakars the zamindars can have any title to a maurasi record, as it may be considered that the tenures were due to lapse on the death of the holders, being only granted for a fixed period, and the zamindars could have no power to create other tenures in their stead without the sanction of Government. But the privilege of transfer appears to have been so long admitted that it is probably too late to make the period of existence of these tenures definitive. In the south of the district at least transfer by sale and succession was not interfered with by the zamindars, and so little power had they to insist upon mutations that no less than 80 per cent. of the tenure-holders recorded at this settlement had never applied for entry in the zamindari, 'sherista.'

The following figures extracted from the books of the Sub-Registrar exhibit the sales by registered deeds of tenures or portions of tenures of all the classes now being dealt with during the last ten years :—

Number of transaction.	PURCHASERS.					Purchase money.	Remarks.
	Mahajans, traders or money lenders.	Zamindars.	Baziaftidars.	Raiyats.	Others unspecified.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
2,207	97	506	841	368	395	Rs. 20,500	

Baziaftidars are frequent purchasers as are also zamindars. The prices of makadami, sarbarakari, prusethi and the large kharida-tenures assimilate those paid for estates and need not be separately dealt with. The value of the vast majority of small kharida holdings is the same as that of baziafti.

SUB-DIVISION OF PROPRIETARY TENURES.

120. In commenting upon the excessive sub-division which was taking place in the early part of the century, Mr. Ricketts noted in 1831 that he had found 259 sarbarakars in possession of 53 villages comprising one estate. The average rent paid by each was Rs. 29 and the estimated income Rs. 14. I do not know whether he referred to taluq Araj Dograi, Mauza Dolsahi in Pargana Sinout, where the number of shares has increased from 64 to 453 in sixty years, and many of the sarbarakars are paying rents of a few annas, but the circumstances of this estate exhibit an exceptional example of the extent to which sub-division may take place. In the tenures exting in the south of the district the increase both in number and in recorded sharers has, however, been very great. Tenures increased from 100 to 493 by 400 per cent., and recorded sharers from 154 to 829 or by 450 per cent. This was due partly to the partition of the estates in which the tenures existed, and partly to sub-division at inheritance, but generally to sale. In Banchasager and the northern parganas actual sub-division of tenures has taken place to an inconsiderable extent, though the recorded sharers have much increased. With regard to the sub-division of kharida, a reference to the figures subsequently given with regard to the size of holdings will show the length to which it has proceeded. In two* estates alone 22 kharida tenures existing at last settlement have been now increased to 223.

* Araj Dograi Mouza Dolsahi.

* T auzi Nos. 126 and 1247.

KABULIATS EXECUTED BY PROPRIETARY TENURE-HOLDERS.

All the classes mentioned were at last settlement admitted to the execution of kabuliats and note has already been made of those taken from the sarbarakars. It may be said of these kabuliats generally that they were merely forms of engagement specifying the names of payer and payee, the details of calculation of payment and sometimes the term for which the engagement was made.

Kabuliats have at the present settlement been taken from the following classes:—

Makadams.

Sarbarakars.

Prusethis.

Certain kharidadars already particularised.

The form of kabuliat now executed differs from that of last settlement in specifying the rights of the parties and the terms on which the tenures are held. It also gives to all a right to engage at the next settlement and thus does away with the previous distinction between maursi and miadi sarbarakars. Miadi kabuliats confirming similar rights to those granted to this class at last settlement have been taken only in the case of the sarbarakars of a single estate. Araj Dograi mouza Dolsahi, already referred to. These accordingly are not admitted to have any right to engage at a future settlement. The sarbarakars in eighty of these tenures refuse to sign kabuliats and will be reported for recusancy, but the result cannot yet be stated.

NOTE.—The cases have been subsequently disposed of, see the records of the estate.

S. L. M.

RECOVERY OF RENTS FROM PROPRIETARY TENURE-HOLDERS.

122. It has been a common complaint † of zamindars at this settlement that the rents of proprietary tenure-holders are realised with extreme difficulty, and that while on account of default of the tenure-holders the zamindar himself may be unable to defray the revenue and his estate accordingly brought to sale, his only remedy against the tenure is a suit in the civil court. Although in the orders of the Board‡ at last settlement it was laid down that sarbarakars might be ousted for default or mismanagement proved before the Collector, no steps appear to have ever been taken by zamindars to obtain relief under this clause. Where ordinary methods failed they have had recourse to civil suit, and here in the case of the smaller sarbarakars and of the kharidadars they have met with difficulties and every turn. In one estate* already referred to out of 452 sarbarakars in possession half had never effected mutation in the zamindari 'sarishtha', and a similar neglect to apply for mutation is common amongst the kharidadars in many mahals. Though the zamindar has often himself only to blame for this circumstance, the effect is none the less productive of great inconvenience in the courts. He may sue the defaulter and get a decree, but he cannot obtain execution unless he knows in whose possession the lands are. If the tenure-holders chose to combine, as they sometimes do, it is easy for them by making 'benami' transfers of the tenures amongst themselves to conceal the name of the actual holder, and thus the execution may be delayed for a considerable time, while the zamindar is put to expense and trouble in the courts. But apart from such extreme cases there is no doubt that tenure-holders as a class are dilatory and sometimes refractory rent-payers, frequently they are in too strong a position for the zamindar to venture recourse to the ordinary methods of coercion. The tenure-holders are complete masters of their estate and tenants, and enjoy absolute control over them subject only to what is in effect a mere rent charge payable for the period of settlement to the zamindar. The latter cannot therefore interfere in the collection from the raiyats, and while the tenure-holders are often strong enough to resist the zamindars they have not on the other hand the influence of the zamindar over his raiyats. Another fact which contributes to bad collections by the tenure-holders, and consequently to their own default is the multiplicity of sharers already noted. Although it is true that in some cases where the kharida or sarbarakar tenures have been much sub-divided, many of the sharers take no part either in the collections or payment of revenue, contenting themselves with holding some nij-chas land for which they pay no rent, yet in many other cases, where all take an active part in the management, the co-sharers are often on bad terms. The mafasal collections are disorganised in consequence, so that even an honest sarbarakar may not have the means to pay the zamindar his rent because he himself cannot realise from raiyats who are resisting him in the courts with forged rent receipts, and the production of false evidence to which another co-sharer is very often an abetting party. Again, where the zamindar had formerly to bring one suit he now has to bring a number, and thus his expenses are largely increased while troublesome issues raised with regard to the extent of the defendant's interest accentuate the difficulties.

† Babu Srigopal Bhattacharjee, who had had four years experience of the Banchasager estate, where those tenures mostly exist, says the complaint is well founded, and this appears to be the general experience of Settlement Officers.

‡ Para. 115, clause marked (b) of Board's orders.

* Para 115, Tazui No. 124.

It must be remembered, too, that to such an extent has subdivision of tenures taken place that the holders are generally in poor circumstances, and not a few of them are driven to misappropriate the collections to meet their personal wants, so that when the kist day arrives they have not the wherewithal to satisfy the zamindars' demand. The tenure-holders as a class have a certain portion to maintain and, owing to the ruinous system of subdivision, considerably less means with which to support it than they had of old.

It must be admitted that the procedure of Act X of 1859, which is the only remedy to which the zamindar has hitherto had recourse, is a further source of difficulty to him. It would, I believe, meet the wishes of the zamindars where such cases transferred to the Munsif's Court and it is certainly the fact that they are a cause of considerable expense. But the malikana allowed upon collection of the tenure-holder's rents is insufficient to enable the zamindar to undertake a systematic course of costly litigation.

REMEDIES FOR THE DIFFICULTY IN RECOVERING RENTS FROM PROPRIETARY TENURE-HOLDERS.

123. I have dwelt on this matter at some length because I believe it to represent an actual grievance, which steps should be taken to remedy. No doubt the completion of the present record will be some assistance to zamindars in the future. The tenure-holders' khewat exhibits the interest of each co-sharer and all necessary details regarding payments, and the production of such evidence will be of assistance in the Courts. Much more important however, is the penalty clause in the kabuliats of proprietary tenure holders admitted to engagements. This clause gives the Collector power to hold the tenure khas in cases of mismanagement or default, duly proved before him. There is no doubt that if the zamindars now avail themselves of this procedure, the effect on collections will be most salutary. It is difficult to suggest any further remedy. The time for limiting subdivision has gone by and the process has already gone so far that it is useless to attempt to check it, the mischief has been done. I believe, however that the following measures with reference to all tenures for which engagements have been taken would be of some service.

- (1) Appointment by the Collector of a common manager for the tenure, either of his own motion or on application by the zamindar.
- (2) Compulsory mutation of all transfers of tenures in the Collectorate within specified period after date of transfer under penalty of fine †.
- (3) Exclusion of the Act X procedure. I would substitute a summary jurisdiction by the Collector. This would not add materially to the Collector's work since when the issue of proper rent receipts by zamindars has once been insisted on the case resolves itself into one of documentary evidence and need not occupy a quarter of an hour in disposal.

With regard, however, to the small kharidaders not admitted to engagements there appears to be no remedy beyond the cheapening of rent suits and the insistence on the use of chequefoil receipts.

CHAPTER V.—TENANCIES IN DETAIL MAHAL TENANCIES.

TENANCIES IN DETAIL.

124. Under this heading I shall give some account of the various classes of tenants, considering first, those commonly known as "mahal bahut," whose rents are payable directly to the zamindar or to proprietary tenureholders admitted to engagements and subsequently* those who, whether as occupancy or under-raiyats, pay rents to the several classes of mahal tenants.

KHARIDA TENURE-HOLDERS. †

125. An account of the origin of this class and particulars of those kharidaders, who have now been admitted to engagements having already been given, it remains to note those included in the body of mahal tenants. The number of holdings increased during the sixty years from 1,200 to 3,400, and the area from 14,800 to 15,100 acres, or by 2 per cent. while to gross rental declined from Rs. 11,400 to Rs. 10,700 or by 6 per cent. the incidence from Re. 0-12-4 to Re. 0-11-4 per acre, and the average size of holding from 12-30 to 4-40 acres. The enhancement now imposed amounts to Rs. 16,900 or 58 per cent. and the settled incidence is Re. 1-1-11 per acre.

None of these figures appear to require comment except those showing the excessive subdivision which has taken place amongst this class. The number of holdings has nearly trebled, and in size they are little more than a third of what they were. The circumstance is to be attributed in part to low rents and rise in the price of grain; a combination of conditions which has rendered subsistence easier and enabled three families to live upon the land which previously supported one subdivision has however, taken place to a larger extent than in other tenancies, because the kharida holdings were of more considerable size.

† The Collectorate Register showing mutations of tenures is now no longer maintained.

* Chapter VI.

† Appendix U.

With regard to the circumstances of the class the remarks made on baziaftidars are generally applicable, and some note of transfers has been already given.†

ORDINARY TENURE-HOLDER.†

126. The number of these tenures is 400, and they cover an area of 3,700 acres, of which half is cultivated by raiyats and half by the tenure-holders themselves. The average area of a tenure is 9 acres, and the total settled rental payable is Rs. 5,300, giving an incidence of Rs. 1-6-11 per acre. At last settlement no tenures of this class were recorded and they have come in to existence in the following ways:—

- (1) By creation in the record at this settlement.
- (2) By creation of the zamindars previous to settlement.

The first class are most numerous, and include cases where the area was in excess of fifteen or twenty acres and the raiyats had clearly acquired a right of occupancy.

It was then necessary to give the landlord the status of tenure-holders.‡ The same status was given to the holders of lakhiraj lands resumed at this settlement when their raiyats were found to have occupancy rights. Other tenures include 'hiraderan jagirs' created for the same reason and chhapi || holdings now assessed.

The second class includes tenures created by zamindars for the sake of a temporary profit in the shape of salami. The lands covered by the tenure are already cultivated by tenants and the zamindar on consideration of a certain payment as salami in addition to an annual rent practically grants the right to collect rents from the raiyats. It is understood that the rent is fixed though the lease is silent on the point. Such tenures are very few in number, but cases exist in Taluk Shergar Balitanki where the Panda family of Khantapara are the holders. On the mahal being sold subsequent to the creation of the tenures the purchasers attempted to oust the Pandas, but the tenures were upheld by the High Court, with very unfortunate results for the raiyats, who have been rackrented and ousted from their holdings. Driven desparate by the extortion of the Pandas, who are now ignoring the settled rents, the raiyats have at length combined and are offering a resistance, which it is to be hoped will prove successful. A further objection to the creation of these tenures is the sacrifice of revenue entailed. The zamindar in effect sells his right of collection for a price in which the Government has no share, and the creation of a middleman by reducing the gross assets reduces the revenue to be fixed. Such tenure-holders are in fact mere rent collectors, and whenever possible their existence has been ignored in the records of this settlement.

Another description of tenures created by the landlord occurs in the so-called khas-mahal of Bichitrapur¶ where the ijaradar has given large areas of jungle lands to capitalist and others for roclamation.** Such a course should only be resorted to where no raiyats are available to undertake the cultivation in person.

A third description of these tenures has been found in the khasmahal of Nuanand where charbast or accretion lands partly cultivated by tenants, but disputed with the neighbouring estates, have been placed under the control of a middleman, because, he is better able to maintain the claim.

LAKHIRAJ BAZIAFTI.†

127. *Origin of Lakhiraj Baziafti.*—The confirmed or Bahal lakhiraj lands have already been dealt with. Under the above heading fall all those lands claimed as lakhiraj, but resumed or made baziafti in the proceedings taken at last settlement. It has been noted that 81,673 such claims were investigated, and in the case of 42,200 or rather more than half, the lands were found to be held upon invalid titles and were, therefore, resumed and assessed. This, however, includes the cases where the titles were valid, but the lands found to be in excess. The excess area was resumed and assessed at half rates, and is therefore included under nisfi. Areas in excess of 75 acres claimed under the same grant were created estates.

Treatment at last Settlement.—The question of resumptions was much discussed previous to the year 1836, when proceedings were commenced. It was admitted that the amils of former Government had freely resumed the lands granted by their predecessors, and that the grantees themselves had found it necessary to apply for renewals of their sanads; it was known that many of the claims were fraudulent and invalid; but it was feared that proceedings taken so long after the acquisition of the province would result in dissatisfaction and discontent. Mr. Ricketts in fact proposed in 1831 that the odium attaching to resumption proceedings should be transferred to the zamindars by offering them for a period of 15 years the rents of all lands which they could show upon suit to have been improperly alienated.

† Para. 119.

‡ There was, e.g., one such case in Pargana Ambahatta, where a very large thani and pahi holding has been acquired by a Mahajan during the famine year.

|| i.e. concealed. These were lands claimed as Bahal or Baziafti, but not recorded as such. They were concealed and assessed at last settlement.

¶ Para. 91.

** These correspond in most respect with the jot jamas common in Bengal.

† Appendix U.

Resumption work was begun in Balasore in 1338 by four Deputy Collectors, and in the following year the number was increased to seven. Appeal was allowed to the Special Deputy Collector at Balasore, and from him again to the Special Commissioner at Cuttack. The leniency and moderation of the proceedings is shown in the number of appeals. In 1843 they amounted to 641, in 1844 to 483, and in 1845 to 237. Two months from the date of delivery of a copy of the decree was the period allowed for appeal, and as copies were issued in this District, though not in Cuttack, immediately after trial, there was no delay in the final disposal of the cases. Of the appeals, two-thirds were decided in favour of Government, and in half of the balance the Deputy Collector's orders were modified. Very few cases were decided ex-parte, and in these a period of from 1 to 8 months was allowed from the date of service of notice in order to give the parties full opportunity to appear.

The proceedings were taken under Regulation XII of 1805, and the rules are to be found in section 18. They may be shortly summarised thus:—

- (1) All grants made previous to 1791 were held valid, provided the grantee had obtained possession before that date and had since held rent free.
- (2) All grants made between 1791 and October 1814, and confirmed and admitted by the existing Government previous to October 1814 were held valid under the same proviso.
- (3) Grants not specified as hereditary, or not recognised as such by local usage, were not to be confirmed to any except the original grantee. The latter rule was construed as validating those debottar grants which were not specified as hereditary. The period of one year was allowed for the registration of claims, and if not so registered the claims were subsequently held invalid. Of the lands found to be held on invalid titles, and those of which rent-free possession was proved previous to October 1804, were admitted to a settlement at half rates and were called nisfi or adhajama. The remainder called kamil or purajama were assessed at nominally full rates. These were, as a rule, fraudulent alienations made since the conquest.

The total number of baziafti holdings resumed has been stated as 42,200, and those covered an area of 113,400 acres, assessed at Rs. 51,700*. I may first consider the kamil and Nisfi tenancies separately, and then offer some observations on baziaftidars as a class.

KAMIL BAZIAFTI TENANCIES.

128. The number of these holdings at last settlement was 14,100 and the area 38,200 acres, while the rents assessed amounted to Rs 28,400. Thus the average size of a holding was 2.70 acres, and the incidence of rent per acre Re. 0-11-11. The moderation of the assessment is evidenced by the fact that this incidence is only two-thirds of that of pahi tenancies at last settlement. The lapse of many of these holdings during the 60 years is shown in the loss of area, which declined to 26,500 acres or by 31 per cent., and this took place chiefly in the north-east of the district,† where the assessment was not so light as elsewhere. At the same time subdivision of holdings has taken place to a large extent, the number having increased to 16,100. The average size of a holding accordingly declined to 1.60 acres. The aggregate of the existing rents at this settlement was found to be Rs. 15,500, and the incidence was Re. 0-9-4. This decrease is due to the facts, first, that the lowest rented tenancies are those least likely to be relinquished; secondly, that baziaftidars as a class being dilatory and unwilling rent payers, and zaminders prone to show them leniency, some reduction has taken place in the demand.

The enhancements imposed at this settlement to Rs. 8,800 or 55 per cent., the total settled rents being Rs. 24,300, and the incidence of Re. 0-14-8 which is scarcely more than half that of the 'pahi.'

NISFI BAZIAFTI TENANCIES.

129. Their number at last settlement was 28,100, the total area 75,200 acres, the aggregate rental Rs. 23,300, the average area of holdings 2.70 acres, and the incidence of rent per acre Re. 0-4-11. Owing to the low rates assessed on these holdings cases of abandonment have been very few. The area has in fact increased to 77,200 acres or by 3 per cent., and this is attributable partly to occasional fraudulent extension by baziaftidars of the boundaries of their fields, partly to incorrect measurement at last settlement, and partly to the inclusion of kamil tenancies under this heading. The ekpadias filed by the zamindars were responsible for the mistake, and it was overlooked at the time of attestation, and subsequently at assessment. The numbers of the class has risen to 45,800, and the subdivision of holdings that has taken place is shown by the fact that the average area is now only 1.70 acres. The average size of holdings of this class taken together with kamil has decreased by 35 per cent. Total rents rose to Rs 22,500, while incidence fell to Re. 0-4-8. The rise in total rental is explained by the inclusion of kamil already noted, and the diminished incidence is due to the latter being calculated on the increased area. There have also been occasional cases where the rents have been slightly reduced, generally owing to ignorance or carelessness on the part of the zamindar.

The enhancements now imposed amount to Rs. 44,500 or 197 per cent., and the settled rents accordingly are Rs. 67,000. This gives an incidence of Re. 0-13-11, which is rather less than half that of the pahi.

*Appendix U.

†Para. 187.

BAZIAFTIDARS AS A CLASS.

130. As in lakhiraj bahal so also in baziafti the debottars predominate, and by consequence the brahmins are the most numerous holders. The parties appear to have thought that grants forged in the names of shrines were likely to meet with more lenient treatment, and also that their successors would experience greater difficulty in alienating the lands. Brahmins, karans and khandaits, who hold most of the baziafti area, represent that class of society which as priests, gomastas or amlas came most into contact with the ruling power, and had the ability and intelligence to forge sanands, which bore at least the appearance of genuineness. At the present day the baziaftidars represent the bulk of Uriya middle class society and chiefly the brahmins. The latter number about 120,000 or something over 20,000 families, and when it is remembered that there are over 50,000 bahal properties and aver 60,000 baziafti holdings in the district, the majority of both held by brahmins, it is seen how close is the connection of this caste with lands of the description mentioned.

Baziaftidars as a class are in poor circumstances. They have a number of dependants and their lands have been excessively sub-divided. Yet there are many sason villages where the whole body of baziaftidars is well-to-do. It is generally admitted that they are very irregular rent-payers. They still cling to the title lakhiraj for their lands, and it appears to be a general impression amongst them that as their rents are so slight they may pay them at their convenience. Partly in deference to ancient practice and partly from consideration for their caste and social position, the zamindars have shown great forbearance towards defaulters, while many have thought the rents too small to be worth suing for, and the result has been to confirm the baziaftidars in their impression.

These people have often been accused of being litigious, but I think they are no more so than others of the middle class with a similar education and position. I have no experience of Bengal, but with the Uriya, at any rate, education offers a means for that indulgence in litigation to which all classes are prone.

Baziaftidars in common with brahmins generally often act as guides to the peasantry in the intricacies of the law as well as in other matters. The zamindar's amla, the petition writer, the law-tent, the mukhtiar and pleader are generally from this class. Sometimes as petty mukhtiar they have cases of their own to see through the Courts. They have thus a certain *savoir faire*, which added to their caste and social status ensures them a position of some importance among the peasantry. They are not, therefore, a class whom zamindars can generally afford to offend, and the collection of the settled rents will suffer in consequence.

FERTILITY OF BAZIAFTI LANDS.

131. It was assumed at last settlement that the baziafti land were of inferior quality. The assumption was convenient as an excuse for a light assessment but it is not obvious that it was based upon fact. It might naturally be supposed that the best lands rather than the worst were alienated. During the last 60 years there has been greater extension of cultivation over pahi than over baziafti lands, and the standard of fertility of the latter is therefore at the present day comparatively higher with respect to pahi lands than at last settlement. Fertility moreover depends to a great extent on the exertion of the tenant, and the baziaftidar having a greater interest in his land and less rent to pay than the pahi tenant has been encouraged and had better means to improve his land. On the other hand those baziafti lands, which were resumed at last settlement, as excess portions of valid grants, were never sufficiently definitely recorded to admit of future identification. Only the area resumed is mentioned in the proceedings, and it has, therefore, been at the tenant's own option to decide which was the resumed land. Presumably he surrendered the worst, but such cases are not numerous enough to affect the general question. The usual impression is that baziafti lands at the present day are not inferior to pahi.

NOTE.—The baziaftidar having very low rents to pay is, I think, generally either an inferior or more lazy cultivator. S. L.M.

TRANSFER OF BAZIAFTI.

132. Sales and mortgages have freely occurred amongst this class and without reference to the permission of the zamindar. The following figures extracted from the books of Sub-Registrar show the transactions by registered deeds of sale throughout the district for the decennial period 1889-98 :—

NUMBERS OF TRANSFERS.	PURCHASERS.					Purchase money.
	Mahajans, traders, money-lenders.	Zamindars.	Baziaftidars.	Raiyats.	Others unspecified.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8,366	448	1,393	4,528	1,361	636	Rs. 5,83,600

Sales do not appear to have increased of recent years, but the number of transactions represents one-fifth of the total number of bazyafti holdings, and it may, therefore, be said that out of every five holdings one or a portion of one has been transferred in this manner during the last ten years. Mortgage and the execution of *istamrari* leases, especially in the case of debottar bazyafti account for other transfers. The proportion of bazyaftidars amongst the purchasers is large, and as *debottar* is the most common description of bazyafti as it is of *bahal*, the explanation already given* in discussing *bahal* transfers will be found equally applicable here.

The sale price of bazyafti varies from Rs. 40 to Rs. 80 per acre. Rs. 60 would represent the average price prevailing of late years. As a natural effect of settlement the price is now reduced to a level approximating that of *thani*; and the average is from Rs 50 to Rs. 55 per acre. The mutation fee exacted by the landlords varies from 2 to 4 annas per rupee of the purchase price, where this amounts to Rs. 100 or more the zamindar compounds for a payment at 2 or 3 annas.

THANI TENANCIES. †

133. The number at last settlement was 34,400, the area 110,100 acres, the aggregate rental Rs. 1,85,100, the average size of holdings 310 acres, and the incidence per acre Rs. 1.10.10. During the 60 years a large lapse of this status took place, the number of holdings declined to 25,900, the area to 45,900 acres or by 58 per cent, the average size of holdings to 1.80 acres, the rental to Rs. 52,100 or by 56 per cent., while the incidence rose to Re. 1-12-7. The enhancement now imposed is Rs. 6,000 or 7 per cent., and total settled rental amounts to Rs. 88,100, giving in incidence of Re. 1-14-8 per acre, which is approximately two annas greater than that of *pahi*.

ORIGIN OF THANI STATUS.

134. The word is a corruption of *sthaniya*† meaning local or resident and the *thani* raiyats were from earliest times those resident in the village where they cultivated. As a class they correspond to the *khudkast* raiyats in other parts of India, and though it is difficult to trace their origin there is no doubt they formed an integral part of the village communities in Orissa from the earliest times. They were the most respectable and substantial section of the agricultural community and took the most prominent position in village affairs. The importance of the village communities in the early history of India need not be dwelt on here. Lord Metcalf writing in 1830 dwells upon their stability. They had indeed a permanence and durability far beyond that of any other social institution and a cohesion which entitles them to be considered the basis of society and the ground work of the civil fabric of those days. But if the solidarity of the village community was so firm and its cohesion so strong, it is not surprising that the leading class in it held a position of accentuated importance attended with special rights, privileges and duties. It is not surprising that they possessed a fixity of tenure, that they were given a priority in the cultivation of new lands a share in the fuel and grazing ground, and a rent free plot for their house and garden, or that, on the other hand, the burden of defraying an enhancement in the revenue demand or any extra abwabs imposed by the zamindar fell upon them.

RENTS OF THANI.

135. It was Mr. Sterling's opinion that the great increase in the revenue effected by the settlement of Todar Mall was due not so much to enhancement of rent as to consolidation with it of the various exactions to which tenants had previously been subjected. He thought also that this settlement was "the only known standard for determining payments of rents up to 1805" and that the *thani* rents as fixed by Todar Mall had remained a known and definite some always liable, however, to enhancement by the imposition of irregular demands. After noticing that their position in 1821 was no more favourable than it had been under the Mahrattas, he goes on to say that their circumstances called for relief. Independent of extra impositions, the rates of rent were everywhere high; Rs. 8 per acre* was not an uncommon rate for *saradh* lands, and for twice cropped lands much higher rates were met with "It might be conjectured that the raiyats could only pay such sums, which apparently absorbed the whole produce, by cultivating much more land than was entered in the Bhuian accounts in their names," but as the zamindars claimed a right of measuring the land and assessing the whole of it at the *thani* rate even this source of evasion was occasionally closed.

It is clear then at the period when Mr. Sterling wrote the rates of rent for *thani* lands were excessively high, but that these rates were, however, in fact frequently nominal, because the raiyats actually cultivated much more lands than was assessed. Apart from the social position and credit attached to the status, they had moreover certain privileges, such as a house and garden rent-free, the use of jungle and grazing grounds, the use of *jalpahi* lands

* Para. 81.

† Appendix U.

‡ From the Sanskrit root 'Stha' to remain.

* Mr. Toynbee's History, appendix pages IV, III. Sterling quotes the rates for a man of the 24 *daste* *Padika*, which is equal to the acre. I think it likely that Sterling had cuttack and not Balasore lands in his mind.

† Fuel lands from which the grass and scrup jungle was cut for the purpose of evaporating the salt by fire.

for salt manufactures when that industry was followed, and the preferential right to cultivate bazyati and bahal lands. Taken together their credit and privileges had a certain monetary value which formed in fact a portion of their rent and enabled them to defray a payment of which it is true to say that had it been a mere price paid for the occupation of land, it would scarcely have been covered by the value of the produce.†

TREATMENT AT LAST SETTLEMENT.

136. It is however, important to remember that what Sterling says of these rents is not applicable to the thani rents as fixed at last settlement, while the rate which Sterling had in his mind was Rs. 8, the incidence of these rents as settled was Re. 1-10-11 per acre. Although this incidence was 8 annas in excess of the *pahi* at last settlement it is obviously impossible to apply to it the expressions which Sterling used with regard to the previous over-assessment of *thani* lands. If such a rate as Rs. 8 had been anything like universal in this district it would be impossible to account for so great a reduction in the rents settled at last Settlement. In some cases, where the zamindar's papers were considered unreliable, and the rates were low in comparison with those in the neighbourhood, these rates were enhanced up to the surrounding level lease, where the thani raiyats refused to accept the pattas were not frequent, and their refusal was ordinarily ascribed to the instigation of the zamindar rather than to over-assessment by the Deputy Collector. There was certainly no general dissatisfaction among *thani* raiyats, such as would be looked for had the assessment been excessive. The Deputy Collectors were in fact extremely anxious to impose an assessment which had the approval of the *thani* raiyats, because a refusal to take pattas threw some discredit on their settlement.‡

We find accordingly that even in cases where enhancement were necessary on account of the falsification of the zamindar's papers great consideration was shown. Thus in taluks Arang, Kaider and Mobarakpur, the principal estates of the district, an allowance of Rs. 25 per cent. was granted on the area found in possession of raiyats in excess of that stated by the zamindars. The remaining 75 per cent. was assessed at half rates. According to the zamindar's papers there was a *thani* area of 14,263 acres paying rents amounting to Rs. 25,000 at a rate of Rs. 1-12 per acre. But the area of *thani* actually found to exist was 23,759 acres, and the assessment imposed was Rs. 33,500 giving an incidence varying from Rs. 1-5 to Rs. 1-7 in the three estates.

Though the enhancement in the rental was considerable it was certainly less than that which would have been exacted by the zamindars, who in re-measurement would have applied the old rate to the new area. The assessment was described by the Commissioner as immoderately light.

THANI RENTS AT LAST SETTLEMENT.

137. It has been said that the *thani* incidence was 8 annas less than the *pahi* at last settlement. This amount exhibits the value of about a maund of paddy, and apart from the general rule that the *thani* lands were of superior fertility, which would very easily enable the raiyats to pay the higher rent represented by so slight an increase in the produce, the fact of the privileges to which he was entitled is sufficient in itself to account for the difference. I must not, however, omit to mention that Mr. Mills in his minute of 1848 says, "There was no difficulty in ascertaining the actual rent paid by the thanis, as it was notorious that they were almost invariably assessed at a rate infinitely higher than the produce of their lands or any concomitant advantages enabled them to pay." It is clear that in writing this Mr. Mills had not in his mind the rents which he had described as "immoderately light in the Banchas Estates and without stopping to enquire how the fact of these infinite over-assessment was of any infinite assistance in ascertaining the actual rent paid by the thanis," it may be suggested that Mr. Mills' assertion, which is closely similar to that of Sterling with regard to a far higher rate of rent, is not applicable to the assessment in this district at last settlement. Mr. Mills indeed goes on immediately to say that it was the usual practice to assume the *pahi* average at 4 annas in the rupee lower than the rates actually assessed on the *thani*. In the same paragraph he intimates that the *pahi* rents were the marked rents. Yet when the various advantages and privileges attendant on the status are considered it is surely difficult to conceive that a difference of four annas in the rupee in the rents of the more fertile *thani* lands could warrant, with reference to the circumstance of this district, so exaggerated a description as that which has been quoted.* It must be added that Mr. Mills also notes that the *thani* rents has been generally lowered, but it is not clear whether this implies a reduction in the gross rental or in the *thani* incidence, for these were not necessarily concomitant conditions when accompanied by increase in area.

† Between 1811 and 1817, according to Mr. Toynbee, the average mafassal price of paddy was 90 Cuttack or 115 standard seers per rupee. This is nearly 3 maunds, and the estimated produce of an acre, *vis.*, 15 maunds was worth, therefore, some five rupees.

‡ In one of the large Banchas-oger estates, the zamindar who was dissatisfied with the proceedings and the assessment, accused the Deputy Collectors of throwing the pattas into the houses of raiyats who had refused to accept them.

*The expression is not intended as criticism of Mr. Mills, but as a suggestion that he was not describing the circumstances of this district.

FERTILITY OF THANI LANDS.

138. No uniform rates existed in this assessment of thani at last settlement. The rates purported to be leased on fertility and varied in different fields of the same holding. Uniform rates for similar descriptions of soil, and doem soem, bazifasalt and homestead existed sometimes throughout a group of villages, but more commonly they varied from village to village. Thani raiyats are found paying different rates for lands in every respect the same and again the same rates for lands of varying quality. The thani lands were generally believed to be the best lands in the village, and it is natural that they should have been so. But this was not so much because they were the first cultivated, for the process of their creation had not stopped at an early period of history. Lands continued to be taken in as thani up to last settlement and even in the course of last settlement, the tendency of the Deputy Collectors was to recognise as thani all resident cultivators of the village lands, therefore, continued to be made thani long after the best lands of the village had been taken up. But a more important cause of the superior fertility of the thani lands lay in the fact that they belonged to a superior class who were able to bestow more attention upon them to manure them more freely and sometimes to provide for their irrigation. At the present day there is a general impression that the thani lands are the best. It has been alleged that the productiveness of the soil has been exhausted, but there appears to be no substantial basis for this view. Rabi crops are supposed to be exhausting to the soil, but it is certainly not the case with paddy. Thani lands were not identified at this settlement by the old Bhauria§ plots, and provided the land claimed as thani by the raiyat did not greatly exceed his old area, it rested with himself which plots should be so recorded. Many tenants did not fail to take advantage of the opportunity to record their best *pahi* land as *thani*. Again in the large lapse that has taken place it is natural that the best productive lands should be those generally surrendered.

LAPSE OF THANI.

139. The marked decrease in the *thani* area from 110,100 to 45,900 acres has generally been due to the abandonment of these lands in times of distress. As this lapse of *thnai* is a matter of considerable interest I give here an extract from Appendix V showing the statistics for the various groups :—

Name of group	THANI ASSESSED AREA.		Percentage of decrease in area.	INCIDENCE				Settled incidence of thani.
	At last settlement.	At present settlement.		At last settlement.		Previous to present Settlement		
				Thani.	Pahi.	Thani.	Pahi.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	Acres.	Acres.	73	Rs. a.p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. P.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Northern Parganas...	12,700	3,400	73	1 12 7	1 7 0	1 12 3	1 13 3	1 14 1
Upper Central Parganas.	12,500	5,100	59	1 8 7	0 15 10	1 7 3	1 7 7	1 8 2
Lower Central Parganas	31,200	5,600	82	1 5 1	0 14 3	1 1 9	1 6 9	1 6 3
South-Eastern Parganas.	28,800	23,000	20	2 2 5	1 5 9	2 1 3	1 14 9	2 3 1
South-Western Parganas.	24 900	8,800	65	1 9 8	1 1 0	1 10 8	1 8 4	1 12 9
Total ...	110,100	45,900	58	1 10 10	1 3 1	1 12 7	1 10 7	1 14 8

It appears then that the total lapse amounted to 58 per cent. that the lapse was greatest where thani rents were lowest and least where they were highest. Again that while the total incidence has risen by about two annas, the incidence fell in two of the cases where the lapse was greatest and remained stationary in the third, while, where the lapse was least, incidence rose in one case and fell in another. Lapse and fall in incidence are most marked in the Banchasager Parganas, and here thani rents had descended to a level below that of the pahi and certainly out of proportion to the quality of the lands; hence the high enhancement at this settlement.

The difficulty of drawing any definite conclusions from these figures appears to me to be extreme. It might have been expected that, if the lands were overassessed at last settlement, the lapse would have been greatest where the rents were highest. Yet the reverse was the case or again that in the northern and south-eastern groups where the liability to flood is pronounced, there would have been great lapse accompanied by fall in incidence. Yet this also was not the case. In the former group it is interesting to compare the considerable lapse in

† Miscellaneous crops.

‡ See also para 182.

§ The field book of last settlement.

kamil lands*. This amounted to 73 per cent, yet it cannot be suggested that the rent of the kamil lands was higher than they could afford to pay, for the incidence of last settlement was only Rs. 1-1-2 in comparison with a pahi incidence of Rs. 1-7-0.

It is obviously the case as I have remarked elsewhere that we are not in a position to judge whether the lapse of thani was large or small unless we can compare the similar lapse which took place in pahi lands; but such a comparison is obviously impossible. In seasons of distress there is no doubt that pahi lands must have been abandoned in great quantities, not because they were over-assessed but because the tenant could not afford to pay any rent at all. Kamil lands, assessed at an average incidence of 12 annas at last settlement, lapsed to the extent of 31 per cent. and the fact is that except where rents are nominal, as in the case of nisfi, or holdings large enough to place the raiyat in substantial circumstances as in the case of kharida, a lapse may naturally be looked for in the course of sixty years, when the status irrecoverable.

The Banchasoger group, where the lapse is greatest, is least likely to be affected by vicissitudes of season, and the abandonment might here be ascribed to the influence of the powerful zamindars of those parganas were it not that in the south-western group where the lapse is least the influence of the zamindars as shown in the enhancement of pahi rentals has been more pronounced and effective than in Banchas.

NOTE—Mr. Kingsford forgets that in a season of drought the Banchasoger area would be far more affected than any other part of the district. It so happens that the thani incidence in this area is low. It is well-known that this area suffered terribly in 1866-67.

GENERAL REMARKS ON THANI.

140. There is little else to be said on the subject of thani raiyats. Their privileges do not differ much from those already described. Employment as malanghis, from which they derived some profit at last settlement has been cut off by the abandonment of the salt industry. They retain a preferential right to the cultivation of pahi, baziafti and bahal lands; they obtain fuel at a cheaper rate, and they exercise with regard to cutting trees and taking fruits—rights which while superior to those of the pahis are yet vague and ill-defined.

Undoubtedly a prestige still attaches to the status. Thani raiyats are very unwilling to surrender their lands even when the rent is high, and the soil appears to have been damaged by sand deposit beyond all hope of recovery. Beyond the fixity of rent for thirty years there is still now to differentiate the status from the pahi. Raiyats of the latter have now received the pattas which have been hitherto the distinguishing mark of the thanis, and the occupancy right of both classes is now selling at almost level rates. Yet social distinctions are tenacious of existence in this country, and it may be long before the thani raiyats cease to have the loudest voice in village politics and before the zamindars cease to accord them the privilege of being the first to pay the rent at each kist that precedes the latbandi.

ENHANCEMENT OF THANI RENTS.

141. The subject of enhancement remains for comment. The thani incidence rose from Rs. 1-10-10 to Rs. 1-12-8 during the sixty years. The rise cannot be ascribed to enhancement generally imposed by the zamindars, for the cases have been very few where those were shown to have been affected. Amongst the few estates in which they have occurred I may mention, however, those of the Das family of Sunhat. If then the incidence has risen without imposition of enhancements it must be owing to the circumstance that the lowest rented lands have been those generally abandoned. This was clearly not the case in Banchasager, where incidence has fallen, but it was the case in the south-eastern parganas where the incidence has risen. I believe there can be no explanation beyond ascribing the increase to mere coincidence.

At the present settlement the total enhancement is 7 per cent., and the figure ranges from 24 per cent. in Banchas where the thani rents were immoderately low to 4 per cent. in the upper central parganas.

TRANSFER OF THANI.

142. The thani raiyats have freely transferred their holdings by sale and mortgage without reference to the zamindars. The latter have admitted the custom, and it is now generally acknowledged. Such transfers were not known before last settlement † and there is no doubt that it was the possession of the pattas then granted that has given rise to the practice. The following statement exhibits the transfers by registered deed of sale during the decennial period 1889-8 throughout the district :—

Number of transaction	PURCHASERS.				Area transferred.	Purchase money.	Average purchase Price per acre
	Mahajans traders, Money-lenders.	Zamindars.	Raiyats.	Others, unspecified.			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
2,103	189	734	730	4,374	11,745	Rs. 1,13,738	Rs 9

*Para 187.

†Sterling says: "I have been unable to discover any instances of a (thani) raiyats selling or mortgaging his lands, nor can I meet with any one who think they possess such a right."

These figures have been compiled from the books of the Sub-Registrar. The average price deduced does not represent the market value of thani lands, which has averaged from Rs. 40 to Rs. 50 per acre of late years. It is noticeable that a large area passed into the hands of the zamindars who have had the lands entered as thani in the records under the names of their relations. Since settlement the price has risen on the average by from Rs. 5 to Rs. 10 per acre.

The zamindars have customarily charged a mutation fee of four annas in the rupee on the purchase price, and as the payment of this fee falls upon the purchaser, 25 per cent. should be added to the price in order to estimate the selling value of the lands.

SETTLED AND OCCUPANCY TENANTS.*

143. No record of the number of these holdings was prescribed at last settlement, but looking to the analogy of other statuses it may be assumed that pahi holdings were not more than 3 acres nor less than $2\frac{1}{4}$ acres in size. Taking the figure to have been $2\frac{1}{4}$ acres, the total pahi area of 216,000 acres would give 96,000 as the number of holdings at last settlement. The aggregate rental was Rs. 2,58,160, and the incidence per acre Rs. 1-3-1.

The number of these holdings now recorded is 234,700, the area 435,200 acres (an increase of 101 per cent.) with an existing rental of Rs. 7,23,500 (an increase of 180 per cent.) giving an incidence of Rs. 1-10-7 per acre. The enhancement now imposed is Rs. 60,8000 or 8 per cent. and the total settled rents are Rs. 7,84,300 giving an incidence of Rs. 1-12-10 per acre.

INCREASE IN RENTAL OF SETTLED AND OCCUPANCY TENANTS.

144. While the assessed area of this class increased by 101 per cent. the increase in the total rental was 180 per cent., and it is of interest to note what proportion of the increase was due to extended cultivation and what to enhancements. Applying the last settlement incidence to the present area we have the sum of Rs. 5,19,000, which represents roughly the figure to which the rents would have risen in the absence of enhancement. The increase due to extension of area is therefore Rs. 2,60,900 or 56 per cent. of the total, and to enhancement Rs. 2,04,400 or 44 per cent. of the total. It is to be remembered that 64,000 acres of lapsed thani and 10,000 acres of lapsed kamil (the remaining 2,000 acres having been included in *nisfi*) have gone to swell the pahi area. The last settlement thani incidence being equal to that to which the pahi attained before this settlement, the inclusion of this thani area does not affect the question of enhancement. On the lapsed kamil area, however, comparing its last settlement incidence with that reached by pahi during the sixty years there was an enhancement of some Rs. 10,000, which should be deducted from the figure of Rs. 2,04,400 in order to ascertain the actual enhancements effected by the zamindars on pahi rents. Further on the 14,000 acres of lapsed chandua, also now included in pahi, there has been a loss of 4 annas per acre in incidence representing a sum of Rs. 3,500, which is to be deducted in the same manner. The increase due to enhancement will then amount to Rs. 1,90,900, or only 41 per cent. of the total. Looking at these figures in another light a fair view of this enhancement is obtained by applying it to the present area of 435,200 acres, and if this be done it will be seen that the enhancement amounts to precisely 7 annas per acre, which is for the reason noted somewhat less than the figure obtained by subtracting the last settlement incidence from that prevailing before the present settlement.

COMPARISON OF THANI AND PAHI RENTS.

145. The following statement extracted from the Appendix shows the comparative incidence of thani and pahi at last settlement, and as found existing previous to the present settlement in the various groups of parganas :—

	Total of the District.		Group I.		Group II.		Group III.		Group IV.		Group V.	
	At last settlement. At present settlement.		Incidence.		Incidence.		Incidence.		Incidence.		Incidence.	
			At last settlement.	At present settlement.	At last settlement.	At present settlement.	At last settlement.	At present settlement.	At last settlement.	At present settlement.	At last settlement.	At present settlement.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Thani	Rs. A. P. 1 10 7	Rs. A. P. 1 12 7	Rs. A. P. 1 12 9	Rs. A. P. 1 12 9	Rs. A. P. 1 8 7	Rs. A. P. 1 7 0	Rs. A. P. 1 5 2	Rs. A. P. 1 1 6	Rs. A. P. 2 2 4	Rs. A. P. 2 1 2	Rs. A. P. 1 9 9	Rs. A. P. 1 10 10
Pahi	1 3 1	1 10 7	1 6 11	1 13 3	0 15 10	1 7 7	0 14 3	1 7 3	1 5 9	1 14 9	1 1 3	1 8 2

While for the whole of the district the pahi incidence filled by two annas to reach the present level of the thani, though it attained the last settlement level in three out of the five

*Appendix U.

groups it lose above the thani incidence as found at this settlement and in one instance by a considerable sum, I believe where a standard exists such as that presented by the thani, it is difficult for pahi rents to rise above it amongst a people like the Urias, who are all slaves to custom, and it is, therefore, perhaps no matter for surprise that the pahi rents have in one case only risen to an appreciable extent above the thani.

The increase in the pahi incidence varies from 6 to 9 annas, and the greatest rise is observable in two groups where rents were lowest at last settlement and in another, the south-western where many estates have been under capable management, notably, those of the Musalman zamindars, and where the enhancement of the rent in the khasmahal of Noanund has afforded an example, which neighbouring zamindars have been quick to follow.*

NOTE:—The lands of Sanaut Pargana in which the bulk of the Noanund estate is situated are generally area per acre, the most fertile in the district.

GENERAL REMARKS ON PAHI.

146. Owing to the fact that pahi tenancies were not recorded at last settlement, I have been compelled to estimate the size of holdings and the number of tenancies, and I refrain therefore from commenting on the question of subdivision beyond remarking that there appears to be little room for further reduction in the size of holdings.

Except for the question of transfers there is little else to say on the subject of these raiyats. The present enhancement amounts to only to 8 per cent., or an increase of 2 annas in the incidence, and most of it was effected on the ground of increase in area.

TRANSFERS OF PAHI

147. Previous to this settlement there has been no custom of transfer of pahi lands by sale without the zamindar's consent. This has, however, so far as I can learn, been invariably granted on payment of the mutation fee of four annas in the rupee on the purchase price. It has generally been the custom to obtain the zamindar's sanction before effecting the sale, but even where this was not done, no objection has been made to recording the mutation on payment of the fee. The matter, therefore, resolves itself into a question of payment or non-payment of this fee. If the raiyat took no step to record the mutation, he was disposed. If was natural that zamindars should take objection, therefore, to the mutations effected in the settlement records on application by raiyats, because this procedure absolved the raiyat from the necessity of paying the customary dues. The following figures show the sales by registered deeds during the decennial period from 1889 to 1888:—

No. of transactions.	PURCHASERS.				Total area.	Purchase money.	Average price per acre.
	Mahajans, traders, money-lenders.	Zamindars.	Raiyats.	Other unspecified.			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
10,083	1,005	3,536	4,459	1,083	26,524	Rs. 3,73,684	Rs. 14

The average purchase price as above noted is certainly incorrect, for the average sale price has been from Rs. 20 to Rs. 25 per acre of late years. It is noticeable that out of the total number of transactions no less than Rs. 6,000 occurred during the last two years.

Since they received their khatians the pahi raiyats have been flocking into the towns to effect sales of their lands. The price has risen to from Rs. 40 to Rs. 60 per acre, and one case in Pargana Talsabang has been brought to my notice where lands fetched Rs. 100 per acre. They were, however, specially fertile, and reported to yield 30 to 35 maunds of paddy to the acre. It is curious to reflect that the issue of khatians has had such an extraordinary effect on the values, and it is certainly a fair compensation to the raiyat for the harassment of a settlement which has effected very little enhancement of his rent, that it should have increased the value of his land from Rs. 25 to Rs. 50 per acre.

Raiyats have for some years been attempting to establish as against the landlord a custom of sale without permission, and I have no doubt it will be no long period before they succeed. From having been sixty years ago mere tenants-at-will they now been endowed with rights scarcely inferior to those of the thanis, and they will establish a right of transfer just as the thanis did after the last settlement. Raiyats are now busily enquiring into their rights, and are beginning experimentally to effect transfers without permission, and with the intention of either paying a reduced mutation fee or none at all. The zamindars have indeed already seen fit to reduce the fee.

*Para. 193.

Of late years the zamindars themselves have purchased many of these holdings with the object of letting them out on produce rents, or at a money rent on payment of a considerable *salami*

NON-OCCUPANCY TENANTS.

148. These holdings were not recorded at last settlement. The number is now 10,000, the area 13,400 acres, and the rental was found to amount to Rs. 13,900. Thus the average area of holdings is 1.30 acres, and the incidence of rent per acre was Rs. 1-0-7. An enhancement of Rs. 7,800 or 56 per cent. has now been imposed, and the aggregate settled rental is Rs. 21,700, giving an incidence of Rs. 1-9-11

It must, however, be noted that in the northern parts of the district* where new cultivation chiefly exists, and the class of non-occupancy raiyats is most common, the area which has come under cultivation since 1894 when attestation was made is extremely large. The figure of area is that ultimately found at the time of assessment, and bears, therefore, a qualified reference to the aggregate of the existing rents, which is that recorded at attestation. It would, therefore, be incorrect to regard the rise in the incidence from Re. 1-0-7 to Rs. 1-9-11 as representing enhancements, since by far the greater proportion of it is assessment on new cultivation not recorded at the time of attestation

CHANDNA TENANTS.

149. These are holdings consisting of a house and garden, exclusive of ordinary cultivated lands. At last settlement the number was 22,300 and the area 17,300 acres paying a total rental of Rs. 33,400. Thus the average size of holdings was 0.80 of an acre, and the incidence per acre Rs. 1-14-10.

There are now recorded 12,400 holdings covering an area of 3,300 acres and paying previous to settlement a rental of Rs. 11,400. The incidence was thus Rs. 3-7-3 per acre. The enhancement now imposed amounts to Rs. 200 or 2 per cent. and the total settled rental is Rs. 11,600 giving an incidence of Rs. 3-8-3. The average size of holding has decreased to 0.30 of an acre.

In considering these figures it should be noted that at this settlement whenever raiyats were found holdings chandna as well as cultivated lands in a village their tenancies were recorded as a whole under the status of *pahi*

Broadly speaking, therefore, tenants now recorded as chandna represent that class which possesses no cultivated lands in the village, having homestead only. But it must be remembered that the chandnadars are frequently in possession of non-mahal tenancies in the same village, and that there are few of them who have not some cultivation either in their own village, or outside it. Those who have no cultivation include some of the small shopkeepers of the bazars and towns.

At last settlement the chandna in thani holdings was generally included under that status, but certain chandnadars, who had also cultivated lands, were included under the status chandna and were given 'pattas'. This class is known as *chandnadarkudehi patta*, and their rights were equivalent to those of thanis with whom they have now been included. The remainder of the chandna class included as it does now the holdings of raiyats who had no cultivation for which they paid rent directly to the zamindar.

The inclusion of the cultivated lands at last settlement in the pattas of the chandnadars noted accounts for the decrease in the average size of holdings. The present average area represents that ordinarily occupied by a homestead.

JAIGIR TENANTS†.

150. These divide into two classes, firstly, those resumed and assessed at this settlement and consisting of *chaukidari*, *patwari*, *paik* and *khandait*, and secondly the *chakran* or village servant *jaigir*, which has been left unassessed.

CHAUKIDAR JAIGIR.

151. The number of holdings at last settlement was 2,100, and the area 7,200 acres giving an average size of 3.40 acres to each. The number is now 2,400 and the area remains the same, while the average size of holdings has declined to 3 acres. The assessment now imposed amounts to Rs. 12,400, giving an incidence of Rs. 1-11-6 per acre, which is little less than that of the *pahi*.

The *chaukidar* or *chaukia* traces his origin from the time of the Hindu kings, and was originally known as *Danduasi* or *Chalia*. As in the case of most other officials his remuneration consisted in a grant of service lands. Many of these *jaigirs* in common with those of *paiks* were illegally resumed by the zamindars in the years following the British accession.

At last settlement the original intention was to introduce a money payment system in lieu of the *jaigirs*. Steps were accordingly taken in some estates for the resumption of the lands, and a cess, called *chaukidari rosam*, was imposed upon the thani raiyats for the remuneration of the *chaukidars*. The proposal was ultimately abandoned, and no lands were resumed. The cess had, however, been in many cases entered in thani pattas and these were never subsequently corrected; accordingly in the estates of some zamindars‡ the cess has been levied as a portion of the thani rent up to the time of this settlement. †

The area has very little decreased owing to the *chaukidars* being maintained in their *jaigir* by the police. On the death of an incumbent the incomer has been put into possession, and zamindars have had little opportunity for resumption. The area of holdings has somewhat

*Para. 187.

†Appendix UX.

‡ I may instance the Banchasagar estates.

decreased owing to subdivision and, perhaps also to arrangements made by the police. Two-chaukidars are often found in possession of the area which supported one sixty years ago, and not a few of them have let out some portion of their lands to under-riayats.

In addition to his jaigir the chaukidars receive customary presents from the raiyats. At present time the perquisite is a sheaf or two from every field, and in many villages he takes the evening meals at the house of each respectable raiyats in turn. Though generally recruited from low castes, the class includes a number of khandaits, who are in many cases survivals of paiks rather than of chaukidars. Indeed the duties are often indistinguishable, and in some parts in the north of the district there are no chaukidars at all, and the police duty is performed entirely by paiks.

The office of chaukidar is naturally attended with some fear, and therefore respect amongst the raiyats. In land disputes of any importance they are usually found taking sides, and are much sought after as witnesses.

PATWARI JAIGIR.*

152. At last settlement there were 120 holdings of this nature with an area of 1,400 acres, and the number is now 300, the area having remained the same. The average area of holdings has declined from 11.70 to 4.70 acres. The assessment now imposed amounts to Rs. 1,000 giving an incidence of Re. 0-11-5 per acre.

The Patwaris are the surviving relics of the 'Bhoi' or village accountant of the Hindu Revenue Administration. Their jaigirs were legalised by Regulation XII of 1817. The increase shown in the number of this class is fictitious. At last settlement patwaris were allowed for estates of a considerable size only, and the jaigir held by each, perhaps in several villages was entered as one holding in the *Bhian*. The holdings are now, however, reckoned by villages.

The chief duties of the patwari are to keep certain registers and accounts and to deliver copies of them to the Pargana Kanungo. They are also of some assistance to the Collector in making maffasal enquiries; but opinions vary as to their usefulness. In preserving any reliable information on the subject of rents or collections they have certainly failed, and they have indeed entirely fallen under the control of the zamindars. As subordinate agents in the scheme for maintenance of records they will not be of full service until divorced from this connection. At present they are little more than zamindar's servant.

PAIK AND KHANDAIT JAIGIR.

153. For these tenancies, as they differ little in their nature, combined figures are given, 1,880 holdings at last settlement covered an area of 4,400 acres and the number has now increased to 1,400 with an area of 4,600 acres. The average size of holdings has declined from 3.70 to 3.30 acres. The assessment now imposed is Rs. 4,800 giving an incidence of Re. 1-0-8 per acre.

These classes are survivals of the rural militia entertained in the times of the Hindu rules. The Khandaits are of superior origin, and appears to have held a position of control over the paiks. At the present day much of the distinction between the duties of paiks, khandaits and chaukidars has been lost, and the services exacted from them by the police have been to some degree interchanged. The paiks and khandaits are most frequent in the tracts along the borders of the Tributary States and in the north of the district. They were granted service lands for the protection of the country, partly from inroads by the Gurjat chiefs and partly from the ravages of wild animals. Though they have lost all the appearance of a martial class they retain their hereditary antique weapons and exhibit a partiality for sport. Very large areas of these jagirs were resumed by the zamindars previous to last settlement. Thus in Ambahata alone out of about 4,000 acres in 1803 only 1,000 survived 60 years ago.

At last settlement they were confirmed in their Jagirs and were placed under a description of military control, subject to that of Commissioner as Superintendent of Police. It was intended to use their services in the event of an outbreak in the Gurjats. Their head-quarters were first fixed at Balasore, but about 1850 were removed to Cuttack, much to the dissatisfaction of the merchants and residents of Balasore. Writing in 1853 Sir Henry Ricketts noted that the Paik Company were not "sufficiently expert with their 'pugees.'" The Paiks have since that time been relieved of all military duties, but are subject to the control of the Police, though on very vague and indefinite terms. The duties now performed by them are of so slight a character that there can be no reason for their retention except as chaukidars. A small class called 'Nahabar' or road patrol men and a few 'dafadars' are included in the figures given. The former patrol certain parts of Trunk Road, and the latter are controlling officers placed over the Paiks. The largest Paik jaigir was that of Chandbali which has now been converted into an estate†. With this exception the jagirs have been treated as tenancies and have been assessed at half rates for the period of the present holder's life time. They have received the status of thani.

CHKRAN JAIGIR.‡

154. The total number of these tenancies at last settlement was 4,300, and they covered an area of 4,800 acres. The number has now declined to 3,000 and the area to 2,600 acres and the average size of holdings has fallen from 1.10 to 0.87 acres. The decline in number was 30 per cent. and in area 46 per cent.

* Appendix V.

† Para. 98.

‡ Appendix X.

These tenancies are chiefly of four descriptions, which may be briefly mentioned:—

Dhoba.—1,455 Dhobas or washermen held at last settlement an area of 1,670 acres whereas at the present time 1,044 hold 902 acres. The average size of holdings having fallen from 1.14 to 0.86 acres.

Barber.—(Bhandari) 1,450 barbers held jaigirs of 1,600 acres at last settlement, while now 1,115 hold an area of 962 acres. The average size of holdings fell from 1.10 to 0.86 acres.

Kamar.—680 blacksmiths held Jaigirs amounting to 690 acres at last settlement, and the number has now declined to 399 with an area of 341 acres. The average size of holdings fell, therefore, from 1.01 to 0.85 acres.

Barhai—670 carpenters held jaigirs of 730 acres at last settlement, while at the present time 407 hold an area of 334 acres. The average size of holdings has decreased from 1.09 to 0.82 acres.

Other chakran jaigirs.—These include jaigirs of mehtars, drummers, ghat manjis or ferry men some appointed by zamindars since last settlement, one case of Kaji or family priest, potter, nahabars or watchman appointed by zamindars, *bethias* or labourers* and one Bramhan whose duties are unspecified, also lately appointed by a zamindar. The number of those jaigirdars at last settlement was 45, and they held an area of 110 acres, whereas the number is now 35 and the area 61 acres. The average size of holdings has declined from 2.45 to 1.77 acres. The drummers, watchmen and ferry men held the largest jaigirs at last settlement.

GENERAL REMARKS ON CHAKRAN JAIGIR.

155. The word is derived from "chakar," servant, and the jaigirs date from very early times. They were granted for the benefit of the village community, and as an inducement to intending settlers. In a small or newly established village where the number of inhabitants was too small to offer a hope of sufficient remuneration to the barber or the blacksmith, these were induced by grants of small areas of land rent free to take up their residence and thus complete the formation of the village community. It was never intended that these jaigirdars should supply the needs of the villagers without payment and as a return for the grant of land, nor has it ever been the case that they have done so. They receive an annual present of paddy or in some villages, especially near the towns, a cash payment in return for their services. On special occasions they receive a further dole of rice; cloths or money. The barber especially as performing duties closely allied with the religious and social observances of the people, is in request at all domestic ceremonies and gains considerable emoluments.

The importance of these jaigirs to the comfort of the villagers was recognised at last settlement, and the holders were confined in possession of them. In some cases where the grant appeared excessive a portion of it was resumed, but in other cases I have found them increased by the confirming authorities. They have been generally respected by the zamindars who often personally derive benefit from their services. At the same time they exact obedience, and where this is denied they do not scruple to oust the occupant and install another of the same trade. The jaigirdars are entirely under the zamindar's control, and the latter often make use of them to coerce recalcitrant raiyats by ordering a cessation of their services to the offender.

Circumstances have much altered since the creation of these jaigirs. Villages have increased in size and the number of the village servants accordingly, so that in a sense the necessity for the grant of these jaigirs has passed away. The area is, however, very inconsiderable, and it would be most impolitic to resume them.

RENT-FREE TENANCIES ASSESSED AT THIS SETTLEMENT.†

156. The number is 3,600 and the area 4,800 acres, the assessment being Rs. 5,700. The average size of holdings is therefore 1.30 acres and the incidence per acre Rs. 1-3-0. These are separately shown, though the status of the tenants is that of occupancy-raiyats. They include all tenancies granted rent-free by the zamindars, and now assessed to rent on application by either of the parties. Such application was, as a rule, never made by the zamindars, but by the tenants themselves with a view to strengthening their title. Rents were only assessed where the applicant already enjoyed occupancy rights, that is to say in tenancies which were in his possession before the landlord remitted the rent. These tenancies are known as 'niskar' and 'minha' (rent-free), and the rents had usually been remitted as marks of favour as a reward for past services,† or as a gift on some pious occasion. They are to be distinguished from what are known as *zamindardia* jaigir (jaigir granted by zamindar) tenancies, in which there held to be no occupancy rights, since the lands were granted by the zamindar either from nijchas on the waste area, the terms being that the tenant should hold them rent-free on condition of performing some service. These latter tenancies fall under the heading: "Rent-free tenancies assessed to revenue." Briefly put *niskar* or *minha* signify remission of rent on an existing holding, while jaigir signifies the grant of land rent-free.

Rents having now been settled for the holdings under this heading the status of the tenants does not differ from that of occupancy-raiyats, and the tenancies have ceased to be voidable by an auction-purchaser of the estate.

RENT-FREE TENANCIES ASSESSED TO REVENUE.

157. The number is 9,500 and the area 8,700 acres, the average size of holdings being 0.90 acres. The assessment imposed on the zamindars and debited to the gross assets is Rs. 15,500, giving an incidence of Rs. 1-12-7 per acre.

*Properly labourers without wages.

†Appendix V.

†e.g., grants of lands to Brahmans on the occasion of performance of ceremonies to departed ancestors at Gaya or at a *sraddha* (funeral), the sacred thread ceremony, or marriage.

These tenancies include first 'zamindardia' jaigirs holdings previously referred to; secondly, the 'zamindardia minha' and 'niskar' holdings not assessed to rent, and thirdly certain tenancies paying a quit-rent which has not been interfered with, the difference between the quit-rent and the letting value of the lands having been assessed upon the zamindar and debited to the gross assets. All these tenancies are invalid * being encumbrances voidable by an auction purchaser, and liable to assessment at any settlement under section 192 of the Bengal Tenancy Act.

MAHAL TENANCIES SUMMED UP.

158. The number of mahal tenancies dealt with is three and-a-half lakhs as against two lakhs at last settlement. They cover an area of 647,000 acres, an increase of 33 per cent. on the last settlement area of 484,900 acres, and the average size of holdings has decreased from 7.40 to 1.80 acres. During the 60 years the gross assets rose from Rs. 5,39,900 to Rs. 8,97,900 or by 66 per cent., and the incidence from Rs. 1-1-9 to Rs. 1-6-2 per acre. The gross assets, as now settled, amount to Rs. 10,58,600, the enhancement being 17 per cent. and the incidence is Rs. 1-10-2. The assets are, therefore, nearly twice the amount at last settlement.

All the tenancies considered are rent-paying with the exception of those valued for revenue, which bear an insignificant proportion to the whole.

It may be interesting to see what proportion of the increase in assets during the sixty years is due to extended cultivation and what to enhancement of rentals by the zamindars. Had no enhancements been effected, the last settlement incidence of Rs. 1-1-9 applied to the present assessed area of 647,000 acres supplied the figure which the assets would have reached. The amount is Rs. 7,17,800 and deducting from this the last settlement assets of Rs. 5,39,900 we have the sum of Rs. 1,77,900 representing increase due to extension of cultivation. The balance of Rs. 1,80,000 is the result of enhancement, and therefore of the total increase one half is due to extended cultivation and one half to enhancement.

TRANSFERS OF HOLDINGS AMONG MAHAL RAIYATS. †

159. Some information has already been given on the subject of bazayfti, thani and pahi transfers, and prefacing that although transfers among non-mahal raiyats have hitherto been unknown. Some have actually occurred since settlement owing to the distribution of khatians. I propose to glance at the general subject of raiyati transfers. These take place on the following accounts;—

- (1) Sale.—(a) voluntary.
 (b) by decree of the Civil Courts.
 (c) by decree of the Revenue Courts.
 (d) under the certificate procedure for debts incurred to Government under the Land Improvement Act and Agricultural Loans Act.
- (2) Gift, (3) Partition, (4) Inheritance, and (5) Mortgage.

On the subject of sales I have little to add to what has been already stated † Forced sales are not frequent in this district. During the last ten years 538 sales appear to have taken place on account of Civil Court decrees, and those on account of decrees of Revenue Courts are still less common. Forced sales have been found to some extent in parganas Soro and Gulpada, where tenants unable to repay loans have been compelled to surrender their lands to the zamindar at a very inadequate consideration.

Gifts are very occasionally made of small parcels of thani and bazayfti lands in the endowment of shrines.

Partition is effected by amicable arrangement and with the assistance of the Village Panchayat and applications for correction of records on this ground were very common during the settlement proceedings. In some villages, chiefly in the south of the District, a custom prevails of giving the Loan's share of the lands to the eldest son. § Daughters have no claim. Sometimes a father partitions the holding amongst his sons during his life time retaining a portion for himself

Inheritance, the commonest mode of transfer calls for no special explanation. Difficulties leading to litigation often occur in the case of adoption, and still more frequently when widows have an interest in the property. They can only have a life interest, and it was often necessary to enquire whether the transfers made by them had been effected with the consent of the husband's reversionary heir, amongst all but the better castes remarriage of widows is common, and it not uncommonly happens that one who is childless attempts on remarriage to effect a transfer to the prejudice of her dead husband's relatives.

MORTGAGE.

160. Mortgages are a common method of transfer amongst thani and latterly amongst pahi raiyats. Under the form known as 'Jaibandhuk' the mortgagee cannot transfer the property to a third person, and it is redeemable on repayment of the principal and interest.

* They may be valid enough during the life-time of the present zamindar. I have used the word invalid in the two senses noted.

† For these and other particulars on the subject of transfers I am chiefly indebted to Babu Prasanna Kumar Banerjee, Assistant Settlement Officer.

‡ Paras. 132, 142, 147.

§ Called *jetha ansa*, share of the eldest son.

Meantime the mortgagor cultivates the lands, enjoys the produce and pays the rent. Under 'Katanlibandhuk' the mortgagee enjoys the land for a specified term of years in repayment of principal and interest, and on expiry of the term it is returned to the mortgagor. Under the third and most common form 'bhagbandhuk' the mortgagee enjoys the lands in lieu of interest only and until the principal of the debt is repaid. In the last two cases the mortgagor generally pays the rent. The deeds are usually on unstamped paper or palmleaf, and frequent disputes have arisen regarding the terms, the mortgagee generally representing that the transaction had been a sale. For small mortgages registration is not generally resorted to, and the following figures which exhibit the total number of mortgages of all descriptions in the district for the years noted will show only a portion of those effected by raiyats:—

Year.	Instruments of mortgage of the value of Rs. 100 and upwards.					Instruments of mortgage of the value of less than Rs. 100.
1888-1892	...	1,465	...	...	...	Rs. 2,356
1893-1897	...	2,209	...	...	...	.. 5,759
Total of ten years		3,674	...	...	...	8,115

There has thus been a very marked increase in the number of smaller mortgages during the last five years

MUTATION.

161. It has already been stated that the fees exacted for mutation in the zamindari sarista are usually four annas in the rupee on the purchase money except in the case of bazyafiti lands; where the amount is large the fee is reduced to two annas. In order to avoid the payment of what thus amounts in the case of an area of 3 or 4 acres to a very considerable sum, cases have been known where the vendor continued to pay the rent upon the lands he had sold without attempting to effect mutation. In the case of a bazyafiti holding of three acres, which had been sold for Rs. 200, if the raiyat feared that a fee at 4 annas amount to Rs. 50, would be exacted, it is certainly natural that he should prefer to continue paying the rent amounting perhaps to less than one rupee.

Three-fourths of the mutation fee are usually received by the zamindar while one-fourth is the perquisite of the amla. To consider the bazyafiti, thani and pahi lands sold by registered deeds during the last ten years, and mutations necessitated on this account are only a portion of these effected in the zamindari sarista, the total value of the holdings sold was in excess of ten lakhs of rupees giving an average of one lakh per annum. Estimating the mutation fees at 3 annas in the rupee they will amount annually to Rs. 19,000. The Rs. 5,000 received by the amla, and set against their pay will defray one-twentieth of the cost* of the total zamindari collection establishment in the district, while the remaining Rs. 14,000 are no inconsiderable addition to the profits of the zamindars.

EFFECTS OF TRANSFERS.

162. While it is true that in the case of a thrifty raiyat the power to dispose of a portion of his holding is of benefit in enabling him to keep out of the mahajan's hands, the effect is precisely the reverse with a raiyat of the contrary character,* who is merely encouraged to extravagance. But attention should be drawn to the circumstances of petty zamindars with whom the custom is frequently a source of difficulty and loss. In such estates a raiyat, who is in arrears, seeks a remedy from his embarrassments in selling his holding to an influential outsider, who is willing to pay rent only from the date of purchase, and prefers to saddle himself with the arrears customarily debited to the incoming tenant. In the small estates of pargana Katsahi several such sales have been effected to the Sahabandar Bhuian. As the co-sharers in these estates are upon bad terms some of them refused to be parties to a suit against the purchaser, with whom they have an understanding, and the suit must, therefore, if it be brought, fail for non-joinder, so that the proprietors as a body have no remedy except partition of the mahal

CHAPTER VI—TENANCIES IN DETAIL, NON-MAHAL TENANCIES.

NON-MAHAL TENANTS†.

163. The Mahal tenancies, that is those of which the rents go to make up the gross assets of the estate payable either to the zamindar or to the proprietor tenure-holder admitted to engagement, having been noted, it remains to consider the non-mahal tenancies, that is those of which the rents are payable to mahal tenants. These fall naturally under three classes, viz., raiyats of tenure-holders, under-raiyats of raiyats and raiyats of nij-jote or landlord's private lands, and I have included the latter because although they pay rent to the proprietors, these rents form no portion of the assets, the nij-jote lands being assessed at a valuation. Though these tenancies vary annually, the leases being seldom for a longer period than two or three years, there is probably little fluctuation in the total area. The total number of non-mahal holdings is 105,553, and the area 79,233 acres giving an average area of 0.75 acres per holding, which is only half the size of the average mahal-holding statistics have only been compiled for the more important classes, numbering according to the figure given in the appendix 103,460. This figure needs, however, some explanation. In order to exhibit the number of tenancies paying produce rents, it was necessary to show

*At ten per cent. on the gross assets of 11½ lakhs of rupees.

†Appendix A,A.

holdings paying a combined money and produce rent as two separate holdings. As, however, many of the holdings shown as paying produce rents are in fact portions of holdings paying a combined money and produce rent, and as more than 12,400 holdings paying produce rents are included in the figure noted, it would be correct to estimate the number of non-mahal tenancies for which detailed figures are given in the statistics at 99,830 only, including those held rent free. Adding the area in possession of raiyats, 57,510 acres, to that in possession of under raiyats, 19,135 acres, we have a total of 76,645 acres, comprising these 99,830 holdings. The balance of 2,588 acres and 5,723 holdings include various classes of under-raiyats, such as under-raiyats of raiyats of nij-jote, under-raiyats of jagir-raiyats (including chowkidars, paiks and khandaits, patwaris and chakran jagirdars), under-raiyats of under-raiyats chiefly found in the towns, for which detailed figures did not seem to be required.

RAIYATS OF TENURE-HOLDERS.

164. Considering first the raiyats of tenure-holders, these as a class possess occupancy rights and hold under kharida tenure-holders, ordinary tenure-holders and baziasti tenure-holders. The number of holding is shown as 74,030, but may more properly be estimated at 71,130. These cover an area of 57,510 acres, so that considerably more than half of the tenure-holders' lands are sublet. The average area of a holding is 0.77 acres. The area paying a money rent is 57,460 acres, and the incidence is Rs. 1-11-8 per acre. Sanja is paid for 290 and dhulibhag for 4,140 acres, and accordingly about one thirteenth of the total area pays produce-rents.

UNDER-RAIYATS OF RAIYATS OF TENURE-HOLDERS, UNDER-RAIYATS OF MAHAL RAIYATS, AND RAIYATS OF NIJ-JOT.

165. The total number of these holdings is shown as 29,430, but may be estimated with greater accuracy at 28,700. The area comprised is 19,135 acres, and the average size of holdings is therefore 0.66 acres. Money rents amounting to Rs. 26,423 are paid for 14,125 acres, the incidence being Rs. 1-14-6 per acre, and 4,670 acres pay sanja and dhulibhag rents the area under produce rents being more than one-fourth of the total. We may now consider how this class of holdings is composed.

Raiyats of tenure-holders sublet 1,755 acres, or 3 per cent. of the area held by them, to under-raiyats, who pay money rents for 1,325 acres and produce-rents for more than one-quarter of the total area. The number of holdings is shown as 2,900, but may more correctly be estimated at 2,600, and the average size of holdings is therefore 0.68 acres.

Mahal raiyats, including bazyasti, thani pahi and non-occupancy, sublet to under raiyats, 13,310 acres or 2½ per cent. of their total area. The number of holdings may be estimated at 21,200, and the average size of holdings is therefore 0.60 acres; 9,630 acres pay money-rents, and 3,545, or one quarter of the total, pay produce rents.

The nij-jot raiyats are subsequently dealt with.*

The several classes of non-mahal raiyats may now be considered in detail.

RAIYATS OF KHARIDA JAMABANDI AND SIKMI KHARIDA TENURE-HOLDERS.

166. Out of a total area of 15,100 acres held by these tenure-holders 8,450, or more than half, are in the possession of raiyats who as a rule possess occupancy rights. Of this 90 acres are held rent free, and of the balance, which comprises 9,680 holdings, 220 acres pay produce-rents and 8,140 acres pay money-rents amounting to Rs. 15,630 giving an incidence of Rs. 1-14-8 per acre. This the highest incidence paid by any class of raiyats exclusive of "Chandnaders," and I think the reason is that large proportion of these lands consists of homestead, for which a higher rate would naturally be paid. We have already seen that the kharida lands were generally acquired as garden or building sites.

UNDER-RAIYATS OF RAIYATS OF KHARIDA JAMABANDI AND SIKMI-KHARIDA TENURE-HOLDERS.

167. Out of the 8,450 acres held by raiyats, only 360 are sublet to under-raiyats. Of this area 40 acres pay dhulibhag rents, and 320 acres yield money-rents amounting to Rs. 545, giving an incidence of Rs. 1-11-3 per acre. The number of holdings is 600. It may seem at first sight peculiar that the incidence should be less than that paid by the higher status (Re. 1-14-8), but the proportion of area held by under-raiyats is too small to admit of a general comparison.

Note—Probably many such under-raiyats are dependants or servants.—S. L. M.

RAIYATS OF ORDINARY TENURE-HOLDERS

168. The ordinary tenure-holders cultivate 1,740 acres and let the balance 1,160 acres, or approximately half, to raiyats who are generally in enjoyment of occupancy rights. Of this 20 acres are rent free and the balance, composed of 1,740 holdings, consists of 230 acres paying Dhulibhag, 10 acres paying sanja and 1,700 acres paying a money-rental of Rs. 2,960 giving an incidence of Rs. 1-11-10, which closely approximates that of pahi tenancies.

UNDER-RAIYATS OF RAIYATS OF ORDINARY TENURE-HOLDERS.

169. The area so held is only 85 acres and comprises 140 small holdings, 70 acres pay dhulibhag and 15 acres pay a money rental of Rs. 23, giving an incidence of Re. 1-8-6. The area is too small to admit of comparison of the incidence with that of the superior status.

*Para 175.

RAIYATS OF BAZYAFTI TENURE-HOLDERS.

170. The tenure-holders cultivate 27,130 acres, while the balance, 47,100 acres, is leased to raiyats, who generally possess occupancy rights. 1,510 acres are held rent-free, and the remainder comprises 60,120 holdings averaging 0.73 acres each in size. 280 acres pay sanja, 3,690 acres pay *dhulibhag*, and 41,620 acres pay a money-rental of Rs. 70,510, giving an incidence of Rs. 1-11-1 per acre. This is slightly in excess of the pahi incidence found existing at this settlement, but the latter rents having been generally enhanced, while the former were seldom altered, the pahi incidence is now a little higher.

UNDER-RAIYATS OF RAIYATS OF BAZYAFTI TENURE-HOLDERS.

171. 1,310 acres are in possession of under-raiyats, and excluding a small area held rent-free, the holdings number 1,870. One-quarter of the area, viz., 310 acres, is held on *dhulibhag* rents, 5 acres on sanja rents, and 990 acres on a money-rental of Rs. 1,641, giving an incidence of Rs. 1-10-7, which is lower than that of the superior status.

NOTE.—They are probably dependants or servants.

UNDER-RAIYATS OF BAZYAFTI RAIYATS.

172. The area so held is only 110 acres and excluding 5 acres of rent-free land, the number of holdings is 125. 15 acres pay *dhulibhag* rents, and 90 acres money-rents amounting to Rs. 140, which gives an incidence of Rs. 1-8-11. This is lower than that of raiyats of bazyafti tenure-holders, though before the settlement proceedings, and there was no difference in the status of the two classes. The area is however too small for effective comparison.

UNDER-RAIYATS OF THANI AND PAHI RAIYATS.

173. These hold an area of 13,120 acres, and form therefore the largest class of under-raiyats. 130 acres are rent-free and the balance comprises 20,990 holdings, the average area of which is 0.62 acres, which is less than that of any other class. Sanja rents are paid by 20 acres, *Dhulibhag* by 3,470 acres, and a money-rental of Rs. 18,630 for 9,500 acres. The incidence per acre is Rs. 1-15-5, which, as these rents have scarcely ever been enhanced, is properly comparable with the thani and pahi incidence of Rs. 1-10-9, which was found existing previous to settlement.

UNDER-RAIYATS OF NON-OCCUPANCY RAIYATS.

174. This is a small class numbering only 85 and holding 80 acres, 40 of which pay *dhulibhag* rents and 40 money rents amounting to Rs. 70, giving an incidence of Rs. 1-12-0 per acre.

NIJ-JOTE RAIYATS.

175. These have no occupancy raiyats. They hold an area of 4,070 acres, of which 200 are rent-free. The balance comprises 4,900 holdings, 695 acres pay *dhulibhag* rents, 5 acres sanja and 3,170 acres a money-rental of Rs. 5,374. The incidence of the latter is Rs. 1-11-1 per acre, and this figure is comparable with the incidence of the valuation of the nijjote and nij-chas lands, which is less by 2 pies.

RENTS OF NON-MAHAL RAIYATS.

176. I suppose the most striking fact connected with the figures given as to these rents is the very small margin of profit to some of the intermediary classes. It appears that sometimes there is even no-profit at all, while in one case there is actually a loss. Although the figures given show the settled rents, the enhancements imposed upon this class of raiyats are so extremely small as to be negligible for purposes of comparison. If then these rents are compared with those of mahal raiyats, as they were found to exist before settlement, it would seem that, while the bazyaftidar tenure-holders have hitherto derived an average profit of Rs. 1-5-3 per acre from subletting, the bazyaftidar raiyats a profit of Rs. 1-3-1 and the kharidadars of Rs. 1-3-4, the thani tenants must be content with a margin of Re. 0-2-8 and the pahi of Re. 0-4-8, the raiyat of a bazyafti tenure-holder with nothing at all, and the raiyat of a kharidadar or ordinary tenure-holder with a loss of three annas. I have stated that in the last two cases the areas involved are too small for comparison, and I should hesitate to base any conclusion upon the figures. The rents of the kharidadars and bazyaftidars are so low that they may well be content with the margin of profit allowed. It appears, however, extraordinary that a thani or pahi raiyat should be content to sublet his land at a profit of two or four annas per acre. It is of course obvious that a comparison of incidence figures is liable to error. It may be said that if the individual cases were examined the profits would be found higher. Unfortunately such examination cannot be effectually made, because since a tenant sublets only a part of his holding, the rent received for such part is comparable only with that paid for the whole. I think, however, it would be correct to say that a tenant frequently sublets at a money rent the worst part of his holding. While, too, I have no doubt that in many cases the rents were understated through a natural supposition that they would form the basis for enhancements, I feel that some further explanation is required. It is to be found partially in the fact that, as already noted, only a portion of the holding sublet pays a money rent, the balance of the area being held at a produce rent. Many under-tenants are in fact induced to cultivate at a produce rent only on condition of being allowed to hold a small additional area at money rent and in the latter tenancy they think they have a superior status.

The money rent thus stipulated for is likely to be low, but even if it were not, the incidence of the money rent gives quite an incorrect idea of the incidence of rent on the entire holding. Thus where half an acre is let out at a rent of 14 annas and a-half an acre pays a produce rent amounting on the average to 3½ maunds of paddy, value, say Rs. 5, the incidence of rent per acre on the entire holding approximates Rs 6. But there is in addition a much larger class of cases in which the business of subletting is a family arrangement, the lessee being a kinsman or servant. In such cases land was never sublet with any intention of making a profit. It was granted to a servant rent-free, and in course of time when the servant died his son was allowed to hold it at a low rent, it was granted as a matter of friendship, or it was granted on the marriage of his daughter by a father to his son-in-law as an inducement to him to live in the same village. Under such conditions the father would offer a portion of his bari for the erection of a separate house (so that the women might not quarrel) and in addition some of his cultivated land. This might at first be held rent-free and subsequently, on some alteration of the family circumstances, become chargeable with a low rent. These facts account to some extent for the uninterested attitude of the lessors at the time of assessment, where the existence of the sub-lease was a matter of convenience or family arrangement they would naturally not press for enhancement, and when this motive was absent they were disinclined to urge the assessment officer to do that which they could effect equally well themselves, and with less risks, after the close of the proceedings. But such cases are rare. I believe that in those instances, where sub-leases are granted on a commercial understanding and in order to gain a profit, it would be found that for the reasons suggested that the profit is much greater than four annas per acre. Indeed it is not to be supposed that a thani or pahi raiyat, except in the rare cases where he lived at a distance, and was unable to exert much authority, would be content with so small a profit from lands of equal fertility with those in his own cultivation. Either the lessee's land must be inferior, in which case the profit is greater, or the lessee would be called on for a higher rent, or he would be ousted and the landlord would cultivate the lands himself. In like manner a zamindar will not rest satisfied with a rent of Re. 1-12-0 for nij-jote lands, which are valued by Government to his debit at only one anna less. Either these lands must be inferior or the lease has been granted as a matter of convenience, or the same tenant pays a produce rent on a portion of his holdings, in the absence of such conditions no tenant would be permitted to cultivate.

CHAPTER VII.—CERTAIN POINTS COMMON TO MAHAL AND NON-MAHAL TENANTS.

TENURE-HOLDERS, OCCUPANCY RAIYATS AND NON-OCCUPANCY RAIYATS.

117. Certain points of interest common to the great body of tenants, mahal and non-mahal alike, may now be noted and may include such subjects as the comparative number and size of tenures, occupancy, non-occupancy and under-raiyats' holdings, produce rents, and the classes in actual cultivation of the land.

NUMBER AND SIZE OF TENANCIES.

178. The following statement will show the number and areas of tenures, occupancy, non-occupancy and under-raiyats' holdings:—

	Number.	Percent- age of total number.	Area.	Percent- age of total Area.	Average size in acres.	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Tenures ...	37,200	8	93,030	13	2.50	
Occupancy holdings...	389,330	48	598,080	83	1.57	
Non-occupancy holdings	14,900	3	17,470	2	1.17	
Under-raiyats' holdings	29,523	5	17,653	2	0.63	
Total ...	461,953	...	726,233	...	...	

Of the total number of holdings 461,953, including an area of 726,233 acres, tenures numbering 37,200 comprise 93,030 acres, occupancy holdings numbering 389,330 comprise 598,080 acres, non-occupancy holdings numbering 14,900 comprise 17,470 acres, and holdings of under raiyats 29,523 in number cover an area of 17,653 acres. The tenures are, therefore, 8 per cent, the occupancy holdings 84 per cent., the non-occupancy holdings 3 per cent, and the under-raiyats' holdings 5 per cent., while each include respectively 13 per cent., 83 per cent., 2 per cent. of the total area.

All the tenures, with the exception of 400 including an area of 3,700 acres bear rents fixed for the period of settlement, and of the occupancy holdings nearly 58,500 with an area of 88,570 acres are similarly treated. Accordingly 95,300 tenancies or 18 per cent. of the total with an area of 177,900 acres or 24 per cent. of the total are held at such fixed rents. The average area of tenures is 2.50 acres, of occupancy holdings 1.57 acres, of non-occupancy holdings 1.17, and of under-raiyats 0.63 acres. The largest holdings are those of kharidadars,

and the smallest are those of under-raiyats of thani and pahi raiyats, which average 0.62 acres in size.

Figures compiled for 20 representative villages show that 82 per cent. of holdings are less than three acres in size, and the tabulated result is :—

Holdings less than 1 acre in size	...	...	...	55 per cent.
Holdings between 1 and 2 acres in size...	...	...	...	18 "
" " 2 and 3 " " ...	...	...	...	9 "
" " 3 and 5 " " ...	...	...	...	8 "
" " 5 and 10 " " ...	...	...	...	7 "
" " over 10 " " ...	...	...	...	3 "

PRODUCE RENTS.

179. The produce rents paid by under-raiyats and the raiyats of bahaldars have already been discussed,* but some note is to be made regarding those of occupancy-raiyats. The proportion of pahi tenants paying such rents is very small, and there are scarcely any, except in pargana Gorpada, who pay them on their entire holdings. About 5 per cent. or less of the pahi raiyats pay produce rents in the shape of dhulibhag on a small portion of the tenancy, while the number paying sanja rents is almost negligible except in the pargana referred to. Here in the estates of Abdus Sohan Khan, the Government pleader,† 'sanja' rents are common. Of the mahal holdings numbering 2,500, 414 pay produce rents, 372 with an area of 480 acres, being on 'sanja' and 42 with an area of 45 acres on bhag. The 'sanja' areas pay 1,311 maunds of paddy, which, at the rate of Rs. 1-2 0 per maund, are worth Rs. 1,476, giving an incidence of Rs. 1-2-10 per acre. Comparing these with the non-occupancy 'sanja' incidence, I find that the latter amounts on the average to 27.0 maunds of paddy to the acre, value Rs. 3, at the same rate. It has already been shown that the incidence of the sanja paid by bahal raiyats amounted to Rs. 4-8-0, and these are therefore the most highly assessed.

Turning now to the non-mahal holdings paying dhulibhag sometimes on the whole, but generally only on a portion of the area, we find that the number is 12,120 or 12 per cent. of the total number of holdings, while the sanja-paying tenancies number only 285. If 5 per cent. of the pahi holdings also pay produce rents on a portion of the area, the number will approximate 12,000, and the total number of holdings, mahal and non-mahal alike, may thus amount to 24,000. This figure excludes, however, the raiyats paying produce rents on lands recorded as nij-chass‡ and these number probably as many again as the total given.

CLASSES IN ACTUAL CULTIVATION.

180. It may now be of interest to consider the various classes of tenants cultivating the land and to estimate the produce gained and the aggregate settled rental payable by each.

CLASS.	Area in nij possession.	Estimated produce at 14 maunds per acre.	Amount of produce rental received by the class in maunds.	Total of cols. 3 and 4 in maunds.	Amount of produce rents payable by the class in maunds.	Balance of produce in maunds after deduction of col. 6 from col. 5.	Total money rental received.	Total money rental payable.	Quantity of produce to be sold to defray the difference between col. 9 and col. 3 in maunds.	Balance of produce left with the class Col. 11.	Value of balance of produce @ Rs. 1-2 per maund.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1 Landlords and proprietary tenure-holders.	41,530	581,420	4,900	586,320	Nil	586,320	5,374	80,000	66,334	519,986	5,84,984
2 Kharidadars ...	6,650	93,100	1,540	94,640	Nil	94,640	15,630	16,900	1,129	93,511	1,05,209
Other tenure-holders ...	1,740	24,360	1,680	26,040	Nil	26,040	2,960	5,300	2,080	23,960	26,954
4 Baryastidars ...	46,490	650,860	27,895	678,755	Nil	678,755	70,650	91,300	18,355	660,400	7,42,950
5 Thani raiyats ...	44,490	622,860	2,625	625,485	Nil	625,485	2,002	88,100	76,532	548,953	6,17,572
6 Settled and occupancy-raiyats	423,490	5,928,860	21,805	5,950,665	Nil	5,950,665	16,628	7,84,300	6,82,375	5,268,290	59,26,826
7 Non-occupancy raiyats ...	19,320	186,480	280	186,760	Nil	186,760	70	21,700	1,73,040	13,720	15,495
8 Occupancy raiyats of tenure-holders.	55,755	780,570	2,975	783,545	13,010	752,535	2,209	89,100	77,236	675,299	7,59,711
9 Under-raiyats of occupancy raiyats.	14,985	209,790	Nil	209,790	27,510	182,280	Nil	20,979	19,648	163,632	1,84,086
10 Under-raiyats of non-occupancy raiyats.	80	1,120	Nil	1,120	280	840	Nil	70	62	778	875
Under-raiyats of nij-jote	4,070	56,980	Nil	56,980	4,900	52,080	Nil	5,347	4,777	47,303	53,216
Total ...	652,600	9,136,480	63,700	9,200,180	63,760	9,136,400	1,15,523	12,03,123	11,20,568	8,015,832	90,17,809

* Paras. 88 and 176.

† Appendix Z.

‡ See para. 102.

The homestead lands being on the average one-sixteenth of the assessed area, instead of the average produce of 15 maunds per acre, a rate of 14 maunds has been taken in these estimates. The produce derivable by each class from the area in their 'nij' possession and cultivated by themselves is first shown. To this is added the produce rentals which they may receive, and the produce rentals which they pay are then deducted. The money rentals being then considered, the quantity of paddy to be sold in order to make up the difference between the rental received from inferior and that paid to superior, is noted. The balance is the quantity of paddy left with each class after payment of their rents, and the value of it is then stated in rupees. Such an estimate may fairly be made in a district such as this, where almost the entire produce consists of paddy. It is noticeable that the money rental received by kharidadars are almost sufficient to cover the rental payable by them. Adding the produce rents which they receive, it appears that the total receipts are in excess of the rental paid, and the same will be found the case with the baziaftidars. The total quantity of paddy left with all classes after payment of rents is 8,015,000 maunds. Of 41,530 acres, the area nominally cultivated by the zamindars and proprietary tenure holders, probably not less than 30,000 acres are leased to unrecorded produce-paying raiyats, while the balance is cultivated by the labour of servants or less commonly by that of the zamindar himself.

CHAPTER VIII—LOCAL AREAS.

LOCAL AREAS.

181. It is impossible within the limits of this Report to enter fully into the physical characteristics or the material and fiscal circumstances* of each of the five groups of parganas† into which I have divided the district. I shall therefore content myself with noting briefly any points of interest peculiar to each group, and shall notice more particularly the circumstances of the first and fourth.

NORTHERN PARGANAS, I.—CIRCUMSTANCES AT LAST SETTLEMENT.

182. The last settlement correspondence is full of reference to the physical calamities to which the whole of this area was subject. The inundation by the sea during the cyclonic storm of 1832 ‡ traversed Parganas Bhograi, Katsahi, Satmalang, Kamardachour and Nangaleswar, and penetrated in land as far as Doradachour, and in the estates upon the sea face, the loss of life and property was extreme. In the same year the hill streams came down in flood, and did excessive damage in the west. Mr. Ricketts, then Collector, stated that no words could describe the devastation caused by the Haskura river in Mulidachour and Doradachour. Drought followed in 1833, and the raiyats were in the most miserable circumstances. Several of the mahals in Kaurdachour together those of kismat Katsahi and Katsahi were exposed to the Subarnarekha flood, and great loss was caused by the inundation of 1844 in these parganas and in Bhograi. On the east side the crops were exposed to the ravages of wild animals, pig, deer and particularly buffalo. The latter have entirely disappeared.

The estates north of the Subarnarekha, known as the Marhatta mahals, had been much overassessed § by Mr. D. Dyley in 1831. This settlement was based on the estimated produce without reference to former payments. ¶ Recusancy had been common, and the high assessment of the thani lands coupled with successive years of drought and inundation had led to wholesale imigration of the thani raiyats. The assessment was generally much reduced at last settlement. It is noticeable that in one case Mr. Mills remarked that the pahi rates were higher than usual being only one anna less than the thani, because the pahi lands were generally cultivated by thani raiyats.

Flax, cotton and valuable rabi crops were grown in the *kala* lands of Bhograi and upon the *pal* lands on the banks of the Subarnarekha. In the latter the incidence in some cases was as high as Rs. 5 per acre. Owing to deluvion and sand deposit the cultivation of these crops has fallen off, but in many cases it was abandoned in order to escape assessment. I have ridden considerable distances along the banks of this river and the extent to which the *pal* lands are cultivated in the permanently settled tracts offers a most marked contrast to the circumstances of the adjoining lands under settlement.

PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES.

183. The construction of the Jokai embankment in Contai, the strengthening of the Bograi embankment and the construction of the Coast canal have certainly tended to increase

* These have been fully described in the general reports submitted for each pargana or group of pargana and copies of these reports will be filed for reference in the Collectorate.

† Appendix S.

‡ Para 54.

§ Last settlement correspondence.

¶ The statement was made by Mr. Mills. Mr. Dyley in his letter to Government quoted at page cliv of Mr. Toynbee's History, makes a similar assertion. He also refers to the fact that many zamindars had left lands fallow in order to escape assessment. At page clvii, he gives a specimen patta granted to a thani raiyat, showing the rent payable in 12 kists, and it would appear from a statement made on the same page that thani *pattas* were given to all raiyats of the pargana, and pahi *pattas* to those coming from other parganas.

the liability to an extent of flood on the west side of the Coast canal.* In Kaurdachour nearly one quarter of the area is liable to almost annual flood, and there is no doubt that this is a larger proportion than at last settlement. The reason, however, is to be sought in the fact that cultivation has extended over the Baharia Jhil, which I find so described in an old trace prepared before the construction of the embankments. No doubt these lands were always covered with a considerable depth of water, and the Coast canal is not therefore the cause of the increase in the proportionate liability to flood, except in so far as it has raised the height of flood level. On this subject it is difficult to glean any information. Free egress of the flood water to the east was previously prevented by an old Mahratta embankment and a chain of hills existing along the line now followed by the Coast canal. But this Embankment appears to have been breached, as it certainly was in 1844, whenever the flood was unusually high. As the embankment is now effective, it is probable that some increase has been caused in the height and duration of floods of unusual magnitude. I do not, however, think that the circumstances of this pargana have materially deteriorated except for the fact of cultivation having extended over lands specially liable to flood—a fact which must naturally have resulted in a greater Proportionate insecurity of assets.

Turning now to the parganas on the south bank of the Subarnarekha and upon the west of the Coast canal. In years of high flood the rivers Subarnarekha and Hoskara discharge over the parganas to the south-east, and the water runs across the Bastu-Baliapal road through parganas Dardachour, Nangaleswar and Katisahi into Koardachow and Satmalong. It is then banked up by the Coast canal and passing southwards finds vent through the open escapes on the north of the Panchpara river. That the water is banked up needs no demonstration to any one acquainted with this part of the canal. Did the embankment not exist the water would escape towards the sea. Under existing circumstances it stagnates until it reaches the level of the escapes to the south where there is no embankment, the canal running through higher ground. It is not until it reaches this higher level that the flood can obtain egress. Along the lowlands upon the Coast canal there is therefore occasionally some loss of crops, but the distance is so far from the Subarnarekha that no violent rush of water occurs. Moreover the embankment protects the country to the west from the penetration of tidal waters and the benefit conferred in this respect probably equals the disadvantage. Great damage occurs in Parganas Kismat, Katisahi, Katisahi and Sahabandar through flood, erosion and occasionally by sand deposit. In Sahabandar, particularly in the area, enclosed by the old and new channels of the river the surface of the soil is in a state of continual change owing to the action of the water. The course of the river erratic, and its action deposits in some places sand and in other silt, so that the cultivation varies from year to year.

In Daradachour and Nangaleswar less damage is caused, and throughout these and the other pargans, excepting those directly upon the bank, silt is deposited in large quantities, and when the flood occurs early in the year as in 1898 its results are entirely beneficial. The parganas chiefly exposed are Kaurdachour, Sahabandar, Kismat Katisahi and Katisahi, and only in these is there prospect of very serious loss.

The area to the east of the Coast canal, and south of the Subarnarekha contains four embankments, one of which existing between Sulpatta and Bahabalpur, has now been abandoned. It lies in an area in which the notification under the Embankment Act † prohibits repair or maintenance of embankments, and nothing can therefore be done in this direction by the zamindars. But the embankment has not rendered effectual protection from flood, and it does not appear that its abandonment will exercise any effect upon cultivation, which is very sparse on the whole of this side of the canal, and is not likely to extend in consequence of the land being flooded by the water of the tidal creeks. Northwards in Tapas Ratai and Narayanpur the area is better cultivated, and most of the lands are protected from river flood and irruption of the sea by sand ridges and embankments, which, to the number of four, are maintained by the Public Works Department. Though Narayanpur is partially liable to flood it is better circumstanced than Tapa Ratai, which is penetrated by tidal creeks.

It remains to note Pargana Bhograi, which 60 years ago was exposed both to the Subarnarekha floods and to irruption of the sea was partially protected by sand ridges and an old Mahratta embankment, but the protection now afforded is effectual, except upon the lands situated between the embankment and the river. This is indeed the only protected tract in the district with the exception of Soso and Manjuri in the south-west. The pargana is drained by three sluices, which are sometimes ineffectual in discharging the water, but the tract has only in its own rainfall to dispose of and damage is only seldom caused over a small area by lodgement.

NOTIFICATION UNDER THE EMBANKMENT ACT

184. This notification, which renders illegal the erection of repair of embankments within the three miles from the river bank, has been issued with regard to three rivers in this group, the Subarnarekha, Sartha, and Panchpara, as well as to two others, the Burabalang and Matai ‡

* I have seen reason to modify some opinions previously expressed on this subject in the General Reports and after a full examination of the last settlement correspondence, I am convinced that a much greater extent of the area is open to flood than at last settlement.

† See trace

‡ The area notified is shown on the trace annexed to the report.

It is not, however, a burning question except in the case of the Subarnarekha, where the area concerned includes a large area of recently reclaimed lands on both sides of the river.

These lands are protected by small embankments, which serve the double purpose of excluding the water of the tidal creeks, brackish during the hot weather, and retaining the fresh food water admitted during the rains, but the chief object is the former. The lands are covered with heavy jungle, which the tenant, having obtained a 'patta' by payment of salami, proceeds to clear. He is allowed to hold the land rent-free for three or four years, during which period the exclusion of the salt water by erection of an embankment renders the soil fit for cultivation. The lands are then charged with a rent of four annas per acre rising after three years to the full rate of between two and three rupees. This is virgin soil of excellent quality, and though the first crop, sown amongst tree stumps and patches of grass, is scanty, the lands yield when fully broken up an outturn sometimes exceeding 30 maunds of paddy to the acre.

The area affected by the notification includes a great portion of the so-called khas mahal of Bichitrapur, together with portions of mahals Nankar and Kasha in Bhograi, and of Tapa Narayanpur on the south of the river. It is, however, difficult to estimate the actual area which the strict enforcement of the notification would throw out of cultivation. In Bichitrapur there are some 1,000 acres, in Nankar and Kasba about 3,000 acres, and in Narayanpur about 1,000 acres, making a total of 5,000 acres of land protected by embankment of varying size within the prohibited area. It does not, however, appear to be the intention of the Public Works Department to enforce the law over the whole of this area, and last year when the infraction of the Act was first brought to the notice of the authorities, proceedings were only taken with regard to less than 200 acres. I have been furnished by the Executive Engineer with a trace showing the embankments to which objection is taken,* and if these embankments are destroyed as was ordered, the result will probably be to throw out of cultivation some 500 acres only, most of which is situated in Bichitrapur. Steps have been taken to protect the raiyats of this area by inserting in their khatians a note that, should cultivation become impossible owing to destruction of the embankments, the rents for the area affected will cease to be payable. I hope that no further steps in the matter will be found necessary by the Public Works Department. The notification was published in 1894, but no steps were ever taken to enforce it until last year. During this time many embankments had been in process of erection and repair, and I fully believe that raiyats were unaware that they were doing anything illegal in taking these measures to render the lands fit for cultivation. As the process of reclamation is one involving considerable labour and expense, and had been allowed to proceed unchecked for four years after the notification, it appears unfair that raiyats should be debarred from enjoying the fruits of their expenditure, without compensation being paid to them.

THE SALT LANDS OF BHOGRAI AND SAHABANDAR.†

185. As the circumstances attending the acquisition of lands for the purpose of salt manufacture by Government in the two parganas noted present some features of interest, I may briefly note them here. Between the years 1805 and 1810 the Hijili and Tamluk Salt Agents acquired about 9,500 acres in the area lying along the left bank of the river Suabarnarekha for some six miles above its mouth. The lands were acquired not by sale, but under (istimrari) pattas, the terms of which clearly denote that the lands were ceded for ever and the rent fixed in perpetuity. The areas were generally found unsuitable for the purpose of salt manufacture, and a portion of them were leased out for cultivation previous to last settlement. They never, however, yielded any considerable return, and Government continued to pay (istimrari) rents amounting to Rs. 4,500 until 1864, when the Board ordered that the lands should be returned to the proprietors. It was then found that two portions of the area in Bhograi had been sold as estates under the names Arangbara Ansa and Arang Patai. Moreover, under a further misapprehension, they were sold as permanently-settled estates. The zamindar of Pargana Bhograi was accordingly induced to take back the salt lands on conditions of which two are noticeable. The sale price of the two estates, Rs. 9,500, was to be paid over to him, and any lands required by Government for embankments were to be given up free of cost. It appears, however, that the latter condition was lost sight of, and when the embankment through these lands from Ranikota to Bhograi was built, the proprietor received compensation, and has in fact been commended by Sir William ‡ Hunter for having "readily accepted six shillings an acre as the price.

The Sahabandar proprietors, || however, refused to take back the Jalpahi area. Here, too, Government had sold what it did not possess, viz., the proprietary right in Mauza Bichitrapur. This also was sold as a permanently-settled estate; but the return of the salt lands having been refused, the question of refund of the purchase money has not arisen. The remainder of the area was in 1872 leased to Babu Kailash Chandra Roy Mohasay, and has been already

* For particulars, see trace.

† Commonly known as (Jalpahi), that is lands of which the jungle and grass were cut and used for burning in the process of salt manufacture.

‡ History of Orissa, Vol. 2, Appendix page 53.

|| Mahal Bari apal.

referred* as the so-called khas mahal of Bichitrapur; up to now Government has been recorded as the proprietors of this mahal, but should properly be entered as an (istimrat) lease-holder, as the proprietary right still vests in the landlords of the original estates. In 1897 the village Chandrabali, which had formed by accretion to the salt lands at the mouth of the Subarnarekha, was sold as an estate to Raja Baikuntha Nath De. No question regarding the validity of this sale will, however, occur, as the Collector decided in 1866 that the channel between the village and the main land being only fordable at low water, the lands could not be considered increment to the parent estate.

ESTATES OF THE NORTHERN GROUPS.

186. Though several considerable estates† noted at last settlement as the ancestral property of the holders have since passed into other hands, the old families in this part of the district have retained a stronger position than elsewhere. Amongst others I may note those of Harendra Narayan Rai Mohasaya, Chaudhuri Jogendra Narayan Paharaj Mandhata, Chaudhuri Hari Narayan Chakrabarti, Parsuram Kanungo, Lakhmi Narayan Kanungo, Chaudhuri Gopendra Nandan Das Mahapatra, Kailash Chandra Rai Mohasay and the Bhuian of Jamkunda.

It is impossible here to give details regarding the present zamindars, and I have, therefore, relegated them to the appendix.

Although increase in assets during the sixty years throughout this group was not so large as in the south-western Parganas,‡ yet it amounted to 74 per cent., and this large development, coupled with the liability to flood, explains the fact that the revenue settled for 1899 amounts only to 47 per cent. of the gross assets. After expiration of *rasad*, the increase gained on the last settlement revenue will be 75 per cent., which is greater than in any group save one.

The fact that proprietary income is increased on the average by 2 per cent. is due to the two facts noted, and also to the circumstance* that the enhancement of the gross assets at this settlement was 21 per cent., which is greater than elsewhere. In parts of this area there had been great extension of cultivation since attestation, and the rents assessed on such lands being shown as enhancement, the rate of the latter is fictitiously raised.

TENANTS IN THE NORTHERN GROUPS. II

187. There was a marked lapse of the kamil tenancies, the area having decreased by 65 per cent. as against a decrease of 73 per cent. in thani. This is partly accounted for by the fact that the kamil incidents was Re. 1-1-2 at last settlement, which is much higher than that usually found. It compares with a pahi incidence of Rs. 1-7-0, and a thani of Rs. 1-12-7, and it is impossible to account for the lapse on any theory of over-assessment. It has been already said that, when the status is irrecoverable, lapse is certain unless the rent is almost nominal.

Chowkidars are very few, and in some parganas their places are entirely taken by paiks.

The non-occupancy rentals show an enhancement from Rs. 48,000 to Rs. 1,11,000 or by 131 per cent., and it has been explained that most of this is in fact assessment on lands newly cultivated since attestation.

UPPER CENTRAL GROUP—PHYSICAL CIRCUMSTANCES.

188. The physical circumstances do not appear to have undergone much alteration since last settlement. The construction of the coast canal through Pargana Dasmalang appears, however, to have been the cause of some lodgment of water on the west side by obstructing the drainage. Along these lands loss of crops is certainly of frequent occurrence. It is also complained that, barring the flow of fresh water, it prevents cultivation of the lands upon the east. Much of this area is subject to inundation at the high tides, but both complaints appear to be substantial. It is, however, also true that the canal protects from tidal inundation.

The Barabalong and its tributaries, the Prasama, Gangahar and Suma, sometimes flood parts of Phulwar and Talsabang, and on occasions a large body of water passes over the latter pargana across the causeway in the grand Trunk Road, three miles north of Balasore, and causes loss of crops. There is, however, a compensatory deposit of silt, and much of the Talsabang land is singularly fertile. On the Pal lands upon the banks above Balasore various rabi crops, sugarcane and vegetables, are grown. The latter supply the Balasore market. The zamindars have almost entirely stamped out sugarcane cultivation¶ in the river side. Villages in order to escape assessments and the cultivators of this crop have been driven to take out leases in the adjoining Mohurbhanj territory.

* Para. 91.

† Amongst others, Chak Salim and Mosanbaria

‡ Appendix Z.

§ Appendix U.

|| Appendix U. Details.

¶ The circumstance is a useful commentary on the vicious system of imposing additional assessment on such crops. Enterprise is worth encouragement even at the expense of granting a bounty on the cultivation. The rules at last settlement were that a higher rent was not to be demanded for particular fields, simply because they were found to be growing special crops. But where the soil was adapted and the speciality lay, therefore, in the soil and not in the labour capital expended on it, then a higher rent might be taken. Sugarcane and tobacco in this district are only grown upon Pal land, or lands irrigated, from the high level canals. There was no irrigation at last settlement. These crops only grow on Pal lands and they were, therefore, highly assessed.

In Sunhat, and more particularly in Dasmalang and Routra, excessive damage was caused by the cyclone of 1832. In Taluk Joydeb of Dasmalang alone, the loss was 633 souls and three thousand cattle, and the farmer's revenue was reduced from Rs. 4,318 to Rs. 2,250, and at last settlement had again to be reduced to Rs. 1,873. In Taluk Inchuri of the same pargana nearly everything was destroyed, says Mr. Ricketts, and though the villages were a mile and-a-half from the coast and situated on very high grounds, they were all inundated. As already pointed out, the canal embankment is no effectual protection against another such visitation.

There is little else to be said on the peculiarities of this group. Proceeding southwards from Phulwar the soil grows poorer, and in Armala, Khejuri and a portion of Nukhand the lands are high and sandy. Thus they fail to retain the moisture and yield always sparse crop, even scantier after early cessation of the rains. Basta, the northernmost pargana of the group, though it suffered excessively from the flood of hill streams and the cyclonic sea-wave of 1832, has since enjoyed immunity. Here and in Garpada the high lands on the Mohurbhanj boundary are subject to occasional droughts. The fields are terraced downwards from the high levels.

The group presents no further noteworthy features, and the fiscal circumstances are generally normal. It may, however, be noted that in Parganas Dasmalang and Sartha some of the zamindars had made vigorous attempts to prevent extension of cultivation with the object both of escaping assessment and retaining the lands at their own disposal.

LOWER CENTRAL PARGANAS.

189. These are known as the Banchasoger group and are noteworthy as containing the three most considerable estates of the district.* Taluk Arang was the ancestral property of Chaudhury Jagannath Das Paharaj, who previous to last settlement, had sold four annas of the estate to Radhashyam Das, the Collectorate Sarishtadar, and the same amount to Raghu Nath De. The three shares have been partitioned, and under the names of Bidyadharpur, Radhashyampur and Arand are held by the descendants of the last settlement proprietors.

Kaida was the hereditary property of Durga Prosad Mangaraj and was sold for arrears in 1838. It was purchased by Raghu Nath De for Rs. 24,000, the sadar jama being Rs. 10,593, and shortly afterwards Radhashyam Das bought a share. The estate has been partitioned, and the shares under the names of Kaida and Syamraipur are held by their descendants.

Mobarakpur was the ancestral property of Mahasay Jai Narayan Prosad Rai, whose ancestor was Sadar Kanungo of Chakla Soro. It was sold for arrears in 1837 and purchased by Udhhab Charan Das and Anupram Mahanty for Rs. 30,200, when the Sadar jama was Rs. 7,680. Soon afterwards an eight-anna share was disposed of to Padma Lochan Mandal, Collectorate Treasurer. The estate remains in the hands of their descendants. The questionable circumstances regarding these sales have already been attended to, the physical aspect requires no special comment. Regarding the coast canal the circumstances are the same as those noted in Dasmalang. The area is free both from drought and flood except in abnormal years. The river Kansbans which drains the chain of hills upon the Nilgiri boundary sometimes brings down a sudden flood, productive of damage over a very small area.

Chiefly because the tract was highly cultivated at last settlement, assets exhibit the smallest increase of any group. Pahi rents were at last settlement excessively low, and the incidence has risen from Re. 0-14-3 to Re. 1-6-9. The fiscal circumstances closely approximate those of the Upper Central Parganas and are normal.

SOUTH-EASTERN PARGANAS.

Circumstances at Last Settlement.

190. Estates in Ankura, Kaima and Bhera suffered severely from the storm of 1832. Taluq Birso in Bhera was twice inundated, and in Taluq Krishnapur of Ankura the revenue was reduced on this account from Rs. 21,500 to Rs. 12,500. Even then the proprietors were recusant. Taluq Churaman in the same pargana suffered three times in the same manner, and the revenue was reduced from Rs. 3,800 to Rs. 2,000 and again at last settlement to Rs. 1,300. There is little reference in the old correspondence to liability to river flood in Ankura; but in Bhera, Kaima and Bayang there were constant inundations caused by the overflowing of the Matai and Baitarni, and remissions were necessitated on this account as also for drought in Bhera. Careful examination of the old 'ruidads' shows that all the large estates of Bhera were liable to flood and drought in a high degree. Bayang was constantly flooded over the southern and eastern as portions also was the south of Dhamnagar.

PHYSICAL CIRCUMSTANCES AT PRESENT.

191. The construction of the Baitarni left embankment above Akhoyapada, while protecting the pargana of Soro, naturally raised the river levels below Akhoyapada; subsequently the Baitarni right embankment reaching 17 miles below Akhoyapada, was erected in order to protect the irrigation works of Jajpur, and this was completed between 1891 and 1892, thus closing the rivers Benja, Kia and Patpur, which previously carried off much of the Baitarni water to the south. In the year following, complaints were made by the raiyats of Dhamnagar of erosion and sand deposit, and the flood of that year having also risen much higher than the Public Works Department expected, it was found necessary not only to raise

* Taluks Mobarakpur, Arang and Kaida.

† Para. 53.

‡ Para. 3.

§ See trace.

the right embankment, but also to cut the old agricultural embankments of Nadiagaon and Phalpur, in order to allow free egress of the water into Bayang. The result of these measures has been to throw open to disastrous flood several villages in Bayang previously protected, and to raise the flood level throughout the tract.

NOTE.—In connection with this, the estate reports of Bayang should be read. A very strong representation was sent up in the covering letter to the Commissioner, and we have asked for a further enquiry by Government into the damage caused to the Balasore District by this embankment.

There can be no doubt whatever that these effects were actually caused. Although the height of the flood of 1893 immediately above and below the Akhoyapada river was three feet less than that of 1881, the highest previously known, yet at 11th mile below the weir the flood of 1893 was 1.80 feet, and at the 12th mile 2.32 feet higher than that of 1881, though these levels gradually decreased until at the 19th mile, beyond the end of the embankment, the flood of 1893 was one foot lower than that of 1881. It must be obvious to anyone who examines the facts, that the embankment has caused an immense increase in the volume of water thrown into Dhamnagar and Bayang. The flood traverses nearly the whole of the latter pargana and Kaima, and part of it passes towards the north-east across a portion of Senout and through Bhera until it meets the Matai. Here the water is banked up, and the drainage from the west of the coast canal, finding no outlet, stagnates in the low lying lands of Ankura. The effect is most severe in Bayang. Nearly 1,000 acres of cropped lands previously protected have been exposed to flood by the cutting of the agricultural embankments referred to, while the depth of flood over another 27,000 acres of cropped area has been considerably increased.

It has been said that the flood water of Bayang causes the Matai to bank up and results, therefore, in the stagnation of the whole drainage of Ankura. There is, I think, no doubt that the construction of the coast canal has contributed to this result by barring egress to the east, except by escapes, the height of which is too great to permit the water to flow of until it has reached a level destructive to the crops. There has undoubtedly been interference with the drainage of the Gamai, which, instead of flowing off directly to the sea, is now forced down the west bank of the canal into the Matai. The Ankura pat or low lands along the canal must always have been subject to flood; but I gather from the old records that the loss was not excessive whereas at the present day the crop over a great portion of this pargana is precarious.

FISCAL CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE SOUTH-EASTERN GROUP.*

192. It may be interesting to attempt to estimate the loss caused in this district by the erection of the Baitarni right embankment. Taking Bayang alone, since the effect here is obvious and indisputable, the settled gross assets of these parganas are Rs. 78,584, and had the liability to flood existed to no greater extent than at last settlement, a grant of malikana at 50 per cent. would have made full allowance for the circumstances. The sadar jama would thus have been Rs. 39,292, and the reduction in proprietors' incomes 14 per cent. Rasadi terms would not have been necessary, except in isolated cases. As the facts stand, however, the revenue settled for 1899 amounts only to Rs. 30,925 and rises by 1908 to Rs. 36,689. I find by calculation that the difference between revenue at 50 per cent. and the actual rasadi jama fixed for the nine years between 1899 and 1907, amounts to Rs. 65,000. Of this sum Rs. 60,000 may fairly be taken as rasad necessitated by the bad collections and reduced rents which are a direct result of the increased liability to flood. For the remaining twenty years of settlement, this loss is Rs. 50,000, and the total loss to Government for the period of settlement is therefore Rs. 1,10,000. But this excludes all consideration of the remissions which severe flood will entail. During the thirty years following the last settlement, the remissions averaged 10 per cent. of the demand throughout the district, and it will be surprising if those which will in future be necessary in Bayang amount to less. The remissions are not therefore likely to be less than a lakh of rupees during the period of settlement and the total loss to Government will be Rs. 2,10,000.

It is not so easy to estimate the loss of the zamindars. However, 28,000 acres of cropped lands out of 40,000 acres, which is the total assessed area, are liable to flood, and the amount of the gross assets affected may be taken therefore as $\frac{1}{2}$ of the total, or Rs. 55,000. Instead of realising 80 per cent. of this sum, the zamindars will realise 70 per cent. only, and their loss will therefore be Rs. 5,500 per annum, or over a lakh and-a-half of rupees during the period of settlement. As regards the raiyats no such estimate is possible, but some idea may be gathered of their circumstances from the fact that on the average each raiyat in the flooded tracts is two years in arrears with his rent. The time appears therefore to have come for consideration whether the benefit derived on the Cuttack side of the river counterbalance the serious loss in this district, and failing the abandonment of the Baitarni right embankment, it is most desirable that a scheme for embanking the left side should be brought forward. In 1865 the Inundation Committee † stated that expenditure of a sum of 23 lakhs of rupees was warranted in this district to avoid the necessity for remissions and to secure full crops. Since that date I am not aware of any sum worth mention that has been spent on new protective works, with the exception of those necessitated by the construction of canals.

* Appendix T.

† Many Proprietors have been compelled to reduce the demand since 1894. It was estimated that they would be fortunate in realising on the average 70 per cent. of the settled rents in the flooded tracts.

‡ Their report, p. 25.

The assessment of this group at last settlement was completed in the earlier stages of the work, and the revenues were therefore higher than elsewhere. On the entire group the average sadar jama was 67 per cent.; it is now 51 per cent. and after the expiration of rasad will amount to 56 per cent. The enhancement of the gross assets at this settlement was smaller than elsewhere, being, only 13 per cent. This was due partly to the liability to flood and some abandonment of cultivation, and also to the fact that rents were already comparatively high in pargana Senaut. Portions of Dhamnagar and Bayang are irrigated from the high level canal, and this subject has already been discussed.*

KHAS MAHALS IN THE SOUTH-EASTERN GROUP.

139. Some mention † has already been made of the khas mahals of Noanand in Senaut and Birso in Bhera. It may, however, be of interest to compare the rents of these khas mahals with those of adjoining estates. Thus in Noanand the pahi incidence prevailing before settlement was Rs. 2-9-9 per acre, while in the four largest adjacent estates it was Rs. 2-4-7, Rs. 2-1-10, and Rs. 1-14-7. The incidence throughout the pargana was Rs. 2-5-0, and when it is remembered that this figure has been considerably raised by the inclusion of Noanand, it will be seen that pahi rents in the latter are considerably above those in other estates, whereas at last settlement they were on a par. The facts are the same in Birso, where the pahi incidence was Rs. 1-9-0—a rate, however, only slightly in excess of the four principal estates upon its boundary, where the incidence varied from Rs. 1-4-0 to Rs. 1-8-0 per acre.

NOTE.—It must, however, be remembered that there was an enhancement of *thani* during the currency of the Settlement.

TENANTS IN THE SOUTH-EASTERN GROUP.‡

194. Rents are noticeably above the normal, owing to the very fertile quality of the soil in great part of Ankura and to fertility, coupled with enhancement by the zamindars in Senaut. The pahi incidence rose throughout from Rs. 1-5-9 to Rs. 1-14-9 and the settled *thani* and pahi incidence is in excess of Rs. 2.

In the flooded tracts there is a good deal of emigration, and when the distress is severe great numbers from Ankura, Bhera and Bayang make their way to Calcutta, whence they send remittances in support of their families. In 1894, when there was scarcity, relief works were attempted, but the raiyats refused to accept the rates. The zamindars keep large stocks of paddy and advances are generally to be had. In Bayang it was customary after a failure of the winter rice to dam the rivers Rebo, Kapali and Genguti so as to obtain irrigation for dalua, which was then largely grown upon the saradh lands. Seven years ago these rivers were notified as declared channels, and it is a grievance with the raiyats that they can no longer raise embankments for this purpose. I cannot but think that the raiyats of this pargana have been hardly treated in this as in other respects already noted. The cutting of their old embankments at Nadigan and Phalpur has disheartened them** and since 1893 the raiyats throughout the flooded tract have enjoyed only two fair harvests.

SOUTH-WESTERN PARGANAS, GROUP V. PHYSICAL CIRCUMSTANCES.

195. The condition of two of these parganas, Soro and Manjuri, has much improved owing to the construction of the Baitarani left embankment, which effectually protects the area from flood.

The whole group is favourably situated and the slight floods caused by the Salandi, Kapali and Rebo are purely local, and do very little damage. Benefit has been derived in the south from the introduction of irrigation ‖ and throughout the block, with the exception of Ambohatta and Balikhand, the soil is fertile, and the crop secure. Ambahatta lies upon the border of the hills, and the soil is rocky and unfertile, while in Balikhand the land is high and sandy and suffers occasionally from drought. The Salandi river offers in the rains a medium of communication with the Garjats and gives a free waterway to Chandbali; upon its banks the *pal* lands grow sugarcane, tobacco and mustard.

FISCAL CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE SOUTH-WESTERN GROUP.¶

196. The gross assets advanced by 78 per cent. during the currency of the settlement, the highest rate of increase observable. It was chiefly due to the great extension of cultivation in the west. The revenue assessed for 1899 averages 52 per cent. a rate rather higher than elsewhere. The fact is perhaps due to these parganas having been the first under assessment, and rasadi terms not so liberally allowed. The ultimate percentage of increase in revenue amounts to 86, which is also higher than elsewhere, and bears a natural reference to the large increase in assets.

The incidence of rents rules low.

* Para. 17.

† Para. 91.

‡ Appendix U. Details.

** I watched crowds of them standing by the cut last year and observing the water pouring through it on to the fields which they had protected at considerable labour and expense.

‖ Para. 17.

¶ Appendix T.

PART V.

CHARACTER, ETC.

SUBJECT.

Para

- 197. Character of the Uriya raiyats.
- 198. Tenants and holdings.
- 199. Raiyat's income.
- 200. Raiyat's expenditure.
- 201. Indebtedness of raiyats.
- 202. Methods of borrowing grain.
- 203. Methods of borrowing money.
- 204. The Loan Acts.
- 205. Agricultural classes.
- 206. Other agricultural circumstances.
- 207. Emigration.
- 208. Exports.
- 209. Imports.
- 210. Illegal cesses.
- 211. Industries.
- 212. Education.

PART V.

CHARACTER OF THE URYA RAIYAT.

197. Much has already been said incidentally with regard to the character of the Balasore raiyats. Even less industrious than those of cuttack they have been truly described as unwilling to do more work than will provide them with a mere maintenance. Their general indebtedness and the extent to which they have sub-divided their holdings are glaring instances of their improvidence. Much inferior to the Bengalis in enterprise and energy, it is doubtful whether, had they such a city as Calcutta in their midst, they would appreciate the opportunities offered by its proximity for the improvement of their circumstances to an extent at all comprable with the business capacity of Bengali raiyat.

It is difficult to conceive them abandoning the cultivation of their lands to engage in industries such as those which have developed amongst the cultivators of Bengal.

It is ture, however, that outside Orissa the Uryas have gained, as domestic servants, as carpentars, as gardners, as cultivators and as hardworking coolies—a reputation which appears to be quite foreign to their character at home. Perhaps this is due to the fact that a process of natural selection causes the emigrants to be more enterprising than their stay-at-house relatives, and better fitted to adapt themselves to altered conditions. But if these circumstances be more closely examined it will be found that the emigrant Uryas have not supplanted the Bengalis in any of these occupantions : they have merely taken up those which the Bengalis, having found more lucrative professions, had abandoned. Thus many well-to-do raiyats in Chinsura and other places employ Uryas to cultivate their lands, while they themselves, engage perhaps in dairy farming, and take in their supplies each day upon the milk-train to Calcutta. Nearly all respectable native families in the districts neighbouring Calcutta employ Uryas as domestic servants, because they cannot obtain Bengalis except on prohibitive terms. The Bengal carpenter of Calcutta has left to the Urya almost a monopoly of the plainer descriptions of work, such as the making *jhilmils* and door-frames, and has himself gone a step higher and shares with the Chinaman the manufacture of finer work in the shape of cabinets and ornate furniture. Employment as coolies in the coal-yards, as punkha-pullers and in the endless other pursuits of unskilled labour, has been deserted by the Bengali, who has shown himself capable of duties requiring more intelligence and consequently better paid. Thus though the Urya in Bengal is a better servant, a better carpenter and better cooli than in Orissa, he cannot compete with the Bengali upon the latter's ground.

When the valour with which the peasant militia of this District repulsed the early Mahomedan invasions, and the courage and fearlessness they exhibited in 1730 when at a distance from their homes and country, they subjugated Bihar, are considered, it must be admitted that the decline in the military spirit among this people is an extraordinary point in the development of their character. Though a few years ago orders were passed for the enlisting of Uryas in the wing of a Madras regiment quartered at Cuttack, none were found suitable or willing for the employment. Crimes of violence are most rare amongst them, they are generally peacefull, law-abiding and submissive.

I do not wish to speak contemptuously of the Urya character, for there are many features of it, such as their friendliness, good humour and kindness, and hospitality which they display to each other, which denote that they are not at all deficient in the domestic virtues. Their aversion to town-life and education, and that which the Brahmans at one time showed for Government employ, mark at any rate a sturdy conservatism which is preferable to the abandonment of moral standards, sometimes induced by too rapid development of education and civilisation.

For unthrift and idleness I believe much excuse is to be found in the situation of this District and the liability to physical calamities.

Ruin of crops and houses by cyclonic storms, the loss of life and entire, devastation of property by sea-waves, drought following, short rainfall or flood its excess and the resulting insufficiency, and with some the absence of food supply, all these are calamities the very prospect of which induces improvidence and their occurrence indebtedness and proverty. It is no wonder that the raiyat whom inclemency of season may deprive of half his produce in any year should exhibit little desire for improved agricultural methods. They may yield him a few extra maunds, no more increase than he can look for in a season which may turn out specially favourable ; and the whole benefit of them may be lost if the crop is to be destroyed by flood.

In addition to the precarious nature of the crop it is to the low rents prevailing among many classes of tenants *e. g.*, *baziaftidars* that we must largely attribute idle husbandry and its exemplification, the increase in sub-letting ; and to the same cause is due much of the excessive subdivision which typifies improvidence.

TENANTS AND HOLDINGS.

198. The total number of all descriptions of holdings in the District excluding Bahal and Nij-chas lands may be thus reckoned:—

	Number.	Area.
Mahal holdings ...	35,400 ...	647,000
Non-mahal holdings ...	105,500 ...	79,200
Holdings of raiyats of bahaldars	64,400 ...	59,900
Total ...	526,300 ...	786,100

Statistics compiled for representative villages show that the average number of holding held by each tenant is $3\frac{3}{4}$, and taking villages in which there were lands of more than one estate it was found that the total number of holdings 58 per cent. were held in the chief estate, 18 per cent. in other estates, 14 per cent. in neighbouring villages and 10 per cent. under *bahaldars*. It is not implied that these figures are generally applicable, for circumstances must differ according to the number of estates in a village, the quantity of *lakhraj* and the proximity of "*becchapari*" villages. Of the $3\frac{3}{4}$ holdings held on an average by each raiyat about two and a half are mahal holdings paying rents directly to the zamindar, and the balance are non-mahal holdings or holdings of *lakhraj* lands. Taking now the average number holdings of each tenant at $3\frac{3}{4}$, and applying this figure to the total, we obtain 143,585 as the total number of tenants; and applying this figure to the total area we obtain the figure 5.48 acres, which is the average area held by each tenant. About 14 per cent. of his area is sublet by the average tenant, and the balance he cultivates himself. It is worth while to check these results by the population (1) figure of the tract under settlement. This has been shown as 9,8,000, which at the rate of 5 persons to a family gives the number of families as 181,600

For the purposes of a settlement record the tenant implies the family, and therefore the figure 143,535 taken as the number of families holding lands, leaves a balance of 38,065 families or 190,325 persons having no interest in land. This is 21 per cent. of the total population, and it is to be rembered that the zamindars and *bahaldars* are included in the figure.

There are 54,300 bahal properties covering an area of 109,000 acres, and the families concerned may number 40,000 of whom about half are either *baziaftidars* or zamindars. It may be computed, therefore, that the number of landless families is some 18,000 families or 90,000 persons, which is 10 per cent. of the total population, and the estimate approximates that generally made with regard to this class. On the whole accordingly I see no reason for doubting the substantial accuracy of the conclusion which gave $3\frac{3}{4}$ holdings to each tenant or family.

Turning now to the figures of estimated produce (2), it was stated that excluding *nij-chas* lands the balance of paddy left with all classes of tenants after payment of rents was 7,495,800 maunds. To this, however, is to be added the estimate for the lands of raiyats of *bahaldars*. The area so held is 59,900 acres, of which the cultivated area of 59,000 acres will yield at 14 maunds to the acre, a total of 826,000 maunds. Deducting the money, *sanja* and *dhulibhag* rents we find that the balance left with the class is 702,500 maunds. Accordingly the 143,535 families retain from their holdings a total of 8,198,300 maunds, which gives an average of 57 maunds to each family.

RAIYAT'S INCOMES.

199. To the average family, after adding receipt of the rentals from the portion of the holdings sublet and deducting the payment of rent due to the zamindar, is left, as already seen, a balance of 57 maunds of paddy. If the family consists of three adults and two children, one of whom is an infant, the following will be the details of their consumption of rice annually:—

- (1) Rice for four persons at 10 chataks per head daily amounts $2\frac{1}{2}$ seers per day, 75 seers per month and $22\frac{1}{2}$ maunds per annum.
- (2) The infant will consume cakes of riceflour to the amount of 2 seers a month and 24 seers per annum.
- (3) *Arna* or rice husked and unboiled, will be required for festivals at 5 seers per month or 60 seers per annum.
- (4) *Khali*, fried-rice, sometimes seasoned with sugar. The monthly consumption will be 2 seers and the annual 24.
- (5) Rice for making gifts, also 24 seers annully.

The total annual consumption of rice is therefore 25 maunds and 32 seers, which at the conversion of 22 of paddy to 10 of rice amounts to 57 maunds. As the paddy is husked by the women of the family, the yield of rice is likely in fact to be somewhat greater, and may leave a balance of a few maunds, of which two will be disposed of the perquisites of the

(1) Appendix A.
(2) Para.180.

village washerman, barber carpenter, blacksmith and chaukidar. Speaking generally, there fore, the yield of paddy gained by the ordinary family is sufficient, together with the profits from subletting, to provide for payment of the rent and for the rice upon which the family subsists. Allowing for some margin of inaccuracy in estimate, it may be said that the balance left is always insufficient to provide for other details of expenditure. But the raiyat has other sources of income. In addition to the labour he gives to others at certain seasons in return for their own, one member of the family at least earns a daily wage as servant or labourer either in the fields of richer land holders or in Calcutta and Bengal.

The contribution made by the latter to the family expenses varies, but if it be taken as 2 annas per diem for nine months in the year it will average annually the sum of Rs. 34. To this may be added some profit from the sale of garden produce not required for home consumption, but the receipts from this source will not be in excess of two or three rupees a year.

Other miscellaneous sources of income, such as the labour of the old women, add a trifling sum, but the income of the family after providing for the expenditure already noted cannot amount to more than 40 or 50 rupees a year.

RAIYAT'S EXPENDITURE.

200. Of late years there has been a noticeable rise in the standard of comfort carrying with it increased expenditure. More variety is sought in the condiments employed in the preparation of food, and the better classes spend more in the purchase of cheap finery and in cloths than was formerly the custom. Among the latter the use of the umbrella of European manufacture, to be purchased for less than a rupee, has come into vogue, and very many now were shirts of a special foreign make, whose fathers had never heard of the existence of this article of apparel.

For a family of five, three adults and two children, in ordinary circumstances, the annual expenditure of which particulars have not already been given may be thus stated:—

				Rs.	a.	p.
(a)	Living—					
	Paddy to be husked by the women of the family 57 maunds				Nil.	
	Dal, from his own bari or obtained in exchange for some of the rice which would otherwise be consumed (1).				Nil.	
	Condiments (1), etc., at Rs. 2-2-0 per month ...			...	25	8 0
(b)	Thatching—					
	Straw, from his own field ...			...	Nil.	
	Labor, his own ...			...	Nil.	
	Bamboo and twine ...			...	0	10 0
(c)	Clothing (1) ...			...	9	1 0
(d)	Miscellaneous (1)—					
	Barber, washerman and chowkidar one maund of paddy ...			...	1	14 0
					Nil.	
(e)	Comforts and luxury—					
	Ornaments average for the year ...			...	1	5 0
	Utensils (1) ...			...	0	8 0
	Stimulants ...			...	2	8 0
					41	6 0
(f)	Agricultural—					
	Rent, already deducted from the produce ...			...	Nil.	
	Abwabs ...			...	2	8 0
	Seedgrain, 32 seers per acre ...			...	2	12 0
	Manure, not purchased ...			...	Nil.	
	Labour, his own or that which others supply him in return for his own.				Nil.	
	Repairs of implements, 1 maund of paddy to the carpenter and smith.				Nil.	
	Total Rs. ...			...	46	10 0

This expenditure the miscellaneous receipts already noted may just suffice to meet but the estimates show at least that there is no margin of ordinary income over ordinary expenditure. When the crop fails the expenditure on condiments, which are almost a necessity in the preparation of the food allows a margin for cutting down expenses, but the raiyat has no means of providing for extraordinary occasions which entail a cost, slight in the case of birth, or death, but heavy in the purchase of cooking utensils and ornaments and out of all proportion in the case of marriage (2) details will be found in the appendix referred to, but it is said that the cost of marriage of a son scarcely ever amounts to less than Rs. 60. This amount must be raised by loan or mortgage entailing a heavy charge for interest. Thus whenever income is cut short by failure of the crop, or when the expenditure necessary on special occasions, which must occur once or twice in every generation, is to be met, the raiyat must fall into debt.

(1) See Appendix AA.

(2) Appendix AA.

INDEBTEDNESS OF RAIYATS.

201. Owing to the reticence of rayats, information on the subject of indebtedness is very difficult to obtain. Secrecy regarding their circumstances has become ingrained in them. It is natural that an improvement in condition should be a matter for concealment since open prosperity has often been the cause of exaction. An old "Masthan Brahman," who haunted a settlement camp in Pargana Senaut had inherited a few acres of land from his father at the age of 25. He now has half a lakh of rupees buried in the floor of his hut, yet a coarse 'dhuti' and a still coarse "gamcha" are all the clothing he has ever been known to wear. Though the circumstances of this man are matter of common knowledge, the tradition that the admission of prosperity is disastrous would suffice to prevent him from generally admitting them.

It is not so clear why the habit of secrecy should extend to those in impoverished and involved circumstances; yet it does so, and it was found impossible to ascertain what proportion of raiyats in an ordinary village were indebted and to what extent. I believe it, however, to be the fact that excepting a few *lakhrajars* and well-to-do cultivators, and excepting the poorest classes who cannot borrow because they have no security to offer, there are very few raiyats who are not indebted to the zamindar or the *mahajan* for loans of grain or money. Many causes have contributed to this result. The peasant of this District is even less industrious than his brethren in Cuttack, and his husbandry more careless and negligent; a fact which with the increase of subletting must be held partially attributable to low rentals. Very few families have stocks to last them longer than nine months from harvest time, and none amongst the ordinary class have money with which to meet extraordinary calls. A marriage entails an expense of Rs. 50 or Rs. 60, and that at a time when the son is at an age of fifteen and the daughter of ten, so that the family increase rapidly without any corresponding increase in its resources. To borrow this sum the raiyat must go to the zamindar or the *mahajan*, and in the latter case he must mortgage his holding or ornaments to twice the value of the debt. Calls for interest deplete his stock of paddy, and in September, if not before, he must borrow grain for food. In November he is called on for his rent and must cut a portion of the standing crop before it is fully ripe, and dispose of it at a loss in the nearest market. In December and January he harvests the crop, and in February comes a fresh call for rent and for return of the borrowed grain. After meeting the April kist and purchasing the few simple tools he requires and a fresh pack-saddle for his bullock, he finds himself with less than last year's store with the money debt still owing to the *mahajan* and with a monthly instalment of interest to discharge.

But apart from the depression of circumstances induced by his own indiscretion, there is certain to come a season every ten or fifteen years when the crop fails through flood or drought, a misadventure which plunges thrifty and unthrifty alike into debt from which they seldom manage to recover.

Indebtedness is admittedly on the increase, and though the distribution of *khatians* has afforded raiyats temporary relief by supplying them with an instrument which has much increased the value of their holdings and represents a gift of some 30 or 40 rupees on the average of each family, there is reason to fear that in the course of the next thirty years the occupancy right will lapse to a large extent, and that the zamindars, who are already purchasing holdings in considerable quantity, will be in possession of an area of *nij-chas* lands much in excess of that which they now hold.

The question of indebtedness may be concluded by some remarks on the methods of borrowing in vogue, and on the extent to which the peasantry have availed themselves of the Loan Act.

METHODS OF BORROWING GRAIN.

202. Paddy and sometimes money are occasionally loaned by raiyats to each other. For grain thus lent to oblige a friend no interest is required, but for cash the interest is at the ordinary rate of $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. per month. It is to the zamindar or to the *mahajan* that application is ordinarily made. Advances of grain are generally made on the *panchpai* (3) system, five maunds of grain being returned at harvest time for every four maunds borrowed. This is equivalent to interest at the rate of 25 per cent., but as the loans are usually taken about August or even later and are scarcely ever current for more than six months, the rate of interest is in fact 50 per cent. per annum. The *mahajan* who has no interest in the borrower's lands, generally exacts a higher rate than the zamindar, whose security is better. In either case a "tamasuk" or stamped bond is executed and retained by the lender. So careless is the raiyat and so blindly does he sometimes trust himself in the hands of his zamindars, that cases are not uncommon where the amount of the debt and the terms of repayment are left blank upon the deed. The raiyat signs it. He takes the paddy and after bestowing a seer or two upon the servant who has measured it, returns home content with his bargain. It may seem incredible that such things should occur, but it is not perhaps a matter of extreme surprise, if it be considered how entirely many raiyats are in the hands of an influential zamindar. They know that the surplus of their produce will be taken both in the shape of rent and of repayment for previous loans and they know also that unless they prove refractory the zamindar will allow them at least a competence. They have nothing to expect but to cultivate their lands and to be allowed to retain so much of the produce

(3) i.e. "five quarters".

as is necessary for their maintenance ; and they can rely upon their landlord for assistance in times of scarcity. They are, therefore, indifferent as to the amount of their debts and content to be held in the knowledge that the operation is necessary, and that it is in their landlords' own interest not to allow it to terminate fatally.

It may be noted incidentally that where raiyats generally are indebted to the zamindar there is every tendency for rents to remain low. When the landlord takes the surplus produce he does not trouble to consider how much of it should be considered rent and how much repayment of a loan, nor has he any interest in revising the proportions, since to do so is to subject himself to a higher assessment. It is the case throughout the greater number of the larger estates that the raiyats are indebted for loans to the zamindars, and I entertain no doubt that this will continue to be a factor exercising great influence upon the rent rates.

METHODS OF BORROWING MONEY.

203. In discussing transfers (4) some remarks were made on the subject of mortgage, and little remains to be added on the subject of money loans. These are only required on special occasions and are obtained from the zamindar or the *mahajan*. Under some circumstances, however, a debt incurred in grain is repaid in money and treated in all respect as a money debt. The landlord generally requires a stamped paper which provides for interest at $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. per month to be punctually paid by the borrower. Sometimes renewal of the deed is required at the expiration of each half-year, the interest due being added to the capital, and the debt thus accumulates at compound interest. The *mahajan* requires security, either the mortgage of the holding or a pledge in the shape of ornaments and utensils to the value of twice the debt incurred. Interest is charged at the same rate of $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. per month.

THE LOANS ACT.

204. These are the Land Improvement Loans Act in operation since 1884 and the Agricultural Loans Act of the same year. The first provides for advances to any person legally entitled to make improvements, or with his consent, to any other person. The act was intended to provide chiefly for the excavation of tanks, for reclamation and for the erection of embankments for the purposes of irrigation. No advantage whatever of it has been taken in this District, and no loans have been granted since the law came into force. This result is due to the ignorance of the tenantry regarding the existence of the Act and regarding their legal right to make improvements, and the extent to which they would reap advantage from them as well as to their general apathy and poverty. The Zamindars on the other hand are adverse to spending considerable sums on improvements which would yield them only an indirect return considerably less than they derive from ordinary investment. The decline of public spirit amongst the land holding class is very marked in this District. Everywhere are to be seen large tanks which have been allowed to fall into disrepair, and often deliberately rendered ineffectual for irrigation purposes by a cut in the embankment. The water is thus partially drained, and the tank which once sufficed to irrigate 40 or 50 acres is now cultivated for a scanty crop of *dalua* rice. Nowhere is the neglect so apparent as in the neighbourhood of Soso, where half a dozen such tanks, most effectually situated for the purposes of irrigation, are to be observed within the radius of half a mile. They are now half-silted, abandoned and neglected. It is not likely that the raiyats should make any attempt to remedy this state of things unless they are encouraged by the example of their landlords. I am not aware of a single estate in this District where the zamindars have made any attempt worth notice towards the improvements of agricultural conditions. Even the old village embankments at one time maintained by Government have almost everywhere fallen into neglect and inefficiency (5).

I believe, however, that there are many substantial raiyats, who once aware of ten conditions of the Act and of the benefit which they would derive from improvements, would willingly come forward to take loans ; and in other cases raiyats of less substantial circumstances would combine to construct a tank to irrigate their fields, just as they sometimes combine in taking leases for irrigation. There is no doubt that the khas-mahals would prove a valuable educative influence in this respect as they have in others, and I believe that some encouragements offered to the raiyats in the Noanand estate would result in their taking advantage of the Act to effect improvements which would be in time imitated by their neighbours. Again in the khas-mahal of Bichitrapur, in which the efforts of the lessee to extend cultivation have deservedly received recognition, there is still opportunity to encourage raiyats to take loans for the purpose of reclaiming the jungle lands ; and it may be thought that the lessee might have used this means of extending cultivation in the past instead of leasing large areas to capitalists who serve no useful purpose in doing what, if some facilities were offered to them, the raiyats would do equally well for themselves.

Since the Agricultural Loans Act came into force in 1885 it has done some useful work in this District. The Act is chiefly directed to supply the wants of tenants in the matter of seed and cattle, and resort is constantly made to its procedure in the times of distress following flood. Since 1836 the loans issued amount to Rs. 33,800, and some 5,000 raiyats have been benefited, chiefly in the north and south after damage by flood from the Subarna-*rekha* and *Baitarani*.

(4) Para. 160.

(5) Since they were abandoned by Government.

AGRICULTURAL CLASSES.

205. The landless class has already (6) been estimated at 18,000 families or 90,000 persons which is equivalent to 10 per cent. of the population of the tract under settlement. The class is commonest in the south of the District where the population is denser and the demand for land keener than in the north. In parts sparsely inhabited and whose lands are coming under cultivation, it is not difficult to obtain a few guntas of land upon terms of a produce rent. For the families who derive no profits from agriculture and have no interest in the land we must look first among the low castes, such as Pans and Mehtars, secondly, among the better castes such as Goala, Rarhi (7), and Guria (8), who earn a living from industrial pursuits, though they also frequently own agricultural holdings, and lastly among the Khusbas (9) classes, including Brahmans, Karans and others, who have means of their own. It may generally be said that these are few who do not possess a little cultivation when they have the means or opportunity to obtain it. Even the shop-keeper has his holding, and artisans nearly always. It is, therefore, the low caste population first noted who form the majority of the landless class. Servants and labourers, known as *mulia* or *barmasia*, are drawn from the lowest agricultural class. They are employed by zamindars, lakharajdars and bazyaftidars in good circumstances, and usually live with their masters, forming in fact one of the family. There does not appear to exist any general class of hereditary servants, such as were I believe found in Khurda.

Turning now to the classes in cultivation they are found to be composed of all castes with the exception of these noted Swatriya Brahmans, Karans, Kayasthas and Baidis, who, though they are landholders, do not generally cultivate with their own hands being prohibited by the rules of their castes. The majority of cultivators consist of Khandyets and Chasas, Musthan Bramhans, Malies and Khandals, Goalas and Tamulies. These are the "par excellence" the professional hereditary cultivators. The second class includes all other castes not already specified and excluded from the third class, which embraces Barbers, Washermen, Goldsmiths and Goalas, the industrial and artisan elements of the population. With these cultivation is secondary to their proper trades, and they do not in consequence gain outturns so good as those of the hereditary agriculturists. The proverbial maxim "apechas, pute haniyi (1)" contains a great deal of truth.

OTHER AGRICULTURAL CIRCUMSTANCES.

206. Under this heading I may make a brief reference to some points in the agricultural methods.

Most families possess a pair of bullocks which suffice for the cultivation of from five to seven acres of land and may also be used with the pack-saddles. A smaller number own a milch cow and calf; the milk, a part of it in the shape of ghee, is used for home consumption. The raiyat lends his bullocks, plough and personal labour upon the fields of his co-villagers in return for their own. At these stages of cultivation which admit of no delay in the process, this joint labour spares them the trouble and cost of hired service.

Such droppings of cattle as are not required for fuel and the ashes and refuse of the house the peasant bestows as manure upon his fields, each plot receiving it by rotation once in the three or four years. Scarcely six inches of earth are turned up by the plough, and it is surprising that the soil retains its fertility.

Paddy is not an exhaustive crop, but for others like sugarcane the land demands a special manure and must often lie fallow during the succeeding year.

A very small area is capable of bearing a double crop, and except the pal and bari lands and sometimes those in close proximity to the village site, it is doubtful whether by means of irrigation a second crop would be produced. Irrigation is common upon the banks of rivers but tanks are seldom used for the purpose and wells never. Irrigation by the latter method is too labourious to render its adoption possible. Improvements in the system of cultivation are not likely to be made, centuries of inherited experience have taught the cultivator to raise the best crop possible for the minimum of labour which he is willing to bestow, and he regards with disfavour any change involving increase in labour.

Very few can afford to experiment yet there are undoubtedly other crops which would yield a liberal return. The sandy soil upon the east of the Coast Canal now scarcely cultivated, I believe to be most suitable for the potato which would give a net profit of sixty or seventy rupees per acre, seven times that of paddy.

EMIGRATION.

207. In discussing the Uriya character something was said regarding the employments which emigrants find in Bengal. I regret that I cannot give actual figures of emigration, as the subject is one of considerable interest, but the Customs Department keeps no record, and though I have obtained the numbers who travel by sea and Coast canal from Balasore to Calcutta I have been unable to ascertain the similar figures for Chandbali, which is the route

(6) Para. 170.

(7) Those who prepare chura or parched rice.

(8) Confectioner.

(9) Easy living, i.e., in good circumstances.

(1) Cultivate yourself; put your son into trade. But the meaning is difficult to express. It implies also that a man should trust none but himself with the cultivation of his land, and no one less reliable than a son with the conduct of his business.

followed by for the greater number. It appears that in 1893 the number of passengers leaving Balasore for Calcutta, exclusive of pilgrims and others who had come by steamer from Chandbali and Cuttack, was 5,100 by sea and 5,900 by the Coast canal. The total was thus 11,000 from Balasore alone, and in the same year 15,900 passengers travelled by canal alone from Calcutta to Balasore. There is, however, little emigration from the north of the District as compared with that from Ankura, Dhamnagar, Bhera, Kaima and Bayang in the south. One sardar alone takes annually a gang of 400 coolies from a few villages in Ankura to work at loading coal for a single company at Calcutta. Babu Manmatha Bose, who manages the Malok's estate in Ankura, tells me that about 1,000 go up each year from the east of Ankura to cut the hay crop in the Sunderbans. In the parganas named, which are those most liable to flood, whole villages are found almost depopulated of adult males between the months of November and May. Some even take their wives and families with them. While the numbers vary considerably according to the harvest emigration increasing largely in times of scarcity it may be estimated that in ordinary years the number of emigrants from the south of the District does not fall short of 50,000. The average total emigration for the District may, therefore, be taken at 60,000, an estimate which if anything is somewhat under the mark. I have heard it stated that 10 per cent. of the population are emigratory.

It is most common in the parganas mentioned to meet with raiyats who have been in Calcutta. They generally leave about harvest time and return for the sowing, but some even make the journey back from Calcutta twice in the year. As coolies they can earn from six to ten annas a day in Calcutta and they are not remiss in sending money to their homes. It is a common arrangement for the absentee to make remittance to cover the rent as his contribution towards the family expenses. On their return home many of them, especially if they have been in domestic service, bear evidence of affluence in the fine cloths which they wear. They are then subjected to a process of squeezing by the zamindars and after attending to their cultivation and spending all their money they sell their "chadars" to provide funds for the journey, and return to Calcutta.

EXPORTS. (2)

208. The Customs Office returns exhibit the quantity and value of the combined exports from Chandbali and Balasore. As, however, by far the greater portion of the Chandbali trade is actually carried from Cuttack, the figures bear no reference to the actual exports from this District as distinct from Cuttack. It is to be regretted that some attempt is not made to separate them as at present. Balasore receives the whole credit for the Cuttack trade and the customs figures are of no value in estimating the circumstances of this District. I refrain, therefore, from reproducing the statistics over a group of years, but the details of separate exports from Chandbali and Balasore are given in the appendix referred to. It is certainly the fact that the greater part of the trade of the District is carried on from Chandbali at which port the steamer service is more frequent and regular. I should estimate the District exports from Chandbali generally at two-fifths as much again as those from Balasore.

Looking at the export of paddy and rice for 1897 and 1898 it is seen that from Balasore the former amounted to 51,880 cwts. and the latter to 240,824 cwts. Estimating that the export of each article was two-fifths greater from Chandbali, and converting the whole export into maunds of paddy (3) I find though I forbear to give the calculations, that the amount is 1,950,000 maunds. It is interesting to compare this figure with the estimated yield of the District. The cultivated area under settlement is 775,975 acres, and taking the cultivated area in Kanika and permanently settled tracts at seven-tenth of the total, it will amount to 163,000* acres. The total cultivated area of the District, viz., 839,000 acres will yield, therefore, at 15 maunds to the acre, 12,585,000 maunds. But the population is ten lakhs and a quarter, and if each family of five consumes 57 maunds of paddy annually the entire population will consume 11,673,000 maunds during the year. The Balance for export will, therefore, be only 912,000 maunds.

The explanation is to be found firstly in the fact that the yield of 15 maunds was previously stated to be the average of good and bad years alike.

The crop of 1897-98 was much above the average. Again a considerable quantity of the grain exported comes from the Gurjats and several traders of Balasore visit Nilgiri and Mahurbhanj and purchase the crops upon the fields.

It is clear at any rate that in years when the average yield is no more than 15 maunds to the acre there is little balance for export if stocks are to be maintained. The quantity exported does in fact vary much from year to year. In 1896-97 it was only one-eighth of the export of the succeeding year. Nearly the whole amount goes to Calcutta, but the exports to Mauritius are large and many of the Balasore merchants are connected with the Mahamadan traders who control the sugar industry of that Island. Small quantities of rice go to Colombo and the Madras ports.

Rice is ordinarily purchased in the markets by small dealers who sell at a slight profits to the exporters. At Chandbali it is a common practice for the latter to send out their agents into the mofasal and purchase the crops upon the field by making advances to the raiyats.

* 150,000 is more nearly the correct area.

(1) Yet the maxim runs "hala jeparī separī phala" "as the plough is so is the crop."

(2) Appendix C. C.

(3) At 22 of paddy to 10 of rice.

IMPORTS (4).

209. Comment upon these figures is rendered difficult for the reason already noted with regard to exports. Cottons, oil, salt and spices are the most considerable items and the total imports of the port of Balasore amounted to eleven and-a-half lakhs of rupees in 1897-98.

ILLEGAL CESSSES.

210. The following are the chief abwabs imposed by zamindars upon the raiyats :—

(a) *The Road and Public Works cess* is realised nearly always at the rate of one anna in the rupee, and sometimes one and-a-half annas are taken on this account and three pies per rupee of rent as Dak cess. The legitimate demand being only six pies the result is that the tenants defray the whole of the cess.

(b) *Bisodhani*—This is paid at the rate sometimes of six pies but generally of one anna for the holding on receipt by the tenant of a "bisodhan" or quittance in full for the year's rent. A portion of this fee goes to the amla.

(c) *Bibha china or Baha china*, a marriage due paid by the father of the bride or by the parents of both parties separately. The amount varies but the father of the bridegroom is generally mulated from Rs. 2 to Rs. 4, and the father of the bride from Re. 1 to Rs. 2. Some mahaprasad and betel nuts accompany the fee. Sometimes the better class pay the due in cloths and eatables only and occasionally they are altogether exempted. The due is in reality a description of registration fee and ensures that the zamindar will not deny knowledge of the marriage in a possible dispute regarding inheritance.

(d) *Sunia Cheti* paid on the first day of the year as an acknowledgment of the zamindar's authority. It varies with the raiyats' circumstances. *Thani* raiyats and collecting *Sarbarakars* pay sums varying from two annas to several rupees, while the zamindar offers presents to the Brahman a pair of thread or a cocoanut, the blacksmith a knife, the teli some turmeric and the chowkidars and cultivators fruits and vegetables. The zamindar, however, gains little profit on this occasion, since he has to distribute cloths to his servants, to feed the villagers and to hold an expensive puja. In some estates the fee has been commuted to a cash payment made with the rent.

(e) *Magan*.—These are miscellaneous subscriptions raised for meeting various expenses of the zamindar and include "bibaha magan" for a marriage in his family "karma magan" for a funeral and magans for the festivals of Durga Puja, Doljatra, Chandan jatra and Rahas jatra or for the purpose of erecting a shrine. This due varies from three pies to four annas per rupee or rent or per acre of land or from eight annas to Rs. 2 for every plough, according to the caprice of the zamindar, but cases occurred before the present settlement operations of sums varying from Rs. 5 to Rs. 10 per acre being realised. A list is always drawn up showing the amount which each tenant is to pay.

(f) *Salami or "Nazarana"*.—These are impositions for which any pretext suffices. A salami called "paria uthia", or "charbst" varying from Rs. 2 to Rs. 10 is paid by tenant desirous of cultivating new land. Another is exacted when the zamindar first visits his estate or comes to it after a long interval, or when the raiyat pays his first visit to the landlord or invites the latter to his home. A tenant who has bettered his circumstances and perhaps returned from Calcutta with savings is not allowed to enjoy them without purchasing the compliance of the zamindar. The domestic servant returning from Calcutta to his home on leave is always bled to some purpose. These salamis vary in amount from 8 annas to Rs. 50 and more according to the circumstances of the tenant and the strength and capacity of the zamindar. The latter never travels in an extensive zamindari without recouping himself for much more than the expenses of his journey. I have been told again by an eye-witness of an Uriya zamindar visiting Calcutta and holding a levee of the coolies and sardars from his estate at work in Calcutta. Each sardar was called on the pay Rs. 10 while one rupee was taken from every cooli, and to add dignity to the ceremony it was insisted that the payments should be enclosed in purses and presented formally by the Sardars. Where a tenant's circumstances have so far improved that he is able to build himself a house in exchange for a hut, he is not allowed to do so without some method being devised by his zamindar for exacting a fine upon his prosperity. Thus in one case when the house had been duly built and the neighbours and Brahmans invited to the occasions of house warming (if such a term is applicable in this country), the landlord issued orders to the Brahmans that they were not to attend. But the absence of these honoured guests would have robbed the function of all ceremony and state, and sooner than undergo such a mortification the tenant by a donation of Rs. 50 to the Zamindar secured the withdrawal of the obnoxious order. Lately a certain influential zamindar proposed, it is said, to procure an elephant and his tenants were mulated in Rs. 700 towards the cost of the purchase.

It is not stated every zamindar practices these extortions; they vary in proportion with his ability to exact them and his power of inflicting punishment for refusal. The methods of dealing with refractory tenants exhibits both brutality and ingenuity. Besides being rendered subject to the attention and touch of low caste peons, they are declared "niapani-band," that is debarred from fire and water, which no villager may supply to them without incurring the zamindar's displeasure. They are denied the aid of the village servants and

can obtain neither the "Dhoba" to wash for them nor the "bhandari" to shave them. It is not surprising that they usually end in purchasing comfort by submission to the demand.

(g) *Dakhil Kharij* or mutation. The fees have been already noted elsewhere (2)
 (h) *Tahasil Karcha* or "taharir" a fee varying from half-an-anna to two annas in the rupee of rent, levied annually for the maintenance of a collection staff.

(i) *Piyada Miadi* or talabana, varying from one and-a-half to three annas per diem and realised from a tenant by the peon sent either to demand rent or to summon him to the zamindari kachari. A portion of this fee goes to the pocket of the peon, and it varies with the number of days he is engaged. Very often a peon goes each day to a reiyats' house to demand arrears and when the talabana thus reaches a considerable sum a portion of it is remitted.

(j) *Jarimana*.—Petty cases are often enquired into and disposed of on complaints by either of the parties or by agreement between them to refer the matter to the zamindar. A fine varying in amount is inflicted on aggressor. I believe a number of cases are thus disposed of at the kachari of Kothar in Bayang and in many respects this jurisdiction of the zamindars is of service. The fines inflicted often reach a considerable annual sum.

(k) *Patsala Karcha*, to defray the cost of maintenance of a school at the zamindar's residence generally three pies per head.

(l) *Nach Salami*, to enable the zamindar to keep a party of nautch girls ; the same amount

(m) *Rahadai*, is the cost of sending remittances to the treasury under escort ; the same amount.

(n) *Thani Karcha*, paid by the thani raiyats as a fee to retain the services of the gomasta and amin for the purpose of remeasuring his holding or laying down the boundary. This amounts to two or three annas per holding.

It is not stated that all these demands are prevalent in every estate. They vary everywhere in nature and amount. Some are consolidated by agreement with the raiyats (3). In the smaller estates the zamindars realise what is customary, but are not strong enough to enforce an extraordinary imposition. Amongst the more powerful proprietors the only limit appears to be the tenant's ability to pay. Exclusive of magans, salamis and fines I have no hesitation in stating that the regular abwabs realised by an ordinary zamindar amount to between four and five annas in the rupee of rent. It is difficult to estimate the amount of the irregular and occasional payments excepted, but if they are taken in the case of influential zamindars at an average of two annas per rupee of the mafasal jama that estimate will certainly not be above the mark. The lowest figure at which the annual receipts derived by the zamindar from the various sources can be put is two lakhs and-a-half of rupees per annum, and I believe if the truths were known it would prove very much more. It is the general impression of all I have consulted that these receipts show a tendency to increase. New pretexts for their imposition are discovered, and the zamindars do not confine themselves to the old and recognised dues. It is, therefore, a probably assumption that the receipts have considerably increased during the last 60 years. If that be so this has certainly tended to prevent a further rise in the rent rates, when it is considered how simple a method the imposition of miscellaneous offers to the zamindars for evading assessment, how willingly as a rule the raiyats pay a customary demand and how long they will suffer exaction without mutinying it may be admitted that there are good grounds for suggesting that the zamindars turn these conditions to the best account. I believe there is not a settlement officer in this District who has had the opportunity to examine a zamindar's private collection books. They are invariably most studiously concealed, and for obvious reasons (4)

INDUSTRIES.

21! Excluding the ordinary trades which supply the necessary wants of the population, the District can show no industry of any importance or which is likely to develop in the future. The following description of the avocations pursued apart from those of merchants and artisans such as blacksmiths and carpenters, will show the poverty of the country in this respect.

Thread spinning and manufacture of cotton cloth—Almost all yarn used is imported from Calcutta and is of Bengal or English make. Spinning, however, is done to a small extent first by a class called *Tulabhina* (5) who use locally made machines for the purpose and secondly by Brahman widows for whom this proverbially considered a suitable and respectable occupation. They use a small hand instrument (6) and the Brahman's sacred threads are all made in this manner. Throughout this district the Tanti cast weave nearly always from foreign yarn, coarse descriptions of cotton cloth which costing double those of English manufacture (7) are of better weaving quality and last a year while the foreign

[2] Para. 161.

[3] For example in tauzi No. 124 taluk Araje Dograi Mouza Doisahi the zamindar's agent admits to having realised a consolidated cess of four annas and-a-half from the sarbarakars and four annas from Host-bud raiyats.

[4] It should be added that since receipt of their khatians tenants are showing some resistance to the imposition of abwabs.

[5] Cotton spinners.

[6] Called "Arat"

[7] Rs 1-4-0 as against 12 annas

cloths last only six months. The only trace of the muslin manufacture for which Balasore was once famous survives in Bhadrak, in Kedarpur in pargana Banchas and in Balasore town. Here a very superior description of muslin is woven and used by native gentlemen for ceremonial purposes. Dhotis of this descriptions cost Rs. 20 a pair.

Mats of three kinds are made "Hensa" are prepared by all classes from a kind of reed for home use. They are thick and poorer raiyats use them of sleeping coverings during the cold weather. The "Pana" caste make many of these mats and sell them in the markets at one or two annas a piece. "Patiya" or date-leaf mats are made by gipsies (8) and sell for an anna a piece at the market. Chatai, or matting made by the Rajus, Chasas and other cultivators in Kamardachour and kakhrachour is of a coarse description and the consumption is local.

Rope is made of jute and flax (9) by tenants in most parts of the District to supply their own wants. String of cocoanut fibre and of a species of Jungle grass (10) are made by low caste women and brought to the markets for sale. The latter is used for thatching purposes.

Palm leaf umbrellas, hoods and hats (11) are universally made by chamars and used by cultivators in the fields. Labourers prefer the hood in summer and the hat during the rains.

Nets are made by the fishermen for their own use. A small sized cast-net (12) manufactured in the north of the District is sent to the markets and to Balasore for sale.

Baskets of reeds and bamboo are made by the low castes. Some of very large size (13) are used as utensils for storing paddy and others of a small size for carrying purposes.

Earthenware consisting of jugs, pots, cups and other articles is everywhere manufactured by the Kumbhars and brought to market for sale.

Gunny bags were formerly made in large numbers near Chandbali, but have been now displaced by the Calcutta article which merchants find it cheaper to import. A description of bag called "akha" for carrying rice, paddy or salt is made of flax or jute and is also used for pack saddles (14).

Brassware of all descriptions is made by the Kansari and Thatari castes chiefly at Balasore, Erda in Senaut and Remna. The Remna ware is acquiring some reputation and is of a superior kind of kansa or bell-metal.

Stone ware of "muguni" a black stone quarried chiefly in the Nilgiri hills but also in kilas talmunda Mangalpur has a considerable local sale and is imported in quantities to Calcutta. Slates or their stone may be seen in some of the temples in the south of Orissa and presumably it was imported in early times from this District for I am not aware of any other quarries in the province. The articles made include cups and plates of all descriptions. The stone is brought to the markets in blocks for sale and is then converted into utensils by hand labour with a aid of simple tools.

Charcoal burning is done by the bhumij and other low castes in the hill side villages. The charcoal is brought to market for sale and is used generally by blacksmiths and goldsmiths and in very small quantities for cooking purposes.

Sal leaves are collected by the same class and sold at 10 or 15 for a pice at the markets. They are used as a wrapper for the country cheroot or pica and also as plates.

Cowdung is gathered by old women and dried cakes are sold for fuel at 10 or 15 to the pice. Almost every family prepares these for its own use.

Tin utensils dibris (15) and boxes are prepared in the towns and at the bazars from sheet tin for local use.

Cakes of powdered charcoal called "tikia" are prepared by Musalman widows in Bhadrak and Dhamnagar for use in the "huka", to which only Mahomedans, a few Bengalees and Karans are addicted. Brahmans being prohibited to smoke and the lower castes preferring "pica."

Grass cutting is done by the children and women of the poorer classes and sold as fodder for cattle.

Buffallo horn collected chiefly by the Pans along the coast and in the proximity of Chandbali, is sold to the dealers for export.

Tailoring is followed by some of the Musalmans in the mofasal as well as in the town. They prepare coats and shirts of inferior make as well as bedding for sale.

(8) Called "kela" and "ahirgoura".

(9) "Chan."

(10) Called 'bobai'.

(11) Called respectively "barada chata", "pakia" and "topi".

(12) Called "mundaghor".

(13) Called "Doli".

(14) Called "Palan".

(15) Small lamps.

EDUCATION.

212. Education is at a low ebb. In 1853 there were Uriya schools at Balasore and Bhadrak and the attendance at the latter averaged 15. In the English school authorized in that year at Balasore 37 students were enrolled. Desire for English education appears never to have been so strong here as in Cuttack.

There are now four schools teaching up to the entrance standard and 11 middle class English schools which act as feeders to the first. There are some 12 vernacular schools but upper and lower primary schools exist in nearly every Pargana.

The District contains only 8 graduates and the total number of boys educated at the four upper English schools is no more than 450. The English education at the remaining schools is rudimentary.

Some zamindars maintain at the cost of the raiyats, patsalas where reading, writing and simple arithmetic are taught and in many villages raiyats themselves maintain patsalas. It is found that about 30 per cent. of tenants were able to sign their names in the khatians (16), the balance use marks called "santaks" of which there are some forty kinds, each with its special signification bearing reference to caste or occupations. Thus the chasas and others draw a plough, the Telis an oil press and the Tamils a betel leaf.

(16) This is a broad estimate 50 per cent. of khatians are signed but very few of them by the tenant. The same handwriting is found up on many khattians, the raiyats having availed themselves of the services of some literate friends.

PART VI.
MISCELLANEOUS.

- Para.**
213. Collections of small zamindars.
214. Collections of large zamindas.
215. Collection Accouts.
216. Cost of Collection.
217. Collection since Settlement.
218. Land Acquisition.
219. Grain Measure.
220. Land Measure.
221. Conclusion.

COLLECTIONS OF SMALL ZAMINDARS.

213. The system and cost vary so much with the circumstances of the proprietor, the number and position of his estates and the interest he takes in them that it is impossible to state any definite rules. In the case of small estates three methods are employed. The zamindars may appoint a "tahsildar" generally a resident of the locality, to make the collections, and pay him from 8 to 15 per cent. of the amount realized; or if his home is conveniently situated and he has leisure or inclination for the task, he may collect the rents himself. Failing this he appoints a gomasta and peon or perhaps a single servant who combines both duties. When a resident petty zamindar has the collection immediately under his own supervision, the realizations may be as good as in the estates of large and powerful zamindars and the expenses less. But when a tahsildar is appointed and paid by a percentage on the amount collected, the theory of diminishing returns prevents a satisfactory result. About the week of the latbandi (1) the tahsildar turns from his ordinary avocations to call on the raiyats for their rents. He collects what they can pay and is satisfied if it is sufficient to tide over the kist and leave his employer a certain margin of profit. But the raiyat who is in distressed circumstances and the baziafidar who can pay but will not, escape further harassment for their arrears. It does not pay the tahsildar, after collecting the body of the assets in a few days, to spend weeks in pressing for a small sum which will yield him the scantiest return at a greater outlay of trouble. Accordingly the raiyats are left in peace till the next kist, and little or no attempt is made to press them for arrears. On the other hand if the petty zamindar employs a permanent staff, the collections are better but the cost greater.

With regard then to the smaller zamindars it may be said that if resident their collections are generally very good, and if non-resident the collections are bad, or what amount to the same thing, the cost is extreme. Thus too it is a mistake to suppose that absentee zamindars rack rent their raiyats. It is generally the case that where rents are high collections are good and *vice versa*, because the same energy and management which is capable of effecting enhancements is capable also of realising them. Collections are bad and rents low in many estates of small absentee landlords, as for instance in the bazyafiti estates of Gobindji Thakur, the sebit of which is a Brahman of Midnapur who never visits his estates and leaves the collections to be made at the two annual visits of a tahsildar. On the other hand the efficiency of a staff such as that of Rai Hariballav Bose of cuttack in his Bayang estates can effect what are in fact good collections taking into account the liability of lands to flood.

COLLECTION OF LARGE ZAMINDARS.

214. In the case of a large estates and influential zamindars, collections are undoubtedly the best, because a strong permanent staff can be maintained. A tahsildar and two naibs with a few "chhatias" and nagdis (2) are not content to be put off with a refusal or a partial payment at the kist day. They have the whole year in which to make the collections and to realise the outstandings, and can devote all their times to the purpose. The tahsildar of such an estate as a man of considerable local influence and commands both respect and fear among the raiyats. In dealing with the recalcitrant he can and does adopt the same methods which are pursued in the realisation of salamis. Backed by capital he can afford, when necessary the expense of litigation, to which the poverty of a small zamindar bars recourse. Nor dare the tenants as a rule resort to payment of their rents into court, a method which they sometimes follow in petty estates to the extreme embarrassment of their landlords; for the recovery of such rents is a matter of delay and expense. It is no matter for surprise, therefore, that the collections vary in large and small estates from 70 to 90 per cent. or from 12 to 14 annas in the rupee on the demand; the former figure may be taken as representing the collections in the small estate of a non-resident proprietor or in a more considerable estate liable to flood, and the latter as making the average collection in the estates of large and influential proprietors. In the average estate in the District the collections cannot be estimated at under 80 or 85 per cent.

In certain estates as in that of Tapa Purusandh, as well as in some of Ambahata and Bayang, the proprietors appoint "miadi" sarbarakars who execute kabuliyats for three or five years. They are allowed 7 or 10 per cent. on the mofasal jama of each village, the amount being previously estimated and fixed. During the term of their kabuliyats they take all the profits from enhancement and extension of cultivation. The system is not on the whole to be commended.

COLLECTION ACCOUNT.

215. The estates of Raja Baikuntha Nath De and Babu Radha Charan Das of Balasore, Rai Hariballav Bose of cuttack and Harendar Narain Rai Mahasay (3) are amongst the most efficiently managed. The late Abdul Manon Mian of Bhadrak displayed considerable energy and ability in this direction, but his sons take little interest in the property. Among proprietors who have enjoyed some commercial training like Babu Hamendra Chandra Mondal or who have business instincts like those above noted, there is naturally a propensity for

(1) That is, the latest day for payment of the revenue.

(2) The first signifies a "whipper" and the second "a realiser of each".

(3) Appendix Z.

systematic organisation and for an efficient method of accounts. The Lakan Nath Mahasay already referred to preserve an excellent system of accounts and closely supervises the management of his estates. But with others who have come less into contact with commercial ideas and exhibit a preference for absolute standard whose only recommendation is their age, there is often to be observed sheer absence of organisation coupled with a system of accounts intelligible only to the tahsildar.

I may instance the estates of Babu Gopendra Nandan Choudhuri of Pataspur (4), who owns whether as lakhrajdar or zamindar the whole of Pargana Bhograi. The income from the bahal and baziafti lands is some Rs. 8,000 and from the mahal some Rs. 27,000 a year, yet no separate accounts are kept, and the rents paid by the tenants of each description of land are consolidated in one sum. When these rents were divided for the purposes of settlement, the tahsildar did not fail to take advantage of the confusion in the accounts. In many cases the major portion of the rents were debited to the lakhraj lands in order to escape assessment. The functionary named has under his control a number of sarbarakars, amins and paiks, and the lands are said to be annually measured and the rent rolls prepared in accordance, made over to the sarbarakars for collection. Calls for money are made from time to time upon the tahsildars and these he has to supply, but accounts are not annually balanced between himself and the zamindar, the latter contenting himself with a payment which he may augment or not at his pleasure. The same system appears to be pursued between the tahsildar and sarbarakar, and at any rate the control exercised over the latter is so slight that they have full opportunity to appropriate a portion of the assets which they show as arrears in the names of absconding or deceased tenants. The offices of the collection staff are generally hereditary and the entire system is antiquated in the extreme.

COST OF COLLECTION.

216. With regard to small estates it is very difficult to give any precise figures. If a gomasta be appointed his pay will be annually Rs. 60 and he can collect a mofasil jama of Rs. 600. The cost is thus 10 per cent., but if the estate be of less size and the zamindar non-resident or unable to make the collections himself, he must pay the same salary and thus suffer a greater proportionate expense. If the estate is of somewhat greater size yielding a mofasil jama of Rs. 1,000, the gomasta must be strengthened by the services of a "chatia" at Rs. 2-8 a month or Rs. 30 per annum. The cost is thus Rs. 90 which may be swelled by contingencies to Rs. 100, and the expense remains therefore the same in proportion to the amount realised. But if the estate is scattered, a second gomasta must be employed and the cost will rise to 12 per cent. In the case of larger estate the cost is made less. To take as an example ten estates of Babu Radha Charan Das in Pragana Soso and Purusandh with a mafasil jama of Rs. 11,000 previous to settlement the establishment employed for collection work in these estates is the following :—

One naib	...	...	...	...	@ Rs. 12-0 per month
One do.	...	...	...	...	" 8-0 "
Two maharrirs at at Rs. 5	...	...	...	...	" 10-0 "
Two do. at Rs. 4-8	...	...	...	...	" 9-0 "
Two kachari guards at Rs. 2-4	...	...	...	...	" 4-8 "
Five " chatias " and nagdis at Rs. 2-8	...	...	...	...	" 12-8 "
Contingencies	...	...	...	...	Rs. 1 "
					Rs. 57

The annual cost is thus Rs. 684 or 6 per cent excluding recourse to litigation which is not usually an item of considerable expense. But such a staff is not only engaged in collecting rents. In addition to miscellaneous work they manage the paddy lending business of the zamindars, which is a source of income often almost as important as that derived from the zamindari proper. Debiting the cost of maintaining the kachari and of a portion of the establishment at Balasore to the account of the "mahajani" business, 6 per cent will still be somewhat more than should be fairly taken as the cost of rent collection. Probably no increase of staff will be necessary to collect the the settled rents, but litigation may occasionally prove requisite and on the whole the cost is not likely to decrease.

COLLECTION SINCE SETTLEMENT.

217. I have been informed that at the April kist in the present year by which time the new revenue had been introduced for all the estates of the District, most of the zamindars had realised from their raiyats sufficient to pay the revenue and no more, while in 20 per cent. of the total number of estates the collections fell short of the revenue and the proprietors were driven to borrow the deficiency. The poor collection is ascribed first to the difficulty of realising the settled rents from baziaftidars secondly, to the fact that many raiyats demanded receipt in the forms prescribed by the Tenancy Act. The law on the subject having hitherto been a dead letter, very few zamindars have been in the habit of granting such receipts, and the remainder have never provided themselves with the forms and are much averse to using them. It must prove a source of satisfaction if tenants insist on their legal rights to proper

(4) From particulars contained in a note by Babu Debendra Nath Bose, Assistant Settlement Officer.

receipts, and in the statement noted above I can find no cause for alarm. The landlords invariably postpone collection till within a week or two of the latest day of payment, and for the first year or two after settlement there will naturally be some difficulty in realising in this short period an amount which bears the same proportion to the new as that previously collected bore to the old revenue. Many zamindars have been content to realise within a few days of the "lat bandi" sufficient to pay the Government demand, bearing the balance to come in more gradually, and now that the revenue is a much larger proportion of the assets than before settlement, it is clear that a much larger amount must be collected before the kist day in order to satisfy it.

Any difficulty there has been in paying the settled revenue cannot, therefore, be said to be due to the enhancement of rents so much as to the enhancement of the Government demand, and is chiefly due to the dilatory system of collection.

LAND ACQUISITION.

218. Large areas of land have lately been acquired in the District both for the Bengal-Nagpur Railway and for the Proof Range at Chandipur. For the railway the total area acquired appears to be 3,500 acres and the compensation price was Rs. 3,00,296. The average rate thus amounts to Rs. 86 per acre and if this is compared with the figures already given regarding prices (5) previous to settlement it will be found to be a liberal rate.

North of the river Burhabalang the land acquisition officer prepared his own maps but it was found impossible to make them tally with those prepared by the Survey Department and it was therefore necessary to depute amins to go upon the ground and indentify the lands upon the traces. The Land Acquisition Khasaras also failed to tally with those of this Department and the result was that the work of making the lines and preparing records had in fact to be done twice. These lands having been acquired before final publication, the corrections were embodied in the settlement records and rents reduced in accordance. The same course was followed in two villages south of the river Burhabalang, but throughout the remainder of the District the acquisition was not completed until after final publication of the records and the corrections were not therefore embodied. The line, however, was marked upon the traces and statement were prepared of the reductions in rents. These were deducted from the mafasil jama of each estate and the settled revenue based on the reduced gross assets, so that no abatements will be required. It is much to be regretted that this work was not placed in the hands of the settlement department, which was already prepared with traces and was in a much better position to estimate the compensation to be paid. Such a course would have resulted in a reduction of the expenses, the work would have been completed in less time and would all have been embodied in the settlement records.

With regard to the acquisition of lands for the Proof Range at Chandipur, I cannot refrain from pointing out the grave discrepancies in the profits ascertained by the kanungos from the zamindars at local enquiry and those admitted by them before this department. The area acquired consists of Waste and Somb jungle along the coast and the profits obtained from such lands have already been described (6). In one village (7) the value or the receipt from jungle and grazing dues was computed by the Assistant Settlement Officer on the statements of one of the co-sharers in the zamindari, at Rs. 153 on an area of 3,785 acres. The kanungo's estimate prepared from the same sources of information showed the receipts at Rs. 291 or an area of 700 acres, and upon this valuation compensation was paid. I do not insinuate that the evidence given before this department was reliable or that the compensation paid was excessive, but the facts noted suggest the advisability in future when a settlement is in progress of calling on the zamindars to supply the same officer the figures which are to form the basis for the assessment and for the purchase value of the lands.

GRAIN MEASURE.

219. The unit of each locality is the "gouni" or "puri" which varies in size from pargana to pargana and sometimes from market to market and differs in fact almost in every "mahajan" centre. It contains from $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 4 standard seers of 80 tolas. The "gouni" is convertible into "poutis" and the "poutis", "chhelas" by varying standards &c., "chhelas" into "bharans" by a fixed standard, the following are the most common conversions :—

(1)	20 puri or gouni	...	1 pouti	} Here the puri=2 standard seers and the Bharan, therefore= $2 \times 20 \times 2 \times 4=320$ standard seers on 8 maunds.
	2 pouti	...	1 chhela	
	4 chhela	...	1 bharan	
(2)	10 puri	...	1 pouti	} Here the puri= $2\frac{5}{8}$ standard seers and the bharan therefore= $2\frac{5}{8} \times 10 \times 4 \times 4=420$ standard seers= $10\frac{1}{2}$ maunds.
	4 pouti	...	1 chhela	
	4 chhela	...	1 bharan	
(3)	40 puri	...	1 chhela	} Here the puri=4 standard seers and the 'bharan' therefore $4 \times 40 \times 4 \times 460$ standard seers=16 maunds.
	4 chhela	...	1 bharan	
(4)	10 gouni	...	1 pouti	} Here the gouni= $1\frac{1}{2}$ standard seers and the bharan, therefore= $1\frac{1}{2} \times 10 \times 6 \times 4=360$ standard seers=9 maunds.
	6 pouti	...	1 chhela	
	4 chhela	...	1 bharan	

(5) Para. 142-147.

(6) Para. 103.

(7) Srikona Pargana Dasmalang.

Smaller bowls or baskets than the "gouni" are used at market and also vary in size. These are known as "katha" or "Kancha" but their contents are generally called seers. Merchants and traders use the standard seers and maunds and even in the markets the old system is gradually being displaced by cast iron weights showing seers and francions.

LAND MEASURE.

220. The following is a list of the various "padikas" or measuring rods in use with their conversion into decimals of an acre—

Serial No.	Feet and Inches.	Local Name.	Conversion of man into acres.	REMARKS.
1	6-0	12 dasti padika (8)...	0.33	(1) Is the padika said to have been introduced by Raja Todar Mall. It is found only in pargana Siedi.
2	8-0	20 dasti padika ...	0.59	(2) Is found in Khyuri, Armala, Mukhara and Mulgaon.
3	8-2	20 dasti padika ...	0.61	(3) Is the third commonest.
4	9-0	22 dasti padika ...	0.75	(4) Is the second commonest.
5	9-3	22 do. do. ...	0.79	(5) Same as (2).
6	10-0	24 do. do. ...	0.92	(6) Is found in Ankura and Dhamnagar.
7	10-5-1 job (9)	24 dasti or standard padika.	1.00	(7) Generally prevails.
8	12-0	30 dasti padika ...	1.25	(8) Is found very rarely in Soro.

The following is the local measure of land :—

1 Square padika	...	...	...	1 biswas.
16 Biswas	...	...	...	1 gunt,
25 Gunts	...	...	...	1 man.

The record of the padika in the last settlement records was frequently unreliable, the theoretical length being recorded, whereas even padika of the same reputed length vary frequently in size.

The instrument is always kept in the custody of the chowkidar and it is easy to understand that it becomes worn with use. A new one cut to its measure will, therefore, be too short, or if it be made of a new bamboo the wood will shrink. It is generally, therefore found in practice that the padika is an inch or too less than its regulated length. Attempts however, at deliberate fraud have been very rare and I have only heard of them in the case of some of the sarbarakars in a large estate of Senaut.

CONCLUSION.

221. In concluding this report I must express regret at deficiencies and omissions for which the hasty manner in which it has been prepared offers a partial excuse. It was necessary to conclude the compilation of statistics at a time when the reports of estates were still under revision and though the corrections were as far as possible embodied in the figures. I have preferred to give latter generally in round numbers in order to avoid any appearance of absolute accuracy. It is hoped however that the appendices some of which have been compiled with considerable trouble may prove of interest at the present time and valuable on the occasion of another settlement. Lack of time has compelled the omission of some subjects such as those connected with the rent law and maintenance of records, and very cursory treatment of others which merited fuller notice. I acknowledge very gratefully the services of Babu Srigopal Bhattacharjee, Babu Prasanna Kumar Banerjee, Babu Abhoy Prasad Das, and Babu Hara Krishna Mahanty, Assistant Settlement Officers whose assistance, loyal at all times, has been of special value in the preparation of this report.

(Sd.) DOUGLAS H. KINGSFORD,
ASSISTANT SETTLEMENT OFFICER IN CHARGE,
Balasore District.

19th June 1899.

(8) A "dasti" is the breadth of the four fingers.

(9) A "job" or barleycorn is that fraction of an inch which added to the padika or 10 feet 5 inches makes 100 square padikas or biswas=1 acre.

(10) Taluk Arajidograi, mouza Dobsahi, touzi No 124.

INDEX OF APPENDICES

TO

REPORT ON THE BALASORE DISTRICT.

PART I.

1. Thanas, Areas, Villages, Houses and Population	...	A.
2. Statement of lands belonging to various Departments of Government and to missionaries.		B.
3. List of Rivers and their tributaries	... ..	C.
4. Ferries	... ..	D.
5. List of Embankments	... ..	E.
6. List of Markets.	... ..	F.
7. Varieties of Sarad rice grown on varieties of soil	... ..	G.
8. Statement showing the different varieties of fine, medium and coarse rice		H.
9. Crop Statement	... ..	I.
10. Milan Khasra	... ..	J.
11. Expenses of Sugarcane cultivation	... ..	K.
12. Cost of cultivation of Betel leaf	... ..	L.

PART III.

13. Regulations under which the early British settlements were made and particulars of revenues.		M.
14. Nationality, residence, caste and profession of zamindars	...	N.
15. Transfers, sales and prices of estates	... ..	O.
16. Statement showing Remissions of Revenue from 1832 to 1897	...	P.

PART IV.

17. Lakhraj Bahal Lands	... ..	Q.
18. Assessed, cultivated and culturable areas	... ..	R.
19. Groups and names of Parganas	... ..	S.
20. Statistics of Assets, Revenues and Malikana	... ..	T.
21. Statement of lands reserved for grazing and cremation grounds	...	U.
22. List of Khasmahals	... ..	V.
23. Chakran Jaigir	... ..	W.
24. Statistics of Proprietary Tenure-holders admitted to execution of Kabuliyat.		X.
25. Leading Zamindars of the District	... ..	Y.
26. Number, Areas and Rents of Non-Mahal tenants	... ..	Z.

PART V.

27. Details of expenditure shown in para. 200 for the family of an ordinary raiyat.		A.A.
28. List of prices taken at Bhadrak on 1st June 1899	... ..	B.B.
29. Value of Imports and Exports of Ports of Chandbali and Balasore for the year 1897-98.	...	C.C.

APPENDIX A.

Thanas areas, villages, houses and population.

DIVISION.	Name of Thana.	AREA OF THANA.					Number of inhabited villages.	Average number of inhabited villages per square mile.	Number of uninhabited villages (<i>Bechaps</i>).	Total of columns 7 and 9.	Number of houses or buildings.	Average size of villages in thana.	Number of dwelling houses.	Average number of dwelling houses per inhabited village.	Census population in 1891.	Present estimated population.	Present density of population to the square mile.	Average population per inhabited village.	REMARKS.
		IN ACRE.		Total.															
		Cultivated.	Uncultivated.																
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	
Bhadrakh	1. Bhadrak	145,616	39,072	184,688	288.5	478	2	68	546	38,120	338	31,396	66	177,496	182,821	635	382	Column 11. The figure given includes houses, cowsheds and other buildings. Column 12. Based on figures supplied by the police, who have lately made account of dwelling houses preliminary to the introduction of the Chaudidari Act.	
	2. Dhamnagar	111,928	35,857	147,785	230.9	357	2	76	433	29,723	341	17,075	48	138,301	142,450	619	399		
	3. Basudebpur	82,094	38,924	121,018	189.1	227	1	20	247	16,130	489	11,276	50	74,229	76,449	404	337		
	4. Chandbali	18,386	7,838	26,244	41.0	55	1	12	67	4,328	391	3,915	71	25,763	26,536	647	482		
Balasore		338,024	121,711	479,735	750	1,117	1	176	1,293	88,301	371	63,662	57	415,782	428,256	572	383	Column 12. Based on figures supplied by the police, who have lately made account of dwelling houses preliminary to the introduction of the Chaudidari Act.	
	6. Soro...	198,354	57,270	255,624	399.4	826	2	58	884	41,579	289	32,209	39	212,002	218,362	547	264		
	5. Balasore	87,497	58,037	145,534	227.3	439	2	124	563	25,010	260	17,102	39	112,570	115,947	511	264		
	7. Basta	57,992	40,398	98,390	153.7	280	2	106	386	12,336	254	9,076	32	59,739	61,531	402	220		
	8. Baliapal	73,111	41,917	115,028	179.7	378	2	87	465	15,020	247	12,364	33	81,376	83,817	468	222		
	9. Jaleswar	997	470	1,467	2.2	4	2	12	16	204	91	121	30	796	820	410	205		
	Total under settlement	417,951	198,092	616,043	962	1,927	2	387	2,314	94,149	266	70,872	57	466,483	480,477	499	249		
	Add for Chandbali thana portion of Kanika.	775,975	319,806	1,095,778	1,712	3,044	2	563	3,607	182,450	304	134,534	44	882,265	908,733	531	298		
	Add for Basta thana permanently settled estates.	...	...	...	174.9	291	2	99	...	...	...	...	...	32,000	32,960	189	113		
	Add for Baliapal thana permanently settled estates.	...	...	...	189.7	392	2	56	...	...	...	...	...	80,360	82,770	438	211		
	Add for Jaleswar thana permanently settled estates.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
	Total	...	...	...	364.6	683	2	155	...	...	...	...	...	112,360	115,730	318	169		
	Grand Total	...	...	...	2,076.6	3,727	2	718	...	...	...	...	...	994,625	1,024,463	493	275		

APPENDIX B.

Statement of lands belonging to various Departments of Government and to Missionaries.

Serial No.	Name of Department.	Total area of acres.	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4
1	B. N. Railway ...	570	(1) <i>Railway.</i> Only lands north of the Burhabalang and in two other villages are included.
2	District Board ...	2,400	
3	Public Works Department ...	6,349	
4	Collectorate ...	3,424	(2) Of the area included under the collectorate, 1,392 acres are beds of Navigable rivers.
5	Police ...	77	
6	Salt Department...	25	
7	Post Office ...	3	(3) For an area of 124 acres included under various Government Departments a rental amounting to Rs. 141 is payable.
8	Magistracy ...	31	
9	Local Board ...	498	
10	Municipality ...	150	
11	Commissioner of the Province	19	
12	Medical Department	5	
13	Schools Department	2	
14	Excise ...	2	
15	Customs ...	1	
16	Missionaries ...	5	
	TOTAL	13,561	

APPENDIX C.

List of Rivers and their Tributaries.

Serial No.	Names of rivers-	Names of Parganas through which the river runs.	Names of Tributaries (if any).	Names of Parganas through which the tributaries run.	Approximate length of rivers in miles within the District.	Where the River rises.	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	Subarnarekha ...	1. Fatiabad 2. Jaleswar. 3. Katisahi. 4. Siari 5. Nampochore. 6. Sahaban dar. 7. Bhograi.	1. Cochhidanala 2. Chitainala.	1. Kamarda ... 2. Bhograi, 3. Kagharchore.	60 miles	Lohardaga District in Chota Nagpur Division.	Literally meaning "the streak of gold" because the land along the bank is very fertile. Particles of gold are sometimes found in the sand and some are, therefore, inclined to trace the origin of the name of the river to this fact.
2	Sartha ...	1. Basta. 2. Talsabang 3. Satmalang. 4. Sarthachore.	.....	...	20 miles	Mayurbhanj Hills.	
3	Haskura ...	1. Basta 2. Dararachore. 3. Nangleswar. 4. Tupa bulang.	.....	...	25 miles	Do.	Literally "the duck swimming river."
4	Panchpara ...	1. Basta 2. Talsapang. 3. Satmalang. 4. Sarthachore.	1. Jamira 2. Bhairangi. 3. Bana.	Mayurbhanj Territory.	20 miles	Do.	Literally "five villages" because there were five villages at the place where the river joins the sea.
5	Burhabalang ...	1. Mulgan 2. Kundi 3. Phulwar. 4. Sunhat. 5. Dasmalang. 6. Rautra.	1. Suna 2. Gangahar. 3. Prasanna.	1. Mulgan 2. Kundi. 3. Phulwar.	35 miles	Do.	Literally "the old twister" so-called from its winding course.
6	Paganadi ...	Nunkhand	.....	...	10 miles	Bangara in Ph. Nunkhand.	Properly "Prayag Nadi." Prayag was the old name of the village from it rises.
7	Nambu or Kantichera Nadi.	1. Khejuri. 2. Nonokhand	.....	...	15 miles	Nilgiri Hills	Literally "the Lemon River." It is said that along its banks there were lemon groves in olden times.
8	Kanebana ...	1. Arso 2. Sarahar. 3. Banchas 4. Sajnabad. 5. Ankura.	1. Pitakalia 2. Gamai nala.	1. Arso 2. Sarhar. 3. Banchas. 4. Ganeswar. 5. Ankura.	30 miles	Do.	So named because it rises from a jungle of Kains (a kind of long grass of which fancy baskets are made) and Bana (bamboos) in Ambakatta.
9	Matai ...	1. Bhera 2. Ankura. 3. Kaime. 4. Kanika.	1. Kundi 2. Kanchani.	1. Senaut 2. Balikhhand. 3. Ankura.	40 miles	Rukunadelpur in Ph. Bhera	Joins the Baitarani near Dhamra.
10	Reba ...	1. Soso. 2. Randiaorgara. 3. Dhamnagar. 4. Bayang.	Kapali	1. Randiaorgara. 2. Dhamnagar. 3. Bayang.	30 miles	.....	Joins the Salandi at Dappa in Ph. Bayang.
11	Salandi ...	1. Tupa sandho. 2. Soso. 3. Randiaorgara. 4. Senaut. 5. Bayang. 6. Kaime.	.....	...	30 miles	Mayurbhanj Hills.	Properly Salnadi named because it rises amidst sal jungles. Joins the Baitarani at Batol in Ph. Kaime.
12	Baitarani ...	1. Soso. 2. Manjuri. 3. Bayang. 4. Kaime. 5. Kanika	1. Genguti	1. Dhamnagar	35 miles	Keunjhar Hills	Literally "which can only be crossed by a boat" i.e., not fordable. The Hindu Styx.

APPENDIX D.

Ferries.

No.	Name of Ferry.	Letting value for 1898-99.	Position.
1	2	3	4
		Rs. A. P.	
1	Charbatia ...	140 0 0	(1) On the Matai River, where the road from Bhadrak to Charbatia terminates. It is near the Charbatia lock.
2	Rajghat ...	1,300 0 0	(2) On the 25th mile of the Jagannath Road, at the crossing of the River Subarnarekha.
3	Phulwar ...	1,190 0 0	(3) On the River Burhabalang, about 3 miles above Balasore.
4	Salandi ...	380 0 0	(4) At Bhadrak. On the 43rd mile of the Jagannath Road.
5	Akhoyapada ...	410 0 0	(4) On the River Baitarani, about 18 miles from Bhadrak. It is near the Police Out-post at Akhoyapada.
6	Purusottampur ...	12 0 0	(6) On the River Kansbans.
7	Panchtikiri ...	435 0 0	(7) 9 miles down the River Matai from Charbatia lock.
8	South Baliapal ...	860 0 0	(8) On the River Matai near Karanjaria below Charbatia.
9	Guchida ...	350 0 0	(9) On the River Guchhida and is about 3 Miles east of Baliapal Police Station.
10	Santipur ...	36 0 0	(10) On the River Subarnarekha, about 2 miles south of Jaleswar Police Station.
11	Nalkul ...	245 0 0	(11) On the River Burhabalang, about 6 miles below Balasore Town.
12	Balighat ...	722 0 0	(12) Also on the River Burhabalang, about 2 miles east of Balasore town.
13	Kasimila ...	156 0 0	(13) On the River Burhabalang, about 4 miles north east of Balasore town.
14	Sobhanagarpatna ...	20 0 0	(14) On the River Genguty, in Pargana Bayang.
15	Panchpara ...	100 0 0	(15) On the River Panchapara in Pargana Satmalong near the Panchpara lock.
16	Chitai ...	23 0 0	(16) On the River Chitai, a branch of the River Subarnarekha in Kamardachour.
17	Manjuri ...	15 0 0	(17) On the high level canal, at the crossing of the District Board Road to Jajpur.
18	Kalikapur ...	64 0 0	(88) On the River Subarnarekha at the crossing of the Baliapal Kamarda Road.
	Total ...	6,458 0 0	

APPENDIX E.

List of Embankments.

Serial No.	Name of Pargana.			LENGTH OF EMBANKMENT.		Name of river.	REMARKS.
				Mile.	Feet.		
1	2			3	4	5	6
				CLASS I.			
1	Purusand	...	...	7	4,065	Salandi.	
	Randia Orgara	...	...				
2	Jajpur	...	...	18	3,500	Baitarni.	
	Malkhatabad and Soso	...	...				
				CLASS II.			
1	Kakhra Chor	...	...	2	1,518	Subarnarekha.	
	Bhograi	...	...	13	4,224	Do.	
	Biokul	...	...	1	3,168	Do.	
	Sahabandar	...	...	1	3,300	Do.	
	Tappa Narainpur	...	...	1	2,046	Do.	
	Kamardachour	...	...	1	2,112	Do.	
	Kismat Katishahi	...	...	1	1,254	Do.	
2	Tappa Ratai	...	...	2	3,696	Sunia Nadi.	
	Kaurdachour	...	...	...	2,244	Do.	
3	Manjuri	...	...	1	2,967	Baitarani.	
4	Manjuri	...	...	2	2,454	Genguti.	
	Dhamnagar	...	...				
5	Randia Orgara	...	...	...	4,610	Salandi.	
	Jajpur	...	...	...	3,960	Baitarani.	
6	Ankura	...	...	11	1,350	} Sea-face.	
	Do.	...	...	5	1,480		
				CLASS III.			
1	Jajpur	...	...	...	2,500	Genguti.	
				CLASS IV.			
1	Bayang	...	...	...	2,810	Kapali.	
2	Ditto	...	...	1	3,300	Baitarani.	
3	Dhamnagar	...	...	6	3,960	Do.	
Class of Embankment.				Number of embankment,	TOTAL LENGTH OF EMBANKMENT.		REMARKS.
					Miles.	Feet.	
I	...	...	...	2	26	2,285	
II	...	...	...	7	48	3,423	
III	...	...	...	1	2	2,500	
IV	...	...	...	2	8	3,790	
Total				12	84	11,998	

APPENDIX F.—PART I.

List of Markets.

Name of Thana.	Name of Market.	Name of Village.	Principal Commodities sold.	Days on which held.	Area.	Assessment.	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Baliapal	Kamarda Hat ...	Kasbakamarda ...	Ordinary articles as per para. 33 of Report.	Sunday and Wednesday.	0'32	Rs. a. p. Bahal ...	Subordinate to Bansdiha.
Do.	Dangiri do. ...	Agarda ...	Do. ...	Monday and Friday.	0'19	Not assessed.	
Do.	Bansdiha do. ...	Bansdiha ...	Do. ...	Tuesday and Saturday.	0'39	Bahal ...	Principal market of Pargana Kamardachour.
Do.	Durpal do. ...	Durpal ...	Do. ...	Monday and Friday.	0'27	Not assessed.	Subordinate to above.
Do.	Deula do. ...	Deula ...	Mats, pan and brass utensils in large quantities, besides ordinary articles.	Sunday and Thursday.	1'47	Bahal ...	Ranks in importance with Singla Hat, Principal Market of Pargana Bhograi.
Do.	Bhograi do. ...	Bhograi ...	Ordinary articles as per para. 33 of Report.	Monday and Friday.	0'66	2 10 3	Subordinate to above.
Do.	Baliapal do. ...	Baliapal ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	0'47	Bahal ...	Subordinate to Singla Hat.
Do.	Siari do. ...	Palpara ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	0'16	Bajiafti	Do.
Do.	Sunaroi do. ...	Sunaroi ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	0'45	6 0 0	Do.
Do.	Simlia do. ...	Bar Simlia ...	Do. ...	Tuesday and Saturday.	0'26	...	Do.
Do.	Balikuti do. ...	Balikuti ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	0'62	...	Do.
Do.	Partabpur do. ...	Partabpur ...	Do. ...	Wednesday and Saturday.	0'28	5 0 0	Do.
Do.	Bhuyan do. ...	Khalamuhan II	Do. ...	wednesday and Sunday.	0'11	23 4 0	Principal market of Tapa Narainpur.
Basta	Sabara do. ...	Sabara ...	Do. ...	Friday and Monday.	1'15	10 0 0	Subordinate to Singla Hat.
Do. ...	Dorada do. ...	Dorada ...	Do. ...	Wednesday and Saturday.	0'47	Bahal ...	Do.
Do. ...	Singla do. ...	Singla ...	Ordinary and special articles as per para. 33 of Report in addition to vegetables, mung and birhi in large quantities.	Thursday and Sunday.	1'34	167 8 0	The most important market of Nungleswar and the surrounding parganas. Situated 6 miles from Baliapal on the Basta Road.
...	Basta do. ...	Sadanandapur ...	Ordinary articles, as per para. 33 of Report.	Tuesday and Friday.	0'21	15 0 0	Attracts crowds from Garjats. Principal market of Pargana Basta.
Do. ...	Garpada do. ...	Barhapal ...	Do. ...	Wednesday and Saturday.	0'36	Bahal ...	Attracts crowds from Garjats. Principal market of Pargana Garpada.
Do. ...	Chandi do. ...	Ambapunja ...	Ordinary articles, and rice, salt, oil, spices, earthen-ware and vegetables in considerable quantity.	Do. ...	0'28	0 6 0	Market of Talsabang Pargana.
Balasore	Gurda do. ...	Gurda ...	Do. ...	Monday and Friday.	0'59	25 0 0	Numbers of People come from the Gurjat. Principal market of Pargana Mulgan.
Do.	Sahaji do. ...	Madhipur ...	Ordinary and special articles as per para. 33 of Report and fresh vegetables and fuel in large quantities and at cheap rates.	Thursday and Sunday.	0'47	Bahal ...	This is the chief market in the north of the District. Situated 7 miles west of Balasore town. A large trade in cottons is done with the Gurjats. A recognised mart for paddy in the cold season.
Do.	Bata da. ...	Soilpur ...	Ordinary articles as per para. 33 of Report.	Tuesday and Saturday.	0'43	Baziafti.	
Do.	Sersatia do. ...	Sasang ...	Do. ...	Monday and Friday.	1'38	4 0 0	Market of Pargana Nunkhand.
Do.	Balasore town market.	Damodurpur ...	Ordinary and special commodities as per para. 33 of Report. Chiefly fish, vegetables, fruits, cloth, brass and kansas ornaments and utensils, umbrellas, hats and pakhia.	Daily, for daily requirements. On Tuesday and Saturday for other articles.	0'3364	5 11 0	See para. 33 of Report. The market is inferior to Sahaji Hat. No paddy is sold and rice only in small quantities. There is another market on the Grand Trunk Road where provisions are sold. It contains also lodgings for travellers and suiters in the courts.

(511)
APPENDIX F.

List of Markets—contd.

Name of Thana.	Name of Market.	Name of Village.	Principal commodities sold.	Days on which held	Area	Assessment.	REMARKS
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
						Rs. a. p.	
Soro ...	Turigaria ...	Turigaria ...	Ordinary articles as per para. 33 of Report, and rice vegetables, timber, tamarid and resin.	Friday and Tuesday...	0'821	16 6 8	On the borders of Nilgiri. A large trade in jungle produce. Bamboos are sold at the neighbouring subordinate market of Sarsankh, and stone utensils (Muguni) at Baghudi. Chief market of Killa Mangalpur and neighbourhood.
Do. ...	Tentuliapara ...	Tentuliapara ...	Ordinary articles as per para. 33 of Report.	Do. ...	0'32	6 8 0	A subordinate market to the above.
Do. ...	Khairahat ...	Purusotampur ...	As above and specially paddy.	Do. ...	1'34	37 8 0	Chief market of Tapa-Maliauch. A large trade in rice and paddy. Most of the rice is carried by cart to Balasore. Some trade in sal timber.
Do. ...	Kaida ...	Pakhar ...	Ordinary articles as per para. 33 of Report and jungle produce in quantities.	Tuesday and Saturday	1'37	6 0 0	
Do. ...	Gaupada ...	Jamjhari ...	Ordinary articles as per para. 33 of Report, but chiefly rice and vegetables.	Wednesday and Saturday.	1'05	21 0 0	On the trunk road at the 30th mile below Balasore. Has also a permanent bazar. Chief market of Pargana Balikhand and neighbourhood.
Do. ...	Abjhuna ...	Abjhuna ...	...	Friday and Tuesday...	0'32	15 0 0	A subordinate market to the above.
Do. ...	Bari ...	Bari II ...	Ordinary articles as per para. 33 of Report.	Monday and Thursday	0'39	Not assessed.	Do.
Do. ...	Kalasuni ...	Palasuni ...	Do. ...	Saturday ...	0'97	Bahal ...	Do.
Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Tuesday ...	1'36	20 0 0	Do.
Do. ...	Kupari ...	Kupari ...	As above in addition to timber, fuel and vegetables.	Monday and Thursday	0'660	Not assessed.	Chief market of Killa Ambahata in the borders of Nilgiri.
Bhadrak ...	Agarpada ...	Badahatrilochanpur.	Ordinary articles as per para. 32 of Report	Sunday and Wednesday.	0'88	13 0 0	Subordinate to above.
Do. ...	Ramchandrapur...	Ramchandrapur	As above and specially rice, cattle, fuel and vegetables.	Tuesday and Friday	1'59	32 0 0	Chief market of Tapa Prusandh. There are permanent bazars at Akhayapada and Banta in the same neighbourhood.
Do. ...	Daisingh ...	Daisingh ...	Ordinary articles as per para. 32 of Report	Monday and Thursday	0'45	Bahal ...	Subordinate market to Esafpur.
Do. ...	Bandhagaon ...	Bandhagaon ...	Do. ...	Wednesday and Saturday.	9'60	Not assessed.	Do.
Do. ...	Budhubar (old.) Hat	Esafpur ...	As above and special articles noted in para. 32 of Report.	Wednesday ...	2'62	65 8 0	See Report, para. 32. The most important market in the District. Centre of trade in cattle, hides, timber, fuel, rice, yarn, cloths and vegetables. Situated in Bhadrak town, on baziati land.
Do. ...	Budhubar (new.) Hat	Esafpur ...	Same as above ...	Do. ...	1'59	32 0 0	A rival to the above lately established, and has taken some of the trade of the old market. Similar articles dealt in.
Do. ...	Sanibar Hat ...	Balioroda ...	Ordinary articles as per para. 32 of Report.	Saturday ...	1'338	Bahal ...	Subordinate to Esafpur old market, near which it is situated.
Do. ...	Baro ...	Baro ...	Do. ...	Monday and Thursday	0'29	Not assessed.	Subordinate to Tibiri Hat.
Do. ...	Tibiri ...	Bhatapara ...	As above, but chiefly rice which is brought here for sale to exporters.	Tuesday and Saturday.	1'09	25 4 0	Chief market of pargana Senaut. Situated on the Chandbali Road 12 miles from Bhadrak, is an export centre.

APPENDIX F.

List of Market—concl'd.

Name of Thana.	Name of Market.	Name of Village.	Principal commodities sold.	Days on which held.	Area.	Assessment	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Bhadrak	Sabrang	Sabrang	Ordinary articles as per para. 32 of Report.	Monday ² and Tuesday.	1'24	Rs. a. p. 31 0 0	Subordinate to Esafpur old market.
Do.	Dolesahi	Raghupur	Do	Sunday and Wednesday.	0'17	1 11 0	Do.
Do.	Aruspal	Madhusudanpur	Do.	Sunday and Thursday.	0'48	7 0 0	Do.
D h a m-nagar.	Dhusuri	Narsinghpur	As above and cattle rice and thread.	Tuesday and Saturday.	0'82	16 6 5	Chief market of pargana Bayang.
Do.	Dubalo	Mustafapur	As above	Monday and Thursday.	1'69	34 0 0	Chief market of pargana Dhamnagar.
Do.	Naguan	Taragu	Ordinary articles as per para. 32 of Report and specially rice and vegetables.	Sunday	0'66	Bahal	Chief Market of pargana Soso.
Do.	Sachina	Sachina	Ordinary articles as per para. 32 of Report.	Tuesday and Saturday.	2'34	33 0 0	Subordinate to Ramchandrapur Hat.
Basudeb-pur.	Tulamtula	Tulamtula	Do.	Monday and Thursday.	0'04	Not assessed.	A subordinate market in pargana Ankura.
Do.	Kamargaon	Kamargaon	As above and chiefly rice and vegetables.	Monday and Friday	1'05	25 0 0	Chief market of pargana Ankura. There is a permanent bazar at Basudeb-pur, not far distant.
Do.	Sidhahat	Erum	Ordinary articles as per para. 32 of Report.	Sunday and Thursday.	1'06	Bahal	Subordinate to above.
Do.	Brahamugaon	Brahamugaon	Do.	Do.	2'51	3 0 0	Do.
Do.	Naikmadihi	Naikanidhi	As above and chiefly vegetables and rice for export.	Wednesday and Saturday.	1'48	25 0 0	The chief export market of Pargana Ankura. Situated near Baliapal ferry on the Matai. Their collects being from Ankura and Kanika for export.
Do.	Mandari	Mandari	Ordinary article as per para 32 of Report.	Tuesday and Saturday.	0'15	37 8 0	Subordinate to Kamargan.
Do.	Pirhat	Pahadisahi	Do.	Monday and Friday.	0.58	Bahal	Subordinate to Tihiri Hat Situated on the Chandbali Road.
Do.	Churamani	Churamani	Do.	Wednesday and Saturday.	5'75	15 0 0	Once a famous port but has now declined. A subordinate market in pargana Ankura.
Chandbali	Chandabali	Chandabali	As above and particularly tables, and for export.	Sunday and Thursday.	2'80	Not assessed.	This is an extensive market adjoining the permanent bazar at Chandbali. Raiyats Bring rice from Bhera, Kanika and Ankura for sale to the exporters. A considerable centre of trade.
Total No. of Markets	...	59	...	...	...	783 3 4	

APPENDIX G.

Varieties of saradh rice grown on varieties of soil.

Baliera (Sandy soil).	Dorasa (Mixture of sand and clay).	Matial (Clay).	Chikmatial (Adhesive clay)	Dangar (Upland).	Gahir (Low land).	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1 Mandu. 2 Nagasali. 3 Asumotra. 4 Baigan Kanta 5 Harisankar. 6 Kanti Siali. 7 Machha Kanta. 8 Karpurdana. 9 Tulsi Kanthi. 10 Dahi Jira. 11 Haldigundi. 12 Dian Bhoga 13 Koili 14 Biru Kanta. 15 Nadiaphula. 16 Narsingbhoga. 17 Nrupatibhoga. 18 Nababbhoga. 19 Gopalbhoga. 20 Hariballabh. 21 Kantamiriga. 22 Nanhu. 23 Sarira. 24 Guachour. 25 Alitaguli. 26 Lakshmikadali. 27 Sori. 28 Sorisaphula. 29 Palanchi. 30 Raigori.	1 Mukta Keri. 2 Chhotra. 3 Najukbadana. 4 Tulsi Keri. 5 Chhota Champa. 6 Kartik Champa. 7 Pimpuribas. 8 Tulasi Gata. 9 Gandha Tulasi. 10 Charheinakhi. 11 Geti. 12 Sial Nanji. 13 Kalajira. 14 Methibasa. 15 Balamanji. 16 Kalapia. 17 Sebat. 18 Katak-tara. 19 Sitabhoga. 20 Kalapabar. 21 Patia. 22 Kusampula. 23 Hunda. 24 Sankimalat. 25 Kartiknaki. 26 Mirjai. 27 Sujathinu. 28 Basuabhoga. 29 Radha Tilak. 30 Saru Samali.	1 Garu Sadei. 2 Garu Samuli. 3 Chaulapakhia. 4 Kantha Suluri. 5 Kalapakhia. 6 Dambaru Pakhia. 7 Matia Suluri. 8 Debnagari. 9 Bhandia Rai. 10 Gara Motra. 11 Dinkia Sali. 12 Pakha Sali. 13 Jagatballabh. 14 Barapanka. 15 Asini. 16 Koilibai. 17 Kanta Srungi. 18 Madan Kharia. 19 Suluri. 20 Kalasaru. 21 Rajmahali. 22 Boitalupakhia. 23 Kakuria. 24 Padagarua. 25 Dhulia. 26 Gangabasa. 27 Nagarghatia. 28 Hunda. 29 Narada. 30 Magurmethi.	1 Rangi. 2 Puntia. 3 Mainstitinka. 4 Guramathia. 5 Baula. 6 Mandia. 7 Natakalam. 8 Jatakalam. 9 Hatipanjari. 10 Raigarara. 11 Rangi Sarua. 12 Garugeti. 13 Mahipal. 14 Madana. 15 Garusadhaba. 16 Kunduma. 17 Hari. 18 Parbat Kaya. 19 Burha Kaya. 20 Samudrananja. 21 Balabbhadrakhia. 22 Keutapakhia. 23 Makar Khura. 24 Bhaluki. 25 Kusun Kunda. 26 Kaya. 27 Asu Sadai.	1 Barabali. 2 Harua. 3 Jatia. 4 Niali. 5 Hematrangi. 6 Banki. 7 Kartikpeti. 8 Balarami. 9 Surangi.	1 Rabana. 2 Champei Sali. 3 Baliadarha. 4 Nimei. 5 Badala. 6 Mugdhi. 7 Ganga Sauli. 8 Pasakathi. 9 Dhusura. 10 Makar. 11 S. ulapabana. 12 Raktabaula. 13 Tentuligahia. 14 Berhamanji. 15 Agnisar. 16 Kana Kanta. 17 Pani Saru. 18 Baunsagaja. 19 Baunsaganthi. 20 Raktabhol.	

APPENDIX H.

Statement showing the different varieties of fine, medium and coarse rice.

Fine rice.	Dhaka (white rice).	Kabra (or red rice)	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4
1 Gopalbhog. 2 Dayanagundi. 3 Gandha Tulasi. 4 Charheinakhi. 5 Kalajira. 6 Methibasa. 7 Najukbadana. 8 Karpur-dana. 9 Gandhamalat. 10 Machhakanta. 11 Nadia Phula. 12 Nrupalbhog. 13 Nilabati. 14 Haldigundi. 15 Sulari. 16 Baigan Kanta. 17 Tuli Kanthi. 18 Dahijira. 19 Dianbhog. 20 Narsinghbhog. 21 Nababbhog. 22 Hariballabh. 23 Lakshmikadali. 24 Pimpuribas. 25 Tulsijata. 26 Sebati. 27 Sitabhog. 28 Gangabas. 29 Magur-methi. 30 Bhalunki. 31 Rankanta. 32 Barabali.	1. Birukanta. 2 Kantamerga. 3 Nanhu. 4 Guachour. 5 Alitaguli. 6 Sorisaphula. 7 Mukta-keri. 8 Chhotra. 9 Tulsikeri. 10 Chota Champa. 11 Kartik Champa. 12 Geti. 13 Belmanji. 14 Kalapahar. 15 Kusum phula. 16 Sankhimalat. 17 Kartiknakhi. 18 Sunabhui. 19 Basuabhog. 20 Radhatilak. 21 Deb-nagari. 22 Bhamdiarai. 23 Dhir kiasali. 24 Jagatraballabh. 25 Aswini. 26 Kakurimangi. 27 Padagarua. 28 Hunda. 29 Narada. 30 Rang. 31 Manda. 32 Hatipanjari. 33 Garugeti. 34 Mahipal. 35 Kunkuma. 36 Hari. 37 Kentapakhi. 38 Makar-khura. 39 Kusunkunda. 40 Niali. 41 Hemantarangi. 42 Bangi. 43 Kartikgeti. 44 Balarami. 45 Rabana. 46 Balia-darha. 47 Nimai. 48 Gangasali. 49 Pasakathi. 50 Makara. 51 Raktabaula. 52 Berhamanji. 53 Agnisar. 54 Panisaru. 55 Raktabhola.	1 Mandu. 2 Nagasali. 3 Asumutra. 4 Harisankar. 5 Kanthisiali. 6 Koili. 7 Sarira. 8 Sori. 9 Palauchi. 10 Raigari. 11 Sial-nanji. 12 Kalapia. 13 Kataklara. 14 Sarusamuli. 15 Garusadei. 16 Garusamali. 17 Chaulapakhia. 18 Kanthasuluri. 19 Kalapakhia. 20 Dambarupakhia. 21 Matlasuluri. 22 Garumotra. 23 Pakhiasali. 24 Barapanka. 25 Coi i Bai. 26 Kanthasurungi. 27 Madan Khatia. 28 Kala Saru. 29 Raj-mahali. 30 Boitalupakhia. 31 Dhulia. 32 Nagarghatia. 33 Puntia. 34 Mainsitinka. 35 Guramathia. 36 Baula. 37 Natakalama. 38 Jetakalama. 39 Raighar. 40 Rangisarira. 41 Madana. 42 Garusadhaba. 43 Parbat Kayan. 44 Burha Kayan. 45 Samudrananja. 46 Balabhadrapakhia. 47 Kaya. 48 Asusadei. 49 Harua. 50 Jatia. 51 Surangi. 52 Champeisali. 53 Badala. 54 Mugudhi. 55 Dhusura. 56 Seulapuhuna. 57 Tentulipakhia. 58 Baunsagaja. 59 Baunsaganthi.	

APPENDIX I.

Crop Statement.

Serial No.	NAME OF THANA.	CEREALS AND PULSES										OIL SEEDS.				FIBRES.				DRUGS AND NARCOTICS.				MISCELLANEOUS CROPS.						REMARKS.						
		Rice.			Other food grains includ-			Linseed.	Til.	Castor oil.	Others.	Condiments and spices.	Sugarcane.	Cotton.	Jute.	Others.	Saffron.	Indigo.	Others.	Pan.	Tobacco.	Others.	Homestead lands.	Fodder-crops.	Garden produce and fruit bear-	Yam.	Brinjal.	Others.	Non-food.		Total.	Area cropped more than once.	Net area cropped.			
		Early (or Biali.)	Winter (or Sarad.)	Spring (or Dalua.)	Wheat.	Barley.	Mandua.																											China.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34			
1	Basta	386	53,403	46	...	1	...	310	1	2	2	4	1	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,175	...	202	...	...	...	...	...	...	57,514	479	57,993
2	Baleswar	49	63,903	11	...	...	...	1,109	3	61	109	116	17	38	...	...	88	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5,492	...	508	...	...	...	...	...	...	72,920	791	73,111
3	Balasore	563	76,764	...	...	...	...	1,883	82	13	32	19	29	7	...	...	26	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5,764	...	814	...	...	...	...	...	...	87,496	174	87,496
4	Bhadrak	246	131,050	14	...	...	...	2,462	...	13	32	24	70	83	52	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7,159	...	2,766	...	...	...	...	...	...	147,782	2,166	145,616
5	Bhannagar	435	102,091	...	...	...	...	2,436	1	...	2	10	27	13	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,616	...	1,055	...	...	...	...	...	...	111,928	2,101	111,928
6	Basudebpur	247	78,705	...	...	...	...	96	...	2	...	...	...	15	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,760	...	394	...	...	...	...	...	...	82,094	22	82,094
7	Chandabali	67	17,132	352	...	...	...	48	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	568	...	247	...	...	...	...	...	...	18,389	3	18,389
8	Soro	884	183,935	...	...	11	...	284	...	...	...	...	2	27	25	19	9	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	12,111	...	1,686	...	...	...	...	...	198,366	12	198,366	
9	Total	3,607	9,166	708,369	424	...	...	8,131	163	98	169	166	124	471	111	138	34	2	...	1	121	17	1	93	41,734	2	7,773	21	1,328	47	6	778,829	5,755	775,975		

PART I.—APPENDIX J.

Milan Khasra.

Serial No.	Name of thana.	CULTIVATED AREA IN ACRES.										NON-CULTIVABLE AREA IN ACRES.										REMARKS.					
		Total area in acres.	Rice.			Twice cropped.	Miscellaneous Crops.	Homestead Land.	Orchards and Bam.	Total cultivated.	New fallow.	Old fallow.	Thatching grass.	Culturable jungle.	Total Culturable.	Houses.	Tanks and rivers.	Canals.	Embankments.	Jheels.	Government roads.		Other Roads.	Burning ghats.	Waste and others.	Total Unculturable.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
1	Basta	386	98,391	266	53,408	46	479	363	3,115	262	57,993	2,402	7,535	423	3,330	13,890	443	4,116	118	247	1,646	278	591	76	18,513	26,340	The crop statement and survey represent only approx.imate areas.
2	Jaleswar	16	1,467	49	786	...	6	65	89	1	597	14	7	...	...	21	10	200	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	449	
3	Baliapal	465	115,028	699	63,503	10	792	1,707	5,492	508	73,111	2,774	1,229	...	...	4,203	718	6,582	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	37,714	
4	Balsore	563	145,533	2,159	76,764	...	...	1,781	5,764	854	87,496	4,045	1,443	...	...	8,691	787	7,178	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	49,346	
5	Bhadrak	546	184,618	1,097	131,050	14	2,166	1,364	2,159	2,766	145,616	1,796	10,285	...	...	12,568	1,249	5,558	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	56,564	
6	Dhannagar	433	147,785	1,005	101,756	420	2,101	975	4,616	1,055	111,928	1,882	10,010	...	...	12,133	874	5,532	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	53,724	
7	Basudebpur	247	121,048	73	78,683	...	...	160	2,760	394	82,094	2,408	8,795	...	...	11,076	574	5,873	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	27,248	
8	Chandabali	67	26,244	18	17,132	352	3	57	568	247	18,886	541	4,793	...	...	5,353	111	778	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,505	
9	Soro	884	255,624	26	188,935	...	12	584	12,111	1,686	198,354	2,696	8,169	57	2,302	13,244	1,497	6,897	83	163	978	800	2,443	163	31,102	44,026	
	Total	3,607	10,95,778	5,392	7,07,412	843	5,755	7,066	41,734	7,773	7,75,975	18,758	55,036	1,007	6,978	31,279	6,270	41,074	1,471	2,333	11,372	2,584	8,450	914	1,03,516	238,024	

APPENDIX K.

Expenses of Sugarcane Cultivation

Purpose of Expenditure.	Expense.	REMARKS.
1	2	3
	Rs. a. p.	
1. For making a shed	5 0 0	
2. Manure and mustard-cakes purchased ...	3 0 0	
3. Wages of 2 coolies besides the cultivator for watching, watering and assisting in cutting the land into rows, etc., for 3 months.	33 12 0	
4. Price of implement for pressing the cane	5 0 0	
5. Wages of 2 <i>Ujias</i> (no other caste will do the work) for keeping up the fire, at 8 annas for 8 days.	4 0 0	
6. Wages of a <i>Guria</i> for cooking the gur at 6 annas for 8 days.	3 0 0	
7. Fuel	2 0 0	
8. Earthen pots (<i>handis</i> , <i>kalsis</i> , etc.) ...	5 0 0	
9. Rent of one acre of land	6 4 0	
TOTAL ...	67 0 0	The cost is calculated on one acre. If irrigated there is an additional expenditure of Rs. 5.

COST OF CULTIVATION OF BETEL LEAF.

		REMARKS.																							
January to February (Magha)		The figures given are for 1 gunt or 08 of land.																							
		This gunt is twice the size of the standard gunt.																							
		Total cost for first year is Rs. 85.																							
Materials—		Of this amount Rs. 47-13-0 is the cost of material and rent, and the remainder (Rs. 37-3-0) is the cost of labour. The subsequent yearly expenditure amounts to Rs. 50 of which Rs. 25 represents cost of manuring, rent and repairs, and Rs. 25, cost of labour. Assuming the cultivator to own an inkar plantation, the cost will be considerably reduced. The total expenditure during the life of a garden will accordingly be as follows:—																							
Purchase of bamboos ...	Rs. a. p. 5 5 6	Rs. a. p.																							
Do. of inkar reeds ...	6 12 0																								
Do. of <i>benia</i> (thatch) ...	2 8 0																								
Do. of <i>noi</i> (wine) ...	1 0 0																								
Do. of thatch ...	1 0 0																								
Do. of 2 1/2 maunds of manure ...	2 8 0	19 1 0																							
Labour—																									
For raising ground ...	3 0 0																								
Cost of labour for erecting <i>tatti</i> , thatch and supports ...	9 6 0																								
For making ridges ...	1 2 0	13 8 0																							
		32 9 0																							
February to March (Falgun).																									
Labour—																									
Cutting grafts ...	0 6 0																								
Transplanting grafts ...	1 2 0																								
Covering grafts with straw ...	0 2 0																								
Watering twice a day for the month ...	3 12 0	5 6 0																							
		37 15 0																							
March and April (Chaitra).																									
Labour—																									
Watering once a day ...	1 14 0																								
Removing straw and putting earth to roots ...	0 6 0	2 4 0																							
		40 3 0																							
April and May (Baisakh).																									
Materials—																									
40 bundles inkar ...	10 0 0																								
1 load <i>juna</i> (a kind of grass used for tying the plants to the inkar reeds) ...	1 0 0																								
Manure (applied twice) ...	0 12 0	11 12 0																							
		51 15 0																							
Labour—																									
Watering once every 4 days ...	0 12 0																								
Cooly labour for tying up the plants ...	3 2 0	3 14 0																							
		55 19 0																							
May to June (Jaistha)																									
Labour—																									
Coolies for bringing earth and water ...	0 14 0	0 14 0																							
		56 15 0																							
June to October (Assar to Kartick)																									
Material—																									
Manure (twice a month) 2 1/2 maunds ...	12 8 0	12 8 0																							
		69 3 0																							
		The figures given are for 1 gunt or 08 of land. This gunt is twice the size of the standard gunt. Total cost for first year is Rs. 85. Of this amount Rs. 47-13-0 is the cost of material and rent, and the remainder (Rs. 37-3-0) is the cost of labour. The subsequent yearly expenditure amounts to Rs. 50 of which Rs. 25 represents cost of manuring, rent and repairs, and Rs. 25, cost of labour. Assuming the cultivator to own an inkar plantation, the cost will be considerably reduced. The total expenditure during the life of a garden will accordingly be as follows:— <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Rs.</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Cost during first year</td> <td>85</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Do. subsequent 17 years,</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td> <i>vis</i>, 17 x 50</td> <td>850</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>935</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> To turn to the income, in the first place there are 25 rows of plants per gunt. The number of plants in each row 240, and there are, therefore, 6,000 plants per gunt. The plants is a creeper with a single stem from which leaves are thrown out in pairs and at regular intervals. It is, therefore, easy to gauge the number of leaves fit for plucking every month and this number may be taken as 4. The annual outturn of leaves per gunt is, therefore, 6,000 x 4 x 12 = 2,88,000. The wholesale price except in the rainy season, is 1,000 leaves per rupee. In the rains the price falls to 2,000. If the average monthly price be taken as 1,500 (our estimate is somewhat under the mark), the value of the yearly outturn of leaves will then amount to Rs. 2,88,000 Rs. 1,500 ... = Rs. 192. This estimate takes into consideration liability to ordinary damage. The outturn during the first year, i.e., for 2 1/2 months from November to January, will be 2 1/2 x 6,000 x 4 = 60,000 value Rs. 40. The income for the 18 years is therefore:— <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Rs.</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1st year</td> <td>40</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2nd to 18th year, 17 x Rs. 192</td> <td>3,264</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>3,304</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Deduct total expenditure</td> <td>935</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>2,369</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> which represents an annual income of Rs. 181-11-0 for the 18 years. Moreover this income represents the cost of management (or wages of the entrepreneur) only, since expenditure includes the wages of cooly labour. If, as usually happens, the labour is done by the cultivator himself with small occasional assistance from outside his profit will be larger.			Rs.	Cost during first year	85	Do. subsequent 17 years,		<i>vis</i> , 17 x 50	850		935		Rs.	1st year	40	2nd to 18th year, 17 x Rs. 192	3,264		3,304	Deduct total expenditure	935		2,369
	Rs.																								
Cost during first year	85																								
Do. subsequent 17 years,																									
<i>vis</i> , 17 x 50	850																								
	935																								
	Rs.																								
1st year	40																								
2nd to 18th year, 17 x Rs. 192	3,264																								
	3,304																								
Deduct total expenditure	935																								
	2,369																								

	Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.
Labour—						
Coolies for applying earth and manure twice a month	3	8	0			
Coolies for repairing ridges... ..	1	8	0			
Do. for tending plants	3	12	0			
				8	12	0
				77	15	0
<i>October to January (Kartick to Pous).</i>						
Coolies' labour	2	9	0			
				2	9	0
				80	8	0
Rent	1	8	0			
				1	8	0
				82	0	0
Material—						
Baskets and pots for 1 year	3	0	0			
				3	0	0
				85	0	0

Even if we assume that he simply undertakes the duty of management, his profits must be looked upon as extremely high. I have, however, considered this matter with a view of showing that the rent is quite disproportionate to the profit, and that the Baraji stands in a most favourable position compared with that of the ordinary cultivator of "Sarad" lands.

APPENDIX M.

Regulations under which the early British settlements were made and particulars of revenues.

Regulation under which settlement was made.	Period.	For what years current.	REMARKS.
Regulation XII of 1805 ...	One year ...	{ A. D. 1804-05 ... Amli 1212.	See Report para. 48. The station act is extracted from Mr. Toynbee's History.
Do. ...	Three years ...	{ A. D. 1805-06 to 1807-08 Amli 1213 to 1215.	
Regulation VI of 1808 ...	One year ...	{ A. D. 1808-09. Amli 1216.	
Do. ...	Three years ...	{ A. D. 1809-10 to 1811-12 Amli 1217 to 1219.	
Regulations XIII of 1811 and I of 1813.	One year ...	{ A. D. 1812-13. Amli 1220.	
Do. ...	Two years ...	{ A. D. 1813-14 to 1814-15 Amli 1221 to 1222.	
Regulation III of 1815 ...	One year ...	{ A. D. 1815-16. Amli 1223.	
Regulation VI of 1816 ...	Three years ...	{ A. D. 1816-17 to 1818-19 Amli 1224 to 1226.	
Regulation XIII of 1818 ...	Do. ...	{ A. D. 1819-20 to 1821-22 Amli 1227 to 1229.	
Regulation VII of 1822 ...	Five years ...	{ A. D. 1822-23 to 1827-28 Amli 1230 to 1234.	

Period.	No. of estates.	Revenue.	REMARKS.
		Rs.	
Mahratta ...	312	1,50,235	See Report para. 48. The figures are not complete except in the case of the last Settlement Revenue. Figures for the 312 estates noted under the Mahratta will be found in the para. referred to.
1804-05 ...	473	2,32,605	
1805-06 to 1807-08-09 ...	577	2,75,307	
1809 to 1812	585	2,97,006	
1812-13 to 1814-15 ...	587	2,96,316	
Last settlement ...	603	3,71,000	

APPENDIX N.
Nationality: Residence, Caste und Profession of Zamindars.
(a)—Nationality of Recorded Proprietors.

RECORDED PROPRIETORS ACCORDING TO NATIONALITY.														RESIDENCE.												REMARKS.	
BENGALIS.				URIAS.				MUSALMANS.				TELUCS.				RESIDENT.				NON-RESIDENT.							
No. of recorded shareholders at last settlement.	No. of recorded shareholders at present settlement.	Percentage of increase.	At last settlement.	Percentage.	At present settlement.	Percentage.	At last settlement.	Percentage.	At present settlement.	Percentage.	At last settlement.	Percentage.	At present settlement.	Percentage.	At last settlement.	Percentage.	At present settlement.	Percentage.	At last settlement.	Percentage.	At present settlement.	Percentage.					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
1509	7491	398%	174	21%	885	12%	1181	78%	6090	81%	153	10%	505	7%	1	...	1	...	1499	95%	7210	96%	70	5%	271	4%	

(b)—Recorded Proprietors according to Caste.

	REMARKS.																											
	Brahmins.	Karans.	Khandais.	Tells.	Kayasthas.	Sanyasis and Baisnabs.	Gokas.	Khetriyas.	Tamilies.	S.	Tantis.	Lala Kayasthas	Kentas.	Musalmans.	Barbers.	Goalas.	Rathis.	Washermen.	Blacksmiths.	Mahattas.	Dagras.	Patras.	Agris.	Sundis.	Kamilas.	Carpenters.		
At last settlement ...	368	363	304	14	84	40	11	39	52	16	2	19	...	158	...	18	4	...	12	...	...	1	2	1	1	...	...	
Percentage ...	24%	24%	20%	1%	6%	3%	1%	3%	3%	1%	...	10%	...	10%	...	1%	...	...	1%	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
At present settlement...	1991	1333	2095	417	269	91	35	68	370	52	34	37	...	505	10	95	6	2	18	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Percentage ...	27%	18%	28%	6%	4%	1%	...	1%	5%	1%	...	...	...	7%	...	1%	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	

(c)—Recorded Proprietors according to profession.

	Mahajans and Zamindars.	Pleaders and Mukhtars.	Old Revenue Officials.	Government Officials.	Village Jagirdars.	Zamindars. Servants.	Cultivators.	Merchants.	Other professioners.	Zamindars of no profession.	REMARKS.
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	12
At last settlement ...	131	...	1	70	27	25	94	155	...	...	...
Percentage ...	9%	...	...	5%	27%	2%	6%	10%	...	...	...
At present settlement ...	1148	...	61	123	78	66	447	1789	...	...	...
Percentage ...	15%	...	1%	2%	1%	1%	6%	24%	...	...	...

APPENDIX O.

TRANSFERS, SALES AND PRICES OF ESTATES.

(a) Transfers of Estates.

Total No. of Estates found at this settlement.	No. of estates which have wholly passed by inheritance.	No. of estates which have partly passed by inheritance and partly by sale.	No. of Estates wholly sold.			REMARKS.
			By private sale	By revenue sale for arrears.	By sale under Civil Court decree	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1414	584	284	432	76	38	Col 3 includes portions of estates sold (1) for arrears and (2) under Civil Court Decree. Under (1) there have been only two sales since 1894. The Revenue of the shares was Rs. 691 and the purchase money Rs. 21,700. No. of years purchase was therefore 31. Under (2) there have been 167 sales since 1889. In 106 cases the purchasers were Zamindars. The Revenue payable on the shares was Rs. 7,686 and the purchase money Rs. 1,05,864. The number of years purchase was therefore 14. Col. 4. For particulars for 1889-1899 see below. Col. 5. For particulars see below. Col. 6. Since 1893 five Estates have been so sold. The Revenue was Rs. 117 and the purchase money Rs. 4,213. The number of years purchase was therefore 36.

(b)—PARTICULARS OF PRIVATE SALES.

During the years.	WHOLE ESTATES SOLD.						PORTIONS OF ESTATE SOLD.							
	No. of transactions.	PURCHASERS.			Sadar Jama.	Purchase Money.	No. of years purchase of Government Revenue.	No.	PURCHASERS.					Purchase Money.
		Mahajans and traders.	Zamin-dars.	Baziafti-dars.					Mahajans.	Zamin-dars.	Baziafti-dars.	Raiyats.	Others.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
1889 = 1899	13	3	5	6	1,535	43,947	29	2018	127	1814	496	164	63	10,04,396

(c)—PRICES OF CERTAIN ESTATES PRIVATELY SOLD DURING DECENNIAL PERIODS.

—	1840—1850	1851—1860.	1861—1870.	1871—1880.	1881—1890	From 1891 to 1896.	Subsequent to execution of kabulyats	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
No. of transactions ...	10	4	10	15	32	25	3	In 1897 the estate of Killa Patna paying a revenue of Rs. 476 was sold by decree of the Civil Court. The auction purchaser Babu Radhaoharan Das who was also the creditor, paid Rs. 90,000 for this estate, or 189 times the Government Revenue. The high price is attributable to the expectation that the Revenue of the estate which was fixed excessively low previous to last settlement would not be considerably enhanced.
Government revenue of the estate sold ...	3,474	39	272	453	3,336	1,722	1,033	
Purchase price ...	26,695	720	5,579	14,377	82,196	27,331	22,365	
No. of years Purchase of Government revenue	7	18	20	31	24	16	22	

(d)—REVENUE SALES FOR ARREARS.

—	Estates, shares or interests in which became liable to sale.		Estates or portion of estates, actually sold.				Average Purchase price in number of years of Government Revenue.	REMARKS.
	Number.	Government Revenue.	Number.	Government Revenue.	Due for which sold.	Purchase money.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1876-77 to 1893-96 ...	558	1,96,918	22	2,968	499	74,019	25	For figures previous to 1868 see report. figures from 1868 to 1876 are not available.
1896-97 to 1898-99 ...	340	82,920	17	3,159	928	41,220	13	
1896-97 to 1898-99 ...	340	1,88,353	8	217	42	5,360	25	
Total ...	1,238	4,68,191	47	6,344	1,469	1,20,599	19	

APPENDIX P.

Statement showing remissions of revenue from 1832 to 1897.

No.	Year.	No. of years for which remissions were made.	AMOUNT OF GOVERNMENT REVENUE REMITTED.			Remarks,
			On account of Innundation.	On account of drought.	Total	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
			Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
1	1832-33	1	92,821	1,07,352	2,00,173	(1) Figures are not available for the years 1868-69 to 1872-73.
2	1833-34	1	98,539	...	93,539	
3	1834-35	1	75,810	...	75,810	(2) The sums given between the years 1875 and 1880 include all the remissions granted since 1873.
4	1836-37	1	...	1,53,804	1,53,804	
5	1837-38	1	...	10,184	10,184	
6	1839-40	1	62,758	1,25,515	1,88,273	
7	1840-41	1	39,549	79,098	1,18,647	
8	1845-46	1	11,587	...	11,587	
9	1848-49	1	28,041	...	28,041	
10	1850-51	1	17,695	...	17,695	
11	1851-52	1	15,182	30,364	45,546	
12	1853-54	1	15,689	31,378	47,067	
13	1854-55	1	6,919	...	6,919	
14	1857-58	1	15,533	...	15,533	
15	1862-63	1	11,502	...	11,502	
16	1865-66	1	...	80,965	80,965	
17	1866-67	1	1,34,219	...	1,34,219	
	Total ...	17	6,25,844	6,18,660	12,44,504	
18	1875-76	...	...	...	8,607	
19	1876-77	...	...	...	14	
20	1877-78	...	...	...	73	
21	1879-80	...	...	...	126	
Grand total of remissions from 1832 to 1897					12,53,324	

APPENDIX Q.

LAKHRAJ BAHAL LANDS.

(a) Classes of Lakhraj Bahal.

CLASS.	AREA IN ACRE.		Difference (in acre) + or —	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10.	11
	At Last Settlement.	At present. Settlement.												
Debattar ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Brahmattar ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Khairat ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pirottar ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Mahatran ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Others ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

(b)—Excess Lakhraj bahal lands resumed at this settlement.

1	2	3	4
Area in acre.	No. of holdings.	Estimated Rental assessed.	REMARKS.
1,220	3,260	Rs. 2,000	

(c)—Raiyats of Bahaldars.

Total No. of raiyati holdings.	Raiyati area in acre.			Area-paying money rent.	Amount of money rent.	Incidence of rent per acre.	Area-paying Dhulibhag rent.	Area pay- ing Sanja rent.	Valuation of Sanja rent.	Incidence of valuation of Sanja rent per acre.	Niskar or rent-free area held by raiayats.	REMARKS.
	Cultivated.	Uncultivated	Total									
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
64,413	59,018	871	59,889	Acre. 51,405	Rs. 96,440	Rs. a. p. 1-14-0	Acre. 5,251	Acre 226	Rs. 1,110 *	Rs. a. p. 4-14-7	Acre. 3,007	

* Sanja valuation.

Paddy — 948 maunds.	— Value Rs. 1,068 0 0
Rice — 3	Rs. 2 0 0
Choo — 3	Rs. 45 0 0
Muga — 43	Rs. 5 0 0
Brill — 24	Rs. 2 8 0
Total	Rs. 1,110-0-0

APPENDIX R.

Assessed, cultivated and culturable areas.

GROUP.	AT LAST SETTLEMENT.							AT PRESENT SETTLEMENT.							REMARKS.							
	2	3	4	Cultivated area.		6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	Proportion of assessed area to total.		15	16	17	18	19	20	
				Unassessed area.	Total area.									Unassessed area.								Cultivated area.	Unassessed area.	Proportion of assessed area to total.	Proportion of cultivated area to total.
I. Northern Parganas	152,800	62,500	90,300				41%		157,000	100,000	57,300				64%		60%		31,000	54%	The area noted as cultivated includes the sites of houses (area 6,300 acres at this settlement) and the uncultivated portions of bars. See Report para. 98 and notes.	
II. Upper Central Parganas.	167,200	80,100	87,100				48%		166,300	109,100	57,200				66%		36%		31,200	55%		
III. Lower Central Parganas.	141,700	87,200	54,500	521,300	421,500		62%	55%	141,500	112,400	29,100	697,300	262,100		79%	73%	29%	34%	6,400	22%		
IV. South-Eastern Parganas.	275,500	153,000	123,500				55%		282,700	210,300	72,400				74%		38%		24,400	34%		
V. South-Western Parganas.	205,600	111,800	93,800				54%		211,900	160,800	51,100				76%		44%		17,000	33%		
Total	942,800	493,600	449,200	521,300	421,500		52%	55%	959,400	692,600	236,800	697,300	262,100		72%	73%	40%	34%	110,000	41%		

APPENDIX S.

Groups and names of Parganas.

Group No. I. Northern Parganas.	Group No. II. Upper Central Parganas.	Group No. III. Lower Central Parganas (Banchas-oger).	Group No. IV. South-Eastern Parganas.	Group No. V. South-Western Parganas.	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5	6
1 Kismut Nampo- chour. 2 Kamardachour. 3 Bhograi. 4 Sahabandar. 5 Kismut Katisahi. 6 Kitisahi. 7 Kourdashour. 8 Nangleswar. 9 Mulidachour. 10 Dararachur. 11 Siari. 12 Satmalang.	1 Basta. 2 Habeli Basta. 3 Garpada. 4 Talsabang. 5 Sarthachour. 6 Chhanua. 7 Rautra. 8 Dasmalang. 9 Dehaimuban 10 Suahat. 11 Kundi. 12 Phulwar. 13 Mulgan. 14 Mukhera. 15 Arnela. 16 Remusa. 17 Neekhand. 18 Khejuri.	1 *Banchas-oger. 2 Killa Mangalpur. 3 " Talmunda. 4 " Patna.	1 Ankura. Ankura. 2 Kismut Ankura. 3 Bhera. 4 Senauta. 5 Bayang. 6 Kaena. 7 Kismut Kaena. 8 Dhannagar. 9 Kodinda. 10 Jalang.	1 Balikhband. 2 Adarupeya. 3 Tupa Malanch. 4 Ambahatta. 5 Randiaorgara. 6 Soso. 7 Tupa Purusandho 8 Manjuri. 9 Matkatabad. 10 Saheb Nagar. 11 Jajpur. 12 Killa Anibo.	* Banchas-oger.—This is a group consisting of the following Parganas :— 1 Banchas. 2 Kurai. 3 Jaypur. 4 Bisalkhand. 5 Banahar. 6 Arso. 7 Lakhrjitt. 8 Sarhar. 9 Ganeswar. 10 Sejabad. 11 Kaeda. 12 Panchumalang.