

## CHAPTER V.

ADMINISTRATION AND  
FINANCE.

## SECTION A.—GENERAL.

Chapter V, A.  
General Admin-  
istration.  
Executive and  
judicial.

The Gurgáon District is under the control of the Commissioner of Delhi. The ordinary head-quarters staff of the district consists of a Deputy Commissioner and two Extra Assistant Commissioners. Each *tahsíl* is in charge of a *tahsildár* assisted by a *Naib*. The village revenue staff is shown in the margin. There is one *munsiff* in the district, having jurisdiction throughout the five *tahsils*, and he sits for two months at Rewári and Núh alternately. The statistics of civil and revenue litigation for the last five years are given in Table No. XXXIX.

<i>Tahsíl.</i>	<i>Kanungos and Naibs.</i>	<i>Girda-wars.</i>	<i>Patwaris.</i>
Gurgáon	2	3	50
Rewári	3	3	56
Palwal	2	3	*66
Núh	2	3	70
Firozpur	2	3	60
Total	10	15	*302

\* And 8 Assistant.

The executive staff of the district is supplemented by a Bench of Honorary Magistrates, who sit at Rewári, and by Sarájuddin Haidar, *Jágirdár* of Farrukhnagar, who has magisterial powers within the limits of his *jágir*, and by Hardial Sing, of Sohna.

Criminal, police,  
and gaols.

The police force is controlled by a District Superintendent and one Assistant. The strength of the force as given in Table No. I of the Police Report for 1881-82 is shown in the margin. In addition to this force, 1,422 village watchmen are entertained, and paid by a house cess, which varies in different villages. The *thánas* or principal police jurisdictions, and the *chaukis*

Class of Police.	Total strength.	DISTRIBUTION.	
		Standing guards.	Protection and Detection.
District (Impl.)	368	50	818
Municipal	131	..	131
Total	499	50	449

or police outposts, are distributed as follows:—*Tahsíl Gurgáon.*—*Thánas*—Gurgáon, Sohna, and Farrukhnagar. *Tahsíl Rewári.*—*Thánas*—Rewári, Játusána, Sháhjahánpur, Chauk Khol. Road-posts,—Dhárúhera, Kundal, Khóri, Nimaut. *Tahsíl Palwal.*—*Thánas*—Palwal, Hodal, Hasanpur. Road-posts—Pirthala, Kathela, Baghaula, Bamnikhera. *Tahsíl Núh.*—*Thánas*—Núh, Hátin, Táorú. *Tahsíl Firozpur.*—*Thánas*—Firozpur, Punáháná. Road-posts—Jhir and Bhádas.

There is a cattle pound at each *thána* and also at Khol, Bádsháhpur, Chhajjunagar, Bata, Bhidúki, Mandkaula.

The district lies within the Delhi Police Circle, under the control of the Deputy Inspector-General of Police at Ambala.

The district gaol at head-quarters contains accommodation for 81 prisoners, but is little more than a lock-up for the detention of short-term prisoners, while all others are transferred to the Delhi Gaol. Table No. XL gives statistics of criminal trials, Table No. XLI of police inquiries, and Table No. XLII of convicts in gaol for the last five years.

The Minas are proclaimed under the Criminal Tribes' Act, and 401 adult males stood on the register in 1882. Some account of the Minas with theories as to their origin will be found in Chapter III, pages 52-53. They once held possession of Amber or Jaipur, and are still numerous and hold offices of trust in that state. Sháhjahánpur forms the head-quarters of the tribe in this neighbourhood, and is the place from which in former days marauding expeditions set forth into the most distant parts of Rájputána and Central India, and where the produce of such forays was stored or disposed of. They were brought under the restrictions of the Criminal Tribes' Act in 1876, and the repressive measures since adopted have broken their power, crushed their spirit, and reclaimed many of them to habits of honest industry. A special police force was posted at Sháhjahánpur, and every adult male and female was required to attend a roll-call three times in the 24 hours, and forbidden to leave the settlement without a pass under pain of a prosecution under the Act; but within the last year the police guard has been removed, all women and children under 12 excused from roll-call, and the names of all adult males, who could show that they had taken up agriculture or any honest calling, removed from the register. Of the small communities scattered over the *Bewári tahsil* at Guráora, Garhi Bolni, Jatusána, and other villages, all the members have taken to husbandry, and have, without exception, been released from surveillance, and of the residents of Sháhjahánpur some have been enrolled in the police, or appointed village *chaukidars*, and many have taken land to cultivate. A *darri*-weaving factory has also been started and carried on with some success. The future of this people appears hopeful; and, if Government could only see its way to locating them on waste lands the whole tribe might be speedily reclaimed.

The gross revenue collections of the district for the last 14 years, so far as they are made by the Financial Commissioner, are shown in Table No. XXVIII, while Tables Nos. XXIX, XXXV, XXXIV, and XXXIII give further details for land revenue, excise, license tax and stamps respectively. Table No. XXXIIIA shows the number and situation of registration offices. The central distilleries for the manufacture of country liquor are situated at Gurgaon, Rewári, Palwal, and Firozpur. The cultivation of the poppy is forbidden in this district. The administration of customs and salt revenue is described in the next paragraph. Table No. XXXVI gives the income and expenditure from District Funds, which are controlled by a committee consisting of 36 members, selected by the Deputy Commissioner from among the leading men of the various *taisils*, and of the Civil Surgeon as *ex-officio* member, and the Deputy Commissioner as President. Table No. XLV gives statistics of municipal taxation, while the municipalities

## Chapter V, A.

## General Administration.

Criminal, police, and goals.

Criminal tribes.

Revenue, taxation, and registration.

Chapter V, A.  
General Administration.

Revenue, taxation,  
and registration.

themselves are noticed in Chapter VI. The income from provincial properties for the last five years is as follows:—

SOURCE OF INCOME.	1877-78.	1878-79.	1879-80.	1880-81.	1881-82.
Ferries without boat bridges ...	3,681	6,061	3,734	4,122	3,410
Staging bungalows, &c. ...	258	400	377	254	264
Encamping-grounds ...	152	161	115	173	215
Cattle pounds ...	2,784	1,959	1,976	1,954	1,862
<i>Nazul</i> properties ...	145	251	679	390	322
Total ...	7,020	8,832	6,881	6,893	6,073

The ferries, bungalows, and encamping-grounds have already been noticed at pages 95—97, and the cattle pounds at page 98. The principal *Nazul* properties consist of—

*Properties yielding income.*

Land lately occupied by Customs Department along the old line.  
Gardens at Firozpur (5).  
Gardens at Bádsháhpur.  
Land attached to fort at Bádsháhpur.  
Rooms under the city walls of Farrukhnagar (82).  
Lands in civil station.  
Well in the compound of Palwal Rest-House.

*Properties yielding no income.*

*Tahsil* building at Rewáí.  
*Thána* building at Rewáí.  
House for *Thána* clerk at Rewáí.  
*Garhi* at Sohná.  
Fort at Bádsháhpur.  
*Pakka Baori* at Bádsháhpur.  
*Garhi* at Sháhjahánpur.  
*Chaukidár's* house at Khandeola.  
Houses of Tula Rám, rebel, at Rámpura, Rewáí (3).  
*Garhi* at Táorú.  
Encamping-ground at Núh.  
Plots of building land at Núh (3).  
*Garhi* at Hátin.  
*Tahsil* and *Thána* building at Firozpur.  
*Garhi* at Púnáhná.  
Dispensary at Farrukhnagar.  
*Shishmahál*, or late Nawáb of Farrukhnagar's dwelling, at Farrukhnagar.  
Plots of land at Farrukhnagar (2).  
Bungalow known as the Billiard-Room at Gurgáon.  
Land lately occupied by the Customs Department, 202·90 acres.  
Police Rest Houses at Táorú, Núh, Firozpur, Hodal, Sháhjahánpur, Bhúndís, and Sailáni (7 in number).

Figures for other Government estates are given in Table No. XVII, and they and their proceeds are noticed in the succeeding Section of this Chapter, in which the revenue administration of the district is treated of.

Table No. XXIX gives figures for the principal items and the totals of land revenue collections since 1868-69. The remaining items for 1880-81 and 1881-82 were—surplus *talabāna*, Rs. 1,190 and Rs. 1,102; revenue fines, Rs. 140 and Rs. 90; and miscellaneous items, Rs. 156 and Rs. 94. Table No. XXXI, gives details of balances remissions, and agricultural advances for the last fourteen years; Table No. XXX shows the amount of assigned land revenue; while Table No. XIV gives the areas upon which the present land revenue of the district is assessed. Full details as to the basis, incidence, and working of past and current settlements will be found below in the following Section of this Chapter.

The salt sources of the district and the method of production have already been described in Chapter I, (pages 10—13). The salt pays a duty of Rs. 2 per maund. The Government are entitled also to a share in the produce, which is taken in the shape of a cess on the amount sold varying from six pies to one anna nine pies per maund, the history and assesment of which are fully described in Section B of this Chapter. The collection of this cess, called the *Hākimi* cess, although it is an item of land revenue, is entrusted to the Salt Revenue Department, who are in a better position than the land revenue officers to ensure its realization. The Government allows a refund of 50 per cent. in some cases, and of 5 per cent. in others, of the collections of this cess to the landholders in consideration of their proprietary rights in the lands occupied by the salt pans. The subjoined table shows the manufacture and exports; the receipts on account of duty and *Hākimi* cess; and the expenditure in cost of the establishment posted at the works, and contingencies, for each of the past five years.

*Works and Contingencies for each of the past five years.*

Years.	SALT.		RECEIPTS.		EXPENDITURE.	
	Manufac- ture.	Export.	Duty.	<i>Hākimi</i> cess.	Establish- ment.	Conting- encies.
1878-79 *...	7,63,610	8,33,240	21,60,715	71,401	12,882	10,976
1879-80 †...	7,61,081	5,65,400	14,13,500	49,912	33,711	31,164
1880-81 ...	5,68,205	5,81,097	14,57,056	49,827	39,732	7,051
1881-82 ...	6,33,401	6,63,024	14,48,925	56,316	36,450	5,103
1882-83 ‡...	6,46,115	6,38,774	12,77,548	55,482	37,233	7,495

The preventive arrangements are controlled by the Commissioner, Northern India Salt Revenue, under the Indian Salt Act, 1882. Manufacture is permitted by license, which provides conditions for the production of saleable salt, its storage, &c. The works are divided into four circles for purposes of supervision, as follows, *viz.*

\* The duty was reduced from Rs. 2-12 to Rs 2-8 per maund from 1st August 1878.

† The abolition of the Inland Customs Line led to an increase of establishment for the better protection of the salt works and also increased the contingent expenditure by the outlay for necessary buildings.

‡ The duty was reduced from Rs. 2-8 to Rs. 2 per maund from 10th March 1882.

Chapter V, A.

General Admin-  
istration.

Statistics of land  
revenue.

Customs (salt).

## Chapter V, A.

## General Administration.

## Customs (salt).

*Sultānpur Circle.*—Sultānpur, Saidpur, Mahmūdpur.*Sadhrāna Circle.*—Sadhrāna, Kaliawās, Ikbalpur.*Mubārikpur Circle.*—Mubārikpur, Bāsīrpur.*Zāhidpur Circle.*—Zāhidpur, Silāna.

The establishment comprises two Inspectors stationed at Sultānpur and Mubārikpur, and two Assistant Inspectors stationed at Sadhrāna and Zāhidpur, with a staff of 286 subordinate officers and men. Each set of works with its brine, wells, pans, and stores of salt in enclosed by either a thorny hedge or a ditch and a mound with a few openings for ingress and egress. These openings are provided with gates, at which guards are posted day and night. And the gates are locked during the night. Outside the enclosure are guard posts about half-a-mile apart, forming a cordon round the works, and there are four peons stationed at each guard post who patrol up and down their beats. A native officer of the rank of *Jamadār* has charge of two guard posts to superintend relief of watches and see that the peons are vigilant. Guards are posted inside the enclosure to watch the manufacture and removal of salt from the pans to the places of storage. In the dry weather the salt is stacked on the works in circular bell-tent like heaps, which are stamped with a Government seal as a means of detection of theft. When the rains set in, the salt is thrown into pits, which are closed with mud and the surface levelled and smoothed so as to allow of easy discovery of theft. Every heap or pit has a board to show the number of the license, name of the licensee, and the estimated quantity of the salt. No salt can pass out of the enclosure except under a pass certifying to the payment of the Government dues. When a sale has been effected and the duty and *Hakimi* cess have been paid, the Inspector issues a pass and endorses it with an order for the specified quantity of salt to be taken from the heap or pit that has been sold. After the salt has been removed from the heap or pit, dried, weighed, filled into bags, and loaded on carts under the superintendence of the guards, it is conveyed to the weighment yard at the head-quarters of the circle, where it is finally weighed and cleared by the officer in charge.

## Education.

Table No. XXXVII gives figures for the Government and aided high, middle, and primary schools of the district. There is an Anglo-vernacular high school at Rewāri, and middle schools for boys at Gurgāon, Sohānā, Nūh, Palwal, Fīrozpur, Pūnāhānā and Hasanpur. A list of the primary schools is given below :—

## BOY'S SCHOOLS.

*Gurgāon Tahsil*

Gurgāon.  
Sohānā.  
Farrukhnagar.  
Jharsa.  
Garhi Harsaru.

Bahora.  
Pachgānwān.  
Kāsan.  
Sihi.  
Bādshāhpur.

Harsaru.  
Wazīrpur.  
Bajghera.  
Muhammadheri.

*Rewāri Tahsil*

Dhāruhera.  
Bikaner.  
Khorī.  
Masāni.  
Turkiawās.

Gurāora.  
Shāhjahānpur.  
Gokalgarh.  
ahina.  
Garhi.

Husanpur.  
Jātusāna.  
Bhārāwās.  
Balwāri.

## Chapter V, A.

## General Administration.

## Education.

*Palwal Tahsil.*

Palwal (2).  
Hasanpur.  
Hodal.  
Pirhala.  
Bhiduki.

Khanhi.  
Rasulpur.  
Tikri.  
Likhi.  
Alawalpur.

Banchari.  
Pingor.  
Aurangabad.  
Jatauli.

*Nuh Tahsil.*

Nuh.  
Tarou.  
Hathin.  
Malab.

Ujina.  
Bahin.  
Indri.  
Akaira.

Jaisinghpur.  
Jaurasi.  
Ghasera.  
Chandaini.

*Ferozpur Tahsil.*

Ferozpur.  
Punahana.  
Nagina.

Pinangwan.  
Mandikhera.  
Marora.

Shahchokha.  
Bichour.  
Singer.

## GIRL'S SCHOOLS.

1. Sohna.

2. Farrakhnagar.

3. Hasanpur.

Besides the district schools there is at Gurgaon an institution for training village accountants, under the superintendence of the Deputy Commissioner and having at present 25 pupils. The district lies within the Ambala Circle, which forms the charge of the Inspector of Schools at Delhi. Table No. XIII gives statistics of education collected at the census of 1881, and the general state of education has already been described at pages 46-47. In addition to the Government and aided schools, mentioned above, there is at Rewari a small school for Europeans taught by an Agent of the S. P. G. The indigenous schools which are few in number and inferior in quality, call for no special notice.

The Rewari District School was opened as a middle school in 1857, and raised to a high school in 1880. It is situated outside the Jaipur Gate, near the Rao Tej Singh tank and has a boarding house attached to it. The staff consists of four English, three

District High  
School.

Year.	Expenditure in Rupees.	No. of Pupils.
1878-79	3,728	135
1879-80	3,061	76*
1880-81	3,848	89*
1881-82	5,265	76*
1882-83	5,226	92*

\* Excluding primary department.

oriental, a mathematical, and a Sanskrit teacher. The annual expenditure and number of pupils for the last five years are as shown in the margin.

Within the same five years it has passed 44 boys for the middle school examinations, and three for the *munshi* examination, and five for the entrance examination of the University.

Table No. XXXVIII gives separate figures for the last five years for each of the dispensaries of the district, which are under the general control of the Civil Surgeon, and in the immediate charge of an Assistant Surgeon at Rewari, and of Native Doctors at the remaining stations. The Sadar dispensary was founded before the Mutiny, and is situated to the east of the civil station, close to the Police Lines. It has accommodation for 28 male and 18 female in-patients, and two lunatics. The staff consists of a hospital assistant, a compounder, a dresser, and the usual menials.

Medical.

Gurgaon dispensary.

Chapter V, B.  
Land and Land  
Revenue.

Ecclesiastical.

There is a small Church at Gurgáon, capable of seating some 24 persons. No Chaplain is posted there; but the Chaplain of Delhi, and one of the Cambridge Missionaries at Delhi, take it in turn to hold a monthly service at the station, while the Roman Catholic Priest from Delhi occasionally visits his flock at Gurgáon. A Missionary of the S. P. G. at Delhi visits Rewári, holds services for the European and Eurasian railway population, and also superintends the work of a native clergyman, who is in charge of a small company of Native Christians. A small chapel for Hindustáni services is in course of erection by the Cambridge Mission in the *bázár* of Gurgáon.

Head-quarters of  
other Departments.

The portion of the Rájputána-Málwa State Railway, which runs through the district, is in the charge of the District Traffic Superintendent at Bandikui, with an assistant at Rewári for the Hisár line. The Agrá canal is under the charge of the Executive Engineer, Delhi Division, stationed at Delhi. The Superintending Engineer of the canal has his head-quarters at Agrá. The Grand Trunk Road from Delhi to Mathrá is under the Executive Engineer, General Branch, at Delhi, who also has charge of the public buildings of the district, and is subordinate to the Superintending Engineer, General Branch, at Jallandhar. The telegraph lines and offices of the district are controlled by the State Railway Telegraph Superintendent at Ajmer, and the Post Offices by the Superintendent of Post Offices at Delhi. The Customs (Salt) staff is under the control of the Assistant Commissioner of Customs at Agrá. Horse-breeding operations are Superintended by the Assistant Superintendent, Horse-breeding Operations, Bábugarh, near Meerut.

## SECTION B.—LAND AND LAND REVENUE.

Fiscal History

The extracts from Mr. Channing's assessment reports given in the following pages explain the constitution of each *tahsil*, describe the early settlements and their nature and their working, and note the state of each as it stood when he came to revise the assessment, and the development of resources which had taken place since the last settlement.

Early Settlements.

As each *parganah* came under British rule it was either summarily settled for a few years, or held, as it is called, *khám*, the Collector managing the whole like one estate and making from it what collection he could, no regular engagement being entered into with the proprietors. As Mr. Fraser remarks in his Report, the district has been formed so gradually that "it is not easy to describe in any brief Statement its fiscal condition from the time when part of it first came into our possession, to the date of its present form." Part of the district has been held since 1803. A large part did not come under British management till 1837, and great additions and changes have since been made. Regular settlements began to be set on foot in 1836-37, and by the close of 1842 every *parganah* had been brought under a regular settlement. But even here great confusion is caused by the fact that the settlement of each *parganah* was concluded separately

and no one date can be assigned for the completion of the settlement of the district. The following list gives the date of the final report on the settlement of each *parganah* :—

Jhārsa	...	...	...	18th	April	1836
Sohnā	...	...	...	13th	February	1842
Bahora	...	...	...	4th	August	1838
Rewāri	...	...	...	29th	July	1838
Shāhjānpur	...	...	...	25th	July	1838
Nūh	...	...	...	27th	July	1841
Hātīn	...	...	...	11th	June	1841
Tāori	...	...	...	30th	November	1837
		Revised	...	21st	December	1841
Palwal	...	...	...	13th	November	1842
Hodal	...	...	...	3rd	January	1842
Pūnāhānā	...	...	...	5th	September	1838
Firozpur	revised	...	...	17th	May	1841

Chapter V, B  
Land and Lan  
Revenue.

Early Settlement

The Settlement Officers employed upon the work were Mr. M. R. Gubbins, Mr. J. Lawrence (Lord Lawrence), and Mr. G. C. Barnes. The whole of the settlements were sanctioned by the Government of the N. W. Provinces, and by Act VIII of 1846 the 1st of July 1872 was fixed as the date when all the settlements should expire. The subjoined table, taken from Mr. Fraser's "Statistical Report" gives for each *parganah* the revenue demand for the year preceding its settlement, and the amount of the assessment fixed :—

NAMES OF <i>Parganahs</i> .	No. of Villages.	Former Revenue.	Present Revenue.
Jhārsa	103	82,924	81,839
Pāli	27	30,684	25,326
Sohnā	169	1,33,261	1,08,698
Tāori	55	21,904	16,458
Rewāri	286	2,51,472	2,50,465
Bahora	33	24,892	27,676
Shāhjānpur	9	8,931	9,287
Palwal	167	1,92,082	1,72,737
Nūh	71	91,698	72,442
Hātīn	119	1,23,051	92,285
Hodal	28	70,857	56,265
Pūnāhānā	101	69,166	68,533
Firozpur	106	55,862	1,26,375
Total	1,274	11,56,786	10,90,388

The *tahsil* of Palwal, as at present constituted, is formed out of the former *parganahs* of Hodal, 28 villages ; of Palwal reduced to 146 villages, by the transfer of 21 villages to Nūh and Delhī ; of 16 villages from *parganah* Sohnā ; of four villages now under first regular settlement, confiscated in 1857 from the rebel Rāja of Ballabgarh, and of two villages transferred from Bulandshahr in 1872.

Present *tahsil* Palwal  
how constituted.

The *parganah* of Hodal on the conquest of Delhī was given in *jāgīr* to Muḥammad Khān Afrīdī, for military service under General Lord Lake, and lapsed to our Government on his decease in 1220 *Fasli*, corresponding with 1813 A. D. The *parganah* on lapsing was chiefly waste. With the exception of the large Jāt estates, the whole country was uncultivated. For the *Fasli* year 1220, the *kham* collections for the *parganah* amounted to Rs. 61,403, and in succeeding years to Rs. 51,584. The first settlement was concluded by Mr. Wilder, principal assistant for five years from 1224 to 1228 *Fasli*, and reached in the aggregate to Rs. 61,545. The second settlement,

Statistical account of  
Gurgaon, *parganah*  
Hodal.



## Chapter V, B.

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Revenue.Statistical account of  
Gurgaon, *parganah*  
Rodal.

made by Mr. Cavendish, for a period of 10 years from 1229 to 1238, gave a *jama* amounting in the last year of the lease to Rs. 66,394, inclusive of *mukuddami*. On the expiration of this settlement, Mr. Campbell renewed the lease till formal investigation should take place, which was postponed from year to year until Mr. M. Gubbins, under Regulation IX of 1833, fixed the assessment, including the annexed estate of *manza* Bhaduki, during the season of 1838 A. D. at Rs. 69,922. But more unfavourable seasons followed, and Mr. Gubbins, who had in the interim left that district, revisited the *parganah* and revised his assessment, giving a reduction of Rs. 13,657, and leaving a *jama* of Rs. 56,265, a sum based on the average collections of 10 years. This was the settlement in force in 1875, the demand being Rs. 55,953.

*Parganah* Palwal.

At the conquest of the Delhi territory by Lord Lake, this *parganah* was given in form to Nawáb Murtaza Khán, of the city of Delhi, at a quit-rent of Rs. 45,000 per annum, and at his death in 1225 *Fasli* (A.D. 1818) was taken under our direct management. The *parganah*, however, as then constituted, differed considerably from the form it afterwards took. After a few years of direct management, Mr. Cavendish assessed the *parganah* in 1228 *Fasli* (A. D. 1820-21) at Rs. 2,03,346, rising in the fifth and last year to Rs. 2,54,200. The *parganah* was made over to us in a wealthy condition, and this extravagant *jama* was realized with but trivial balances for four years. But in the fifth year a balance of Rs. 1,03,736 accrued. A new settlement for a like period was then formed, but the remissions given were inadequate. At its expiration Mr. G. Campbell again attempted the plan of progressive assessment, but bad harvests brought about heavy balances, until the memorable drought of 1245 *Fasli* (1837-38) gave the last blow to the decaying prosperity of the *parganah*. It was then assessed by Mr. John Lawrence, "who," writes Mr. Barnes, "undoubtedly rated the resources of the district too highly, and misled (if I may so presume to speak of an officer of his known capacity) by the abundance of available waste which each village possessed, assessed each estate at a much higher value than its cultivated area could be brought to pay. Mr. Lawrence's assessment amounted to Rs. 2,31,526, the *jama* previously being Rs. 2,46,413." But again the settlement broke down, the *zamin-dárs* were reduced to "extreme destitution, apparent in their want of cattle, implements of husbandry, and of the commonest necessities of life." Accordingly, in 1842 Mr. Barnes re-settled the *parganah*, reducing the assessment first to Rs. 1,92,082, and then to Rs. 1,72,737, or, excluding *jágir* villages, to Rs. 1,65,255. Thus in six years the Government demand had been reduced by no less than Rs. 81,158. In the 146 villages still attached to the *tahsil* Mr. Barnes' settlement amounted to Rs. 1,43,045. It is this settlement which has just been revised. The demand of its last year of currency was Rs. 1,43,300.

## Sohná villages.

The revenue history of Sohná was too complicated to be given by Mr. Barnes. The 16 villages now connected with this *tahsil* were assessed first at Rs. 7,444, exclusive of two *jágir* villages, then at Rs. 7,889, excluding a third village in addition to the former two; then the same villages at Rs. 7,572, and finally the whole 16 were assessed by Mr. Barnes in 1842 at Rs. 9,909.

The four villages which formerly belonged to the Rájá of Ballabgarh were after annexation summarily settled at Rs. 6,720, and the two estates which have come over from Bulandshahr were assessed at Rs. 312.

Under the former settlement in the three years 1839, 1840, and 1841, one village of Játs and 7½ villages of Gújars were forfeited or sold for desertion and arrears; but with the new settlement of 1842 the financial history of the *tahsil* assumes another complexion. Writing (apparently in 1849) on *tahsil* Palwal, Mr. Fraser speaks of the relief which had been afforded by Mr. Barnes' settlement, and proceeds to state:—"In the last year too (nor was this by any means "remarkable as a favourable agricultural season) the revenues of Palwal "were collected without the least difficulty. There was not a single "*dastak* issued, nor did there remain at the end of the year a single "farthing of balance." In Hodal the state of affairs was not so favourable; two villages had been sold, two farmed, and two taken under direct management. But Mr. Fraser writes:—"I do not "consider this to have been the fault of the settlement, which seems "to me to have been conducted on just and easy principles, but of "the wretched seasons with which it has had since to contend." The state of this *tahsil* from the Mutiny till the recent settlement was one of very great prosperity. Except in the famine year of 1860-61, when remissions to the extent of Rs. 5,079 were granted, balances and remissions were unknown. There were no alterations of demand except those arising from the ordinary causes, such as alluvion and diluvion, lapse of revenue assignments, and the taking up of land for public purposes. Nor are the causes of this prosperity far to seek. The reduction of assessment had had time to produce its full effects, cultivation had largely extended, communications had improved, and there was a sturdy and industrious population ready to make the best use of their advantages.

During the 33 years that had elapsed since Mr. Barnes' settlement, the resources of the *tahsil* had in every way been largely increased. The construction of the East Indian Railway, which runs through the neighbouring districts of Bulandshahr and Aligarh, had thrown open a wider field for the export of cotton and grain. There had been a large rise in prices, especially during the last 15 years; cultivation had increased by 46 per cent., and the population, if the statistics can be trusted, had increased in an astonishing ratio. A comparison of the former and present statistics of the *tahsil* gives the following results:—

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## Land and Land Revenue.

Villages annexed after the Mutiny. Working of settlement.

Increase in resources of tract.

Chaks.	INCREASE PER CENT. IN		
	Area cultivated and fallow.	Well-irrigated area.	Population.
Bángar ... ..	47	64	89
Khádar ... ..	61	102	44
Bángar Khádar ... ..	70	73	78
Bhuder ... ..	35	156	79
Dáhri ... ..	12	54	41
Percentage ... ..	46.	69	81

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Land and Land  
Revenue.Increase in resources  
of tract.

The value of well-irrigated land may be taken to be double that of unirrigated land. If, then, the increased area under wells be added to the actual increase in cultivation, we get the following percentages of increase :—

Chak Bāngar	...	...	52
Do. Khādar	...	...	73
Do. Bāngar Khādar	...	...	80
Do. Bhuder	...	...	43
Do. Dāhri	...	...	18
Total			52

Tahsil Fīrozpur.  
Former settlements.

Of the 229 villages of this *tahsil*, as at present constituted, 194 belonged to the original *parganah* of Fīrozpur and Pūnāhāna, which having been conferred in *jāgīr* by Lord Lake on Nawāb Ahmad Baksh Khān, were forfeited in 1835 by his son, Shams-ud-din Khān, owing to his instigation of the murder of Mr. Fraser at Delhi in 1835. Eighteen villages formed part of *parganah* Hātīn, and twelve villages part of Nūh. Fīrozpur and Pūnāhāna lapsed in the *rabi* of 1243 *Fasli* (A.D. 1835), and having been in great measure settled in 1835 and 1836 by Messers. Gubbins and Masson, the whole of the assessments were after revision reported as a summary settlement by Mr. M. Gubbins in 1837.

From that officer's report, it appears that the net average collections of the land revenue in both *parganahs* for the last twenty years of the *Jāgīrdārs'* management, including Rs. 14,700 on account of *abwābs* or extra imposts, had been Rs. 2,25,700 per annum out of an average demand of Rs. 2,45,700. The assessment of the summary settlement in these villages as finally submitted for sanction amounted to Rs. 2,14,819, plus Rs. 10,772 *mugaddāmi* or headmen's allowance, the total being Rs. 2,25,591. In the following year 1838, or 1246 *Fasli*, a regular settlement of the *parganah* was concluded by the same officer. This settlement took up the former leases, which had been given for various periods, remissions being given at once, and enhancements commencing from the expiry of the terms previously fixed. The result was to substitute for the demand of 1245 *Fasli* which amounted to Rs. 2,25,281, an initial demand for 1246 *Fasli*, of Rs. 2,22,213 to rise by 1255 *Fasli* to a final demand of Rs. 2,33,264. In 1841 Mr. Gubbins himself reported that these assessments were too severe, that both *parganahs*, and especially Pūnāhāna, had deteriorated much since settlement, and that immediate and permanent relief must be granted. In accordance with his representations the *jama* of Fīrozpur was reduced by Rs. 30,665, or 19½ per cent., and that of Pūnāhāna by Rs. 17,691, or 23½ per cent., leaving the Fīrozpur demand at Rs. 1,26,375, and that of Pūnāhāna at Rs. 58,533, total Rs. 1,84,908. Twelve villages from *parganah* Nūh, assessed at Rs. 10,500 and twelve from *parganah* Hātīn, assessed at Rs. 7,676, were added to the *tahsil*, raising the demand to Rs. 2,03,084. In two estates, a reduction of Rs. 222 was granted on account of deteriorations through deposit of sand, and other slight diminutions of assessment have resulted from the taking up of land for public purposes; the *jama* of the whole *tahsil* was Rs. 2,02,917 at the expiry of the settlement.

In the statistical account of Gurgaon, Mr. Fraser, writing about 1849, states that the settlements of both Firozpur and Pūnāhāna had worked well, and were favourable to property. The table of mortgages shows that 8 per cent. of the area of the *tahsil* is under mortgage, in a total sum of Rs. 3,88,954, of which Rs. 2,48,506 has been lent by members of the agricultural class. The average of the mortgage money per acre is nearly Rs. 25. The statement of balances and remissions from 1857 to 1873 shows that, with the exception of the balances and remissions due to the famine year of 1860-61, the Government demand has been collected with very great regularity. The few other cases of balance were occasioned in two instances by destruction of crops from hill streams, in three by deterioration from the deposit of sand, and in every other case by excessive floods, which were most frequent in the villages bordering on the Kotla *jhill*. The above facts are sufficient to prove that although the settlement pressed rather heavily on individual villages, yet the assessment had, on the whole, worked well. Transfers by sale have been very few; mortgages are not, except in a few instances, oppressive; and the revenue has been regularly and easily collected.

The total population by Mr. Fraser's census in 1845 was 79,989; in 1868 it was 121,972, the increase being 41,983, or 52·5 per cent.; in the agricultural population only the increase was 16,166, or 29·3 per cent. An analysis of the cultivation and irrigation comparison gives the following results:—

CIRCLES.	Chiknot.	Mandikhera.	Landoha.	Bhuder.	Pūnāhāna.	Tahsil.
Increase or decrease in cultivated and fallow area with percentage.	+4,739 35	+1,377 12	+4,533 21	+10,207 36	+19,369 47	+40,223 34
Increase or decrease in total irrigated area with percentage.	+3,294 63	-5,673 55	-1,402 11	-2,290 26	+1,637 51	-4,434 11

The circles in which a decrease of well-irrigation is shown comprise those low lands of the Firozpur valley in which, while in favourable seasons they are flooded by the Landoha, the various hill torrents, and the drainage water of the higher lands around, in times of drought, when the natural irrigation has failed, unbricked wells are constructed in large numbers. These fall in with the first flood, and cannot be reconstructed until a period of dryness has restored sufficient stability to the sub-soil. Mr. Gubbin's settlement was made in a year of drought, and he wrote in his report:—"Well-irrigation having in the present season of drought been pushed to its utmost, the record of that class shows in most cases the extreme amount of irrigation of which each *mauza* is capable." The measurements of the current settlement having been partly conducted in a year of unusual flood, it is not surprising that different results have been obtained. The circles in which a decrease of the naturally irrigated area is shown are those in which this irrigation is mainly

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Increase of resources since settlement.

Decrease of irrigated area in certain circles.

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## Land and Land Revenue.

Decrease of irrigated area in certain circles.

Former fiscal history. In what *parganahs* contained at last settlement.

dependent on the Landoha. It appears that the Dáhar lands were over-estimated, and not only so, but it is fairly certain that the floods of the Landoha have of late years diminished in frequency and extent, nor is this fact at all surprising. As cultivation increases in Alwar, the supply of water from surface drainage must diminish, and the number of temporary *bands*, with which the Gurgáon authorities would find it impossible to interfere, will increase.

Of the 311 villages now constituting the *tahsil*, 56 at last settlement formed the *parganah* of Táorú, 108 were contained in the *parganah* of Hátín, 66 in that of Sohná, 60 in that of Núh, 11 in that of Bahora, and 10 in Palwal. The following table shows the distribution of these villages in the present assessment circles :—

Circles.	No. of villages.	NO. OF VILLAGES FORMERLY CONTAINED IN—					
		Táorú.	Sohná.	Hátín.	Bahora.	Palwal.	Núh.
Táorú ...	90	56	23	...	11	...	...
Bángar ...	105	...	3	86	...	10	6
Dáhar ...	116	...	40	22	...	...	54
Total ...	311	56	66	108	11	10	60

Former history.  
*Parganah Táorú.*

This *parganah* was, on its annexation in 1803, conferred on the Bhartpur Chief in *jágir*, and it remained with him until 1826. It was kept under direct management for two years, and then assessed by Mr. Cavendish at Rs. 29,937. "The assessment stood but one year, when nearly a fifth of the villages broke down and their assessment was reduced. From that period until 1240 *Fasli* (A.D. 1832-33), "when the assessment was raised, it paid pretty regularly. "From this excess *jama*, with the succeeding drought years, the "*parganah* entirely broke up;" and when Mr. (Lord) Lawrence settled the *parganah* in 1837, he found, during the preceding nine years, the average demand to be of Rs. 28,026, the average realizations Rs. 26,118, and the average balance Rs. 1,908. Mr. Lawrence reduced the assessment from Rs. 29,079 to Rs. 24,700, or 15·1 per cent. But even after this reduction, balances aggregating in four years Rs. 9,089 occurred, and three villages having been transferred to Sohná, Mr. Barnes in 1841 reduced the assessment of the remaining 52 estates from Rs. 21,975 to Rs. 16,458, or 25·1 per cent. Three *jágir* villages not included in the above assessment were settled by Mr. Routh in 1852 at a *jama* of Rs. 915.

Former settlements.  
*Parganahs Bahora and Sohná.*

Of the villages of Bahora included in this *tahsil*, ten were assessed first at Rs. 5,035, then at Rs. 4,619; then at Rs. 4,636, and finally by Mr. Lawrence in 1838, at Rs. 4,863; the eleventh, a *jágir* village, being assessed by Mr. Routh in 1852 at Rs. 1,710, and the Sohná villages, after being assessed at Rs. 53,695, Rs. 58,031, and Rs. 57,055, were finally settled by Mr. Barnes at Rs. 40,830.

Former settlements.  
*Parganah Núh.*

For three years after the annexation, in 1803, the *parganah* of Núh was farmed to Ráo Tej Singh of Rewári, and in 1809 it was settled by Mr. W. Fraser. In 1841 a revision of settlement was undertaken by Mr. Barnes: he found the *jama* at Rs. 91,698, and the

average collections of 20 years, realized with great difficulty, were Rs. 86,170. He wrote, "from personal observation of the circumstances "of each village I can bear testimony to the general poverty and want of "comfort apparent, with but few exceptions, throughout the *parganah*;" and he considered it to be heavily assessed. The result of his settlement was a *jama* of Rs. 75,137, being a reduction of Rs. 16,561, or 18·1 per cent. In the villages still included in the *tahsil* Mr. Barnes' assessment amounted to Rs. 61,912.

Hátin was held on an *istamrár*, of Rs. 30,000 per annum by Faizulla Beg Khán from 1803 to 1823. It was then settled by Mr. Cavendish; and after undergoing various changes by transfer of villages was re-settled by Mr. Barnes in 1841. In his report he writes:

"The gross *jama* of the *parganah* for the year immediately preceding the settlement was Rs. 1,23,051. The average collections of 17 years, from the date of the escheat of the *parganah* to the close of the last year, was Rs. 1,07,220, and of the last ten years Rs. 1,05,679. That the amount of these collections was too high to adopt as a fair assessment may be inferred from the difficulty and detriment to the *parganah* with which it had been collected; from the prevalent practice of desertion; from the absence of bidders at the public auction of estates; and from the meagre and comfortless circumstances of the people."

The result of his settlement was an assessment of Rs. 92,283, being a reduction of Rs. 30,768, or Rs. 25 per cent. on the former *jama*, of 14 per cent. on the average collections of the last 17 years, and of Rs. 12½ per cent. on the average collections of the last ten. In the 108 villages still belonging to this *tahsil*, the assessment thus fixed amounted to Rs. 84,607.

The assessments of the ten Palwal villages, after having been fixed at Rs. 13,280 and Rs. 14,264 and Rs. 10,330, were reduced by Mr. Barnes in 1842 to Rs. 7,877. Writing in the Statistical Account of Gurgaon, published in 1849, Mr. Fraser speaks well of the working of all these settlements. Next to *tahsil* Fírozpur, Náh is the most heavily mortgaged part of the district. But the amount of mortgage in a tract does not depend solely, or even principally, on the weight of assessment. The conditions which are perhaps most unfavourable to mortgages are the co-existence of a fairly heavy, but not absolutely overwhelming, assessment with a frugal proprietary: thus, in Rewári, where these conditions exist, mortgages are extremely light; while the conditions in *Chak Dáhar* of this *tahsil*, where the mortgages are heaviest of the three circles, are such as would naturally tend to their growth, for there is a fairly light assessment making land valuable as a security, an improvident body of owners, who spend the produce of a good year in place of saving it, and a liability of large areas to occasional submersion, the owners being then driven to the banker for the means of subsistence. Almost all the villages thus liable to excessive inundation, however lightly assessed they may be, are from the operation of these causes heavily mortgaged. The alterations in assessment since the last settlement have been very slight and are due to the ordinary causes of variation, such as taking up land for public purposes. In *Chaks Táorú* and *Bánger* the only balances (except a few which were merely nominal, being caused by the taking up of lands by Government) were those due to the drought of 1860-61, while in *Chak Dáhar* the large

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Former settlements,  
*Parganah Náh.*

Former settlements.  
*Parganah Hátin.*

Former settlements  
of Palwal villages.

Working of the  
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Comparison of past  
and present state of  
*tahsil*.

*Tahsil* Gurgáon.  
Fiscal history.  
Former constitution  
of *tahsil*.

balances and remissions are owing to the liability of many villages to excessive inundation. The revenue has been easily collected.

Thus the existing assessments are the result of reductions made some thirty-five years ago, amounting to diminution of the Government demand on the whole *tahsil* by 27 per cent.; during the course of settlement, cultivation has increased by 42 per cent.; irrigation has expanded and the value of produce has risen. The increase in population has kept pace with the increase in cultivation. Sales have been few, mortgages are fairly light, except in one circle where the circumstances are exceptional; the revenue has been, except in the inundated tracts, regularly collected, and Government was fairly entitled to an increased revenue, while on the other hand the character of the population and the great division of the ownership of the soil made it necessary to avoid too large an enhancement of the assessment.

Of the 241 villages now constituting the *tahsil*, 34 were added to the district after the Mutiny; seven were transferred from Delhi, four before 1846, and three in 1863, and the remaining 200 were at last settlement comprised in the *parganahs* of Jhársa, Sohna, and Bahora. The following table shows their distribution among the circles:—

Assessment Circle.	Jhársa villages.	Sohná villages.	Bahora villages.	Delhi villages.	Villages annexed after Mutiny.	Total.
Najafgarh <i>jhl</i> ...	8	...	...	4	...	12
Adjoining Dáhar ...	9	...	...	...	...	9
Gurgáon ...	42	...	...	...	...	*42
Sihi ...	18	5	...	...	...	*23
Hill ...	10	12	...	...	...	22
Sohná ...	...	26	...	...	...	26
Sailáni ...	...	27	...	...	...	27
Farrukhnagar ...	13	...	...	2	13	+28
Sáhibi ...	...	...	...	...	17	17
Káran ...	...	8	3	1	...	12
Bahora ...	...	...	19	...	4	*23
Total ...	100	78	22	7	34	241

Fiscal history.  
*Parganah* Jhársa.

The original *parganah* of Jhársa or Bádsháhpur, after having been for nearly sixty years in the possession of the Begam Samru, lapsed in 1836, and was summarily settled by Mr. C. Gubbins. This settlement was afterwards revised by the late Lord Lawrence, but, owing to his transfer, was reported by Mr. C. Gubbins in 1839, and finally, the papers having been returned for corrections, by Mr. Barnes in 1840. The *parganah* as summarily settled by Mr. Gubbins contained 78 villages. It appears from his report

\* Two estates afterwards united into one.

† Two estates afterwards united into one, and one estate transferred to Rohtak.

that, until the last two years before the lapse, collections had been always made by the Begam's agent on a yearly estimate of the produce. In the famine year of 1241 *Fasli* (A.D. 1833-34), this was not found a profitable method of collection, and was commuted to a demand fixed for three years, which, being harshly exacted during the following years of scarcity, led to the desertion of many villages. Mr. Lawrence in his report states that when the villages were assessed annually, the actual demand was seldom restricted to the amount fixed, if more could be collected, and, during the latter years of the Begam's life, the *parganah* was pretty much at the mercy of her agent, who seldom failed to reap a plentiful harvest. On lapsing, the *parganah* was generally impoverished, and the villages and their inhabitants bore all the appearance of bad management. The average collections during the last ten years of the Begam's management had been Rs. 66,858, and the assessment made by Mr. Gubbins in 1836 amounted to Rs. 70,610.

This settlement was immediately succeeded by that of Mr. Lawrence. The *parganah* as settled by him consisted of 101 villages; of these, 78 with six new estates since formed were those settled by Mr. Gubbins, 12 had been transferred from the neighbouring *parganahs* of Sohna, Pali, Pakal, and Najafgarh, and five villages were in *jágir*. Mr. Lawrence's settlement dealt with 96 villages, of which three have since been transferred to Delhi; in the remaining 93 the existing assessment was Rs. 78,090, which he decreased to Rs. 77,873. The *jágir* villages increased to six by partition of an estate lapsed in 1848, and were settled by Mr. Routh at Rs. 8,998, raising the Government demand to Rs. 86,871, to which must be added Rs. 664 for lands reclaimed from Najafgarh *jhil*, and formed into a separate village in 1860, making a total of 100 estates assessed at Rs. 87,535. The revenue demand of 1875 was Rs. 85,886, being a decrease of Rs. 1,699, of which Rs. 908 was remitted from deterioration and over-assessment, the rest from ordinary causes, such as land being taken up for public purposes.

*Parganah* Sohna first came into British possession in 1803. After having been entrusted for short periods to the state of Bhartpur and Rao Tej Singh of Rewari, it was about 1808 settled by Mr. Fraser. In 1842 Mr. Barnes wrote:—

"It is impossible to carry on any connected history of the fiscal changes which have taken place in the *parganah*. There have been no series of settlements to mark by regular steps the advancement or retrogression of the revenue. Moreover, the *parganah* in its present shape has received so large an addition to its area and *jama*, that any reference to its revenue before these changes were effected would scarcely be intelligible. The *jama* of the *parganah* for the year preceding settlement was Rs. 1,33,261. The average collections of the past 17 and 10 years amount, respectively, to Rs. 1,13,908 and Rs. 1,18,357; with the exception of Palwal, Sohna was undoubtedly the heaviest assessed *parganah* in a district where no assessment was moderate, and the condition of the people proportionally destitute. In February 1839, when Mr. C. Gubbins joined as Collector, there were no less than 47 villages in this *parganah* either entirely or nearly deserted. The number of instances in which recourse has been had within the last few years to the heaviest punishment in the power of the authorities to inflict for desertions and non-payment of revenue must be regarded as a proof of over-assessment. The penalty of sale was seldom resorted to, for the reason that no purchaser could be found to risk his capital."

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Fiscal history.  
*Parganah* Jharsa.

Fiscal history.  
*Parganah* Sohna.



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Land and Land  
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*Parganah Sohna.*

This over-assessment of the *parganah* had, as Mr. Barnes showed, caused in eight years a decrease in the cultivated area of nearly 27 per cent. He, therefore, reduced the assessment of the 169 villages then contained in the *parganah* from Rs. 1,33,261 to Rs. 1,01,135, being a decrease of  $11\frac{1}{4}$  per cent. on the collections of seventeen years, of  $14\frac{1}{4}$  per cent. on the collections of the last ten years, and of 24 per cent. on the former Government demand. In the 78 villages now attached to this *tahsil*, Mr. Barnes reduced the assessment from Rs. 61,098 to Rs. 47,103, or 23 per cent. The demand of 1875 was Rs. 46,942, being a decrease of Rs. 161 due to ordinary causes.

Fiscal history.  
*Parganah Bahora.*

"*Parganah Bahora* was originally granted in 1803 by the British Government to the Bhartpur Chief and was resumed in 1805 with other grants. It was first farmed to Ráo Rám Bakhsh, brother of Ráo Jai Singh, the *Istamrâddâr* of Rewári. It was assessed in 1216 *Fasli* (A.D. 1808) by Mr. W. Fraser at a very moderate *jama*, averaging not more than Rs. 12,000 for three years. In the second settlement, however, the revenue was raised more than 50 per cent. for the first year and nearly 100 for the second. The consequence was that 15 of the 26 villages which then composed the *Khalisa* portion of the *parganah* were leased to farmers. This assessment was realized with considerable punctuality, but in that which succeeded, the *jama* was further raised to Rs. 32,424, or nearly 50 per cent. on the past assessment, which had been enhanced so suddenly. All the villages, except five, were given to farmers, some of whom, being men of property, made good their engagements. However, the *parganah* from this period generally fell into balances, and the assessment was reduced for an interval; but it did no good, being immediately raised. Every year balances occurred, till at last the *parganah* was brought under *khám* management, though nominally assessed. In 1825 Mr. Cavendish revised the assessment, and reduced it to Rs. 24,310, at which it has with trifling variation ever since remained; for though the leases were only granted for five years, on their expiration it was continued to be paid till 1240, when Mr. Bacon assessed the *parganah* for ten years at a trifling increase. From the period of Mr. Cavendish's assessment, the *parganah*, which was then much impoverished and half deserted, has steadily improved, and the people are now, perhaps more affluent than those of any other part of the district."

So wrote Mr. Lawrence in 1838. The average demand for the last thirty years had been Rs. 25,953, the average collections Rs. 23,397; the existing assessment on the *Khalisa* villages was Rs. 24,892, which Mr. Lawrence raised to Rs. 27,676, or about ten per cent. The *parganah* then comprised 33 villages, three of which were in *jágír*. Two of these latter were assessed by Mr. Lawrence at Rs. 2,708, raising the total demand to Rs. 30,384; while the third was assessed by Mr. Routh in 1848 at Rs. 2,528, raising the total demand to Rs. 32,912. Of these 33 villages 22 are now included in this *tahsil*. Including the village assessed by Mr. Routh, their *jamás* as fixed at settlement amounted to Rs. 26,339. The assessment of 1875 was Rs. 25,908, being a decrease of Rs. 431, mainly due to deterioration of lands by sand deposits from the Indori stream.

Fiscal history.  
New territory.

Of the 34 villages annexed after the Mutiny, 27 were of the *parganah* of Bádlí, which had been part of the State of Jhajjar, three had been held by the Nawáb of Farrukhnagar, and four had belonged to the King of Delhi's *tahsil*, Kot Kásim. The Bádlí villages were, on the confiscation of the Jhajjar State, summarily assessed by Mr. Campbell, the Deputy Commissioner of Rohtak, who reduced the

demand from Rs. 36,333, at which it stood under the Nawáb, to Rs. 27,746; subsequently measurements were commenced and completed in 1863; and the assessments revised in 1864 by Major Cripps, Deputy Commissioner of Gurgáon (the village having been transferred in 1860), who further reduced the demand to Rs. 26,720. The demand of 1875 was Rs. 26,713.

Mr. Fraser, Collector of Gurgáon, wrote, in 1849 :—

“*Parganah Jhársa*.—I discover one sale and two transfers for arrears of revenue since the revision of settlement; and, considering the number of villages in the *parganah* and theseasons with which they have since settlement had to contend, I believe that this will be deemed to afford a satisfactory proof that the settlement was conducted on principles favourable and easy to the people. *Parganah Sohna*.—Since the revision of the settlement took place, I do not observe that a single change of property produced by our demand has taken place, and this fact is, I hope, sufficient to prove that the settlement has worked well since its conclusion. *Parganah Bahora*.—That the settlement has worked well may be inferred from the fact of there having occurred, since its conclusion, no changes of property, and that the revenue has generally been collected with ease to the people.”

It appears that in the sixteen years from 1859 to 1874, the total balances amounted to Rs. 74,516, and the total remissions to Rs. 37,095, being an average percentage on the annual assessment of 2·3 of balance, and 1·1 of remissions. During the early part of this period the newly-annexed villages had not been regularly assessed, and the scarcity of 1860-61 unfavourably affected the collection. If the first five years be excluded, it will be found that during the last eleven years before re-settlement the total balances had been Rs. 20,689, and the remissions Rs. 11,690, of which Rs. 13,034, and Rs. 10,825 respectively had occurred in the villages surrounding the Najafgarh *jhil*: thus in the other ten circles the balances during the last eleven years had been only Rs. 7,655 and the remissions Rs. 865, or 0·4 and 0·04 per cent. respectively, on the annual *jama*. In no case had it been found necessary to attach or sell land in order to enforce the payment of the revenue, and only in eleven instances had goods even been attached, and in one case a headman taken into custody. It is evident that the revenue had been collected with ease and punctuality.

The East Indian Railway has brought the whole district into more direct and easy communication with the markets of the North-West Provinces; and the Rájputána (State) Railway opened in 1873 traverses the *tahsil*. This Railway, while benefiting the country generally, has, by supplanting their carts, diminished the resources of not a few Ahír villages situated on the road between Delhí and Rewári. The main causes of the increase in the resources of the *tahsil* will be found in the rise of prices, in the increase of population, and in the extension of cultivation.

Rewári first came under British rule in 1803: it was then suffering from the mismanagement produced by the disorganization of the Mughal Empire, and the collections often fell short of Rs. 1,00,000. It was at first given in *jágir* to the Maharája of Bhartpur, but was resumed in 1805, and was then farmed to Jai Singh, Ahír, with whom it remained until the end of 1216 *Fasli* or 1808-9 A.D. With the exception of 58 villages, which had been bestowed in *istamrá*r tenure

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Increase in the re-  
sources of the *tahsil*.

*Tahsil Rewári.*  
Past financial history  
of *parganah* Rewári.

Chapter V, B.  
Land and Land  
Revenue.

*Tahsil Rewari,  
Past financial history  
of parganah Rewari.*

on Jai Singh, and a few other *jāgīr* estates, the *parganah* was then settled by Mr. W. Fraser at Rs. 2,14,504: the system of assessment followed seems to have been that of settling the villages with the highest bidders, and this procedure being aided by the feuds of the people, the result was over-assessment so great, that Mr. Lawrence writes—"In going over the records, one is often amazed at the "excessive assessments which have been realised." In spite of the occasional lapse of revenue grants, the collections steadily decreased from Rs. 2,14,504 in 1217 *Fasli* (or 1809-10 A.D.) to Rs. 1,84,383 in 1244 *Fasli* (1836-37 A.D.), the average collections of the 28 years being Rs. 2,09,287, and the average balance Rs. 17,157, or  $7\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. of the demand. Under these circumstances a re-settlement was begun by Mr. Bacon in 1832, carried on by Mr. Gubbins in 1836, and completed by Mr. (Lord) Lawrence in 1838, the financial results of which in the *Khālisa* portion of the *parganah* was an assessment of Rs. 1,91,957 exclusive of village headmen's fees, being a reduction of Rs. 17,688 on the average collections of 28 years. Two hundred and nineteen estates, and plots in six other villages were thus assessed by Mr. Lawrence; the rate at which his assessment fell was Re. 1-10-2 per cultivated acre, and Re. 1-1-1 $\frac{1}{2}$  per acre of cultivated and culturable. Writing of this assessment some ten years later, Mr. Fraser says in the Statistical Account of Gurgāon—

"There is no doubt that in nearly all seasons this *parganah* can pay the revenue at which it has now been assessed. Balances, if they do occur, will be found to arise from other causes than that most mischievous and injurious of over-assessment. At the same time, viewed comparatively, Rewari will not, I believe, be found to have attained so large a relief as other *parganahs* of this district. However, I repeat that with the assessment there is no fault to find, and that its amount can, I think, be always and easily collected."

In 1849, under Mr. Routh, Collector, a settlement of the 61 *istamrār* villages was begun and completed by 1852. The result of the settlement was inclusive of plots already assessed at Rs. 367, an initial assessment of Rs. 62,244 rising to Rs. 63,850 being at the rate of Re. 1-6-4 per cultivated and Re. 1-3-8 per *māl-guzārī* acre. Of these villages, one estate, assessed at Rs. 271, was not charged with any *jama*, being granted revenue free by the *Istamrārdārs*. Previous to Mr. Routh's settlement, the *Istamrārdārs* had made their own agreements with the village communities; the quit rent due to Government being a lump sum of Rs. 25,001. Owing to the conduct of the *Istamrārdārs* in the Mutiny, their rights were confiscated: only in seven villages, which had previously been alienated by them, does this tenure exist; the assessments in those amount to Rs. 4,976, the quit rent due to Government to Rs. 1,909. The remaining *jāgīr* villages were also assessed by Mr. Routh at Rs. 3,280.

*Past financial history  
of parganah Shāh-  
jahānpur.*

The small *parganah* of Shāhjahānpur, containing nine estates lying to the south of Rewari in the midst of native territory, was, after the conquest in 1803, continued in *jāgīr* to Har Narain Haldia, until his death in 1824. It was then settled by Mr. Cavendish at Rs. 8,546: the assessment was fair and the collections regular, and when Mr. Lawrence undertook the re-settlement of the *parganah* in 1838 he was enabled to raise the demand from Rs. 8,932, at which

he found it, to Rs. 9,287, the average collections for fourteen years being then Rs. 8,389 and the average balance Rs. 166. Mr. Fraser's remarks on the statement of this *parganah* were: "That this has "worked satisfactorily may be inferred from there having occurred no "changes under it."

Rewári has been always noted as being more severely assessed than the other parts of the district. As Mr. Fraser points out, it was the first *tahsil* in which the old severe settlement underwent revision, and the readiness of Government to grant the necessary remission was not then well understood. In Rewári too this final revision was not, as in several other *parganahs*, followed by a still greater reduction. In 1858, Mr. Ford, a former Deputy Commissioner, wrote of the Rewári settlement as hard. Mr. Melvill in 1862 called it notoriously severe. From a letter written by Mr. Ford in 1862 it appears that a reduction of assessment to the extent of Rs. 600 had been made in one village before the Mutiny, and in four villages to the extent of Rs. 950 after 1857; that inquiry had shown that the revenue was generally too highly assessed by one-fifth, and that in 1860 Mr. Cust and Mr. Brandreth had urged a general reduction of the assessment of the *tahsil*. This was considered unnecessary, but in 1862 reductions to the extent of Rs. 3,273 were again granted in fifteen villages, and in 1863 further reductions to the extent of Rs. 1,422 in twelve villages; besides which remissions have had from time to time to be given in estates injured by deposits of sand from the *Sáhibi*, and also for lands taken up for public purposes.

The resources of the *tahsil* have been increased since the regular settlement by the same causes which have operated in the other parts, of the district, *viz.*, increase in cultivated and irrigated area following on an increase in population, and also a considerable rise of prices; against which may be set (1) the alleged decrease in the productive powers of the land, due to the poorer soils having come under the plough and the less frequent fallows, and (2) the smaller share of the produce now taken by Government. No new marts have come into existence since Mr. Lawrence's settlement, but the flourishing town of Rewári forms an admirable market for the produce of the *tahsil*, and it is now connected by the new Rájpútána State Railway on the one side with the Native States of Rájpútána, and on the other with Delhi and the East Indian and Panjáb lines.

The percentages of the average annual balance and remission in each circle on the yearly revenue have been as shown on the top of the next page.

As to the amount of coercion required to collect the revenue, from 1860 to 1874, there were twenty-four instances of the issue of orders to attach property; eleven instances of attachment actually executed, two instances of sale of attached property, two cases in which the defaulters were forwarded under warrant to the Deputy Commissioner, and one instance of transfer of the defaulter's share.

In 1872 a revision of the regular settlement was commenced by Mr. O'Brien, who made over charge of the operations to Mr. Channing in 1873. In the end of 1877 Mr. Channing was succeeded by Mr. Maconachie, who brought the work to a close in 1879. The operations were reported on by Mr. Channing in 1880.

## Chapter V, B. Land and Land Revenue.

Character of assess-  
ment. Reductions  
made.

Increase in resour-  
ces.

Working of settle-  
ment.

Revision of settle-  
ment, 1872-1879.

## Chapter V, B.

Land and Land  
Revenue.Working of settle-  
ment.

CIRCLE	PERCENTAGE ON YEARLY REVENUE.			
	Of average balance.		Of average remissions.	
	1860—74	1865—74	1860—74	1865—74
Sāhibi ... ..	5·7	3·8	1·2	0·2
Rewāri ... ..	2·3	1·1	0·8	0·2
Magda Salt ... ..	5·7	3·6	2·0	0·6
Shājahānpur ... ..	3·3	2·4	0·6	...
Kansāoti ... ..	6·1	2·7	1·0	...
Mundhi ... ..	6·8	4·4	1·5	0·2
Hill ... ..	6·0	3·2	1·7	0·5
Palāhwas ... ..	10·5	7·9	3·3	0·8
<i>Tahsil</i> ... ..	5·9	3·8	1·6	0·3

Basis of the assess-  
ment.

The following were the instructions issued by Government for the assessment of the new demand on account of land revenue:—

“In accordance with the provisions of Section 9 of the Panjāb Land Revenue Act, 1871, and with the previous sanction of the Governor-General in Council, the Hon'ble the Lieutenant-Governor desires that the following instructions be conveyed to the officer in charge of the settlement of the Gurgāon district regarding the principle on which the land revenue of that district is to be assessed:—

“(1). The general principle of assessment to be followed is, that the Government demand for land revenue shall not exceed the estimated value of half the net produce of the estate, or in other words, one-half of the share of the produce of an estate ordinarily receivable by the landlord, either in money or in kind.

“(2). In applying this principle in the case of the district above named, where produce rents prevail, special attention should be given by the Settlement Officer to produce estimates.

“(3). In estimating the land revenue demand, the Settlement Officer will take into consideration all circumstances directly or indirectly bearing upon the assessment, such as rent rates where money rates exist, the habits and character of the people, the proximity of marts for the disposal of produce, facilities of communication, the incidence of past assessments, the existence of profits from grazing, and the like. These and other considerations must be allowed their weight.

“(4). The gross assessments for each settlement circle having been framed by the Settlement Officer on the principles above indicated, revenue rates on soils may be deduced therefrom, and the proposed gross assessment, together with the proposed revenue rates, must be reported to the Government for preliminary sanction, and will, when sanctioned by the Local Government, form the basis of assessment of particular estates in the circle; but, in the assessment to be ultimately adopted, full consideration must be given to the special circumstances of each estate. The principle laid down in Rule I is to be observed in each case.”

Assessment circles,  
rates, and assess-  
ments.

Unfortunately Mr. Channing has written no report upon his assessment of the district as a whole; and the only material available is to be found in the assessment reports he submitted on the various *tahsils*. In the Settlement Report will be found a detailed description of each *tahsil*, and of the circles into which he divided it for purposes of assessment. The following tables give the rates sanctioned for each circle and results of their application:—

Statement showing for each Assessment Circle the sanctioned Revenue rates.

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Land and Land Revenue.

Assessment circles, rates, and assessments.

Tahsil.	Assessment Circle.	Chahri.	Dahri.	UNIRRIGATED.					
				Chiknot and Narmot.		Magda.		Bhur.	
		Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
Palwal.	Bangar	2 12 0	2 0 0	1 6 0	1 2 0	0 14 0	0 14 0	0 14 0	0 14 0
	Bhudar	2 8 0	...	1 4 0	1 0 0	0 12 0	0 12 0	0 12 0	0 12 0
	Dahri	2 12 0	2 4 0	1 5 0	1 1 0	0 13 0	0 13 0	0 13 0	0 13 0
	Khadar	2 8 0	...	1 6 0	...	...	...	...	...
	Bangar Khadar	2 10 0	...	1 6 0	1 2 0	0 14 0	0 14 0	0 14 0	0 14 0
Ferozpur.	Punahana	2 8 0	2 2 0	1 4 0	1 1 0	0 14 0	0 14 0	0 14 0	0 14 0
	Chiknot	2 12 0	2 0 0	1 6 0	1 2 0	0 14 0	0 14 0	0 14 0	0 14 0
	Mandikhera	3 8 0	2 0 0	1 12 0	1 6 0	1 2 0	1 2 0	1 2 0	1 2 0
	Landoha	3 8 0	2 8 0	1 12 0	1 6 0	1 2 0	1 2 0	1 2 0	1 2 0
	Bhudar	3 0 0	2 4 0	1 8 0	1 2 0	0 14 0	0 14 0	0 14 0	0 14 0
Nuh.	Bangar	2 10 0	1 12 0	1 4 0	1 1 0	0 10 6	0 10 6	0 10 6	0 10 6
	Tauru	2 8 0	1 12 0	1 2 0	0 14 0	0 9 0	0 9 0	0 9 0	0 9 0
	Dahar	2 8 0	2 0 0	1 6 6	1 4 0	0 10 6	0 10 6	0 10 6	0 10 6
Gurgaon.	Bahora	3 0 0	1 14 0	1 8 0	1 0 0	0 10 0	0 10 0	0 10 0	0 10 0
	Hill	2 8 0	1 12 0	1 3 0	0 14 0	0 10 0	0 10 0	0 10 0	0 10 0
	Dahar or Najafgarh jhā	3 0 0	2 8 0	1 8 0	1 4 0	0 10 0	0 10 0	0 10 0	0 10 0
	Sohnā	2 12 0	1 10 0	1 3 0	1 0 0	0 11 0	0 11 0	0 11 0	0 11 0
	Sibi	2 8 0	1 8 0	1 2 0	0 13 0	0 10 0	0 10 0	0 10 0	0 10 0
	Sailani	2 12 0	2 4 0	1 8 0	1 4 0	0 10 0	0 10 0	0 10 0	0 10 0
	Sahibi	2 4 0	1 10 0	1 4 0	1 1 0	0 9 0	0 9 0	0 9 0	0 9 0
	Farrukhnagar	2 12 0	1 12 0	1 6 0	0 14 0	0 9 0	0 9 0	0 9 0	0 9 0
	Kasan	2 4 0	...	...	0 14 0	0 9 0	0 9 0	0 9 0	0 9 0
	Gurgaon	2 4 0	1 10 0	1 4 0	1 1 0	0 11 0	0 11 0	0 11 0	0 11 0
	Adjoining Dahar	2 12 0	2 4 0	1 8 0	1 4 0	0 12 0	0 12 0	0 12 0	0 12 0
Rewari.	Palhawās	2 4 0	...	1 6 0	1 0 0	0 12 0	0 12 0	0 12 0	0 12 0
	Pahar	2 8 0	...	1 0 0	1 0 0	0 10 6	0 10 6	0 10 6	0 10 6
	Rewari	2 10 0	...	1 6 0	1 0 0	0 12 0	0 12 0	0 12 0	0 12 0
	Shahjahanpur	3 0 0	...	1 6 0	1 3 0	0 10 0	0 10 0	0 10 0	0 10 0
	Sahibi	3 0 0	1 10 0	1 8 0	1 2 0	0 12 0	0 12 0	0 12 0	0 12 0
	Kasauti	3 0 0	...	1 8 0	1 2 0	0 10 0	0 10 0	0 10 0	0 10 0
	Magda shor	2 6 0	...	1 6 0	1 3 0	0 12 0	0 12 0	0 12 0	0 12 0
	Mundi	2 8 0	...	1 6 0	1 0 0	0 12 0	0 12 0	0 12 0	0 12 0

Statement showing Resulting Assessments.

Tahsil.	Circle.	Assessment at rates.	Assessment actually announ- ced.	DEDUCT ON ACCOUNT OF				Add on account of transfer of villages.	Initial Khalsah demand.	Former demand.
				Transfer of villages.	Protective leases.	Gardens.	Masaf.			
Palwal.	Bangar	219,940	213,615	1,032	1,399	404	511	...	210,299	155,689
	Bhudar	12,901	12,973	...	109	...	...	...	12,864	11,021
	Dahri	17,567	17,634	...	46	13	10	...	17,565	17,694
	Khadir	13,072	12,588	...	31	21	...	91	12,445	8,909
	Bangar Khadir	30,581	30,450	...	190	205	...	...	30,055	22,904
Ferozpur.	Landoha	53,293	51,526	...	217	25	...	...	53,040	47,852
	Mandikhera	26,225	27,884	...	26	57	...	...	27,801	31,500
	Chiknot	27,311*	25,958	...	158	...	...	...	25,800	23,006
	Bhudar	49,611	49,068	...	683	390	282	...	47,713	44,439
	Punahana	78,286	76,123	...	582	55	460	...	75,006	56,120

\* Excluding Rs. 2,234 or land subject to fluctuating assessment, which yielded Rs. 2,272 in 1877-78 and Rs. 1,981 in 1878-9.

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## Land and Land Revenue.

Assessment circles, rates, and assessments.

Taluk.	Circle.	Assessment at rates.	Assessment actually amount.	DEDUCT ON ACCOUNT OF				Add on account of transfer of villages.	Initial Khalsah demand.	Former demand.
				Transfer of villages.	Protective leases.	Gardens.	Masaf.			
Nuh.	Taoru	42,391	41,396	2,408	310	..	1,528	..	87,150	83,598
	Bangar	106,761	108,428	3,660	249	30	..	..	104,489	84,160
	Dahar	131,015	120,297	4,982	5	99	18	..	115,243	101,193
Gurgaon.	Bahora	23,110	22,118	..	241	27	46	..	21,804	18,482
	Sihl	15,429	15,381	..	592	..	2	..	14,787	13,244
	Kasan	9,069	8,652	..	152	..	..	..	8,500	6,800
	Sahibi	179,722	19,270	..	312	..	2,852	..	16,106	?
	Sailani	20,920	21,841	..	174	..	..	..	21,767	19,476
	Sohna	19,902	19,955	..	272	63	35	..	19,685	14,108
	Hill	13,062	12,690	..	203	..	..	..	12,487	?
	Gurgaon	36,613	38,042	..	677	128	22	..	37,215	35,608
	Farrukhnagar	80,468	81,965	..	668	30	3,952	..	27,815	?
	Chak adjoining Dahar	10,314	10,732	..	97	..	..	..	10,685	11,137
	Najafgarh <i>Patil</i>	21,071	16,666	..	16	..	14	..	16,666	?
Rewari.	Sahibi	63,193	63,818	..	550	75	1,681	..	61,062	61,334
	Kansaoti	26,717	27,323	..	258	41	89	..	26,935	?
	Shahjahanpur	11,141	11,199	..	54	1	..	..	11,144	?
	Hill	34,667	34,167	..	298	11	141	..	33,712	?
	Magda Salt	49,430	51,814	..	508	21	5,490	..	45,295	?
	Palawas	29,307	29,231	..	69	18	9	..	29,185	?
	Rewari	22,415	23,322	..	424	221	1,212	..	21,465	?
	Mundhi	24,338	23,925	..	75	24	946	..	23,830	?

Increase of the cesses.

To appreciate fully the increase which took place in the Government demand, it is necessary to take into account the increase of the cesses. At the previous settlement the cesses leviable in addition to the land-revenue were as follows:—

	Per cent. on land-revenue.
Village headmen's allowance	5
<i>Patwari's</i> allowance (average about)	3½
Road cess	1
School cess	1
Total	10½

In 1871 the local rate cess was first imposed at 6½ per cent.: when the Settlement operations commenced in 1872, the *patwari's* cess was somewhat raised, and on the introduction of the new assessments in 1877 it was fixed at 4 per cent. and at the same time the postal cess of ½ per cent. was first imposed. In 1880 the local rate cess was increased from 6½ to 8½ per cent., the enhancement having been delayed in this district by special order. The *Zaildari* allowance of 1 per cent. and the chief headman's allowance of 1 per cent. were introduced with the new assessment, but may be left out of account as they are deductions from the Government demand. Thus for every Rs. 100 of land-revenue assessment the peasant has had actually to pay as follows:—

	Rs.		Rs.
Up to 1870	110½	From 1877 to 1880	117½
From 1870 to 1877	116½	Since 1880	119½

The cesses now payable in the Gurgaon district are as follows:—

	Percentage on the land-revenue.
Headman's due	5
<i>Patwari's</i> dues	4
Local rate	8½
Road cess	1
School cess	1
Postal cess	½

Total ... 19½

besides the *zaildāri* and *ala-lambardāri* allowance of 1 per cent. each, which are nominally deductions from the land revenue, the pay of the village watchman which is levied on houses, and the common village expenses which are generally paid by the cultivators in the form of a cess on the land-revenue.

It was found advisable to subject to fluctuating assessment the flooded lands on the edge of the Najafgarh *jhil* in *tahsil* Gurgaon, and similarly situated lands in five villages bordering the Kotla *jhil* in *tahsil* Nūh. Writing of the former villages, Mr. Channing thus describes the circumstances and his proposals, which were sanctioned without alteration :—

“The special feature in this (the Najafgarh *jhil*) circle, is the irrigation from the *jhil*; 6,042 acres are shown in the statements as *Dahri*. Of these 36·4 per cent. are *Chiknot*, 31·5 per cent. *Narmot*, 23 per cent. *Magda*, 9·1 per cent. *Bhūr*. The great bulk of these lands are flooded by the *jhil* waters, and the small remaining portion is irrigated by drainage from the higher tracts around. Of the crops grown on the *Dahri* lands in the year of measurement, wheat formed 40·6 per cent., barley 16·9 per cent., melons 11·2 per cent., *jūār* 8·6 per cent., sugarcane 5·8 per cent., cotton 3 per cent., barley and gram 2·6 per cent., wheat and gram 2 per cent., and gram 0·7 per cent.

“In this district there are twelve villages, which are wholly or partly liable to inundation from the *jhil*; in five of these villages the lands lie beyond all risk of excessive inundation, except, perhaps, in seasons of most unusually heavy rains, and the owners of these villages have no desire whatever to see any further drainage works executed; so also in two other villages, although lying somewhat near the *jhil*, the villagers stated that their lands were not in need of further drainage: although a waste estate jointly owned by them and immediately adjoining their village would be benefited. There remain five villages which suffer from excessive inundation :—(1) Dharampur, (2) Daulatābād, (3) Budherā, (4) Makraula, (5) Naubarāmād. The area in these five villages, which the people themselves point out as suffering from excessive inundation, is 1,772 acres, and after inquiry I accept this area as correct.

“I have had a statement prepared showing the remissions granted in these twelve villages during the last fifteen years. The total sum is Rs. 18,985. Of this Rs. 16,761 were granted in the five villages which complain of inundation, and Rs. 2,224 in the other seven villages: in the five villages the average remissions were Rs. 1,117 per annum, being nearly 10 per cent. on the revenue assessed, and in the other villages Rs. 148 per annum, being less than one-and-a-half per cent. on the revenue: the total average annual remissions were Rs. 1,265 per annum, almost the whole of which is due to the action of the *jhil*. In the seven villages the remissions on account of inundations were given in *kharif* only. The system of cultivation adopted in these villages is as follows :—The ordinary *kharif* crops such as *jūār*, *bājrá*, &c., are sown in those high lands which are beyond the ordinary inundation level. From the lands which after being flooded by the *jhil* submerge before the end of November, good crops of wheat are obtained. Lands which have remained submerged beyond the season of *rabi* sowings, but which have become fit for cultivation by the end of March, may be planted with sugarcane or melons. If any lands have remained under water so long that they continue moist up to the commencement of the rains, rice is sown and transplanted into the shallow water near the edge of the *jhil*. Rice also can be sown in lands watered from *dhenklis* (lever buckets), and

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Fluctuating assess-  
ment in flooded  
lands.



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lands.

afterwards transplanted, but this method of cultivation does not seem usual.

"As to the destruction of *kharif* crops by inundations, no remissions of revenue are necessary from this cause, except under special circumstances. The really valuable crop is the *rabi*, and if the lands on which the *kharif* crops were destroyed emerge in time for the *rabi* sowings, the *zamindars* are undoubted gainers; and as lands on which *juar* and *bajra* are sown generally lie fairly high, they will, as a rule, be sown with *rabi*: all that is necessary is, that in framing the revenue instalments the revenue due on all the land which may be inundated by the *jhil* should be made payable in the *rabi*, so that in case of the destruction of the *kharif* there may be no need even for a suspension of demand. Melons are not a very profitable crop: and the sugarcane cultivation on the banks of the *jhil* is eminently speculative. It is necessary that the lands be moist up to the end of March: they must therefore have been heavily flooded during the preceding rains. If in the ensuing rains the *jhil* again floods the lands as in the year before, the cane will be submerged and destroyed. Sugarcane has the greatest chance of success, when a year of heavy rain, in which the higher lands are submerged, enabling the *zamindars* to plant them with cane, is succeeded by a year in which the inundation being less extensive, the cane is brought to maturity. Thus after the rains of 1873, a large area was planted with cane, and the rains of 1874 being of not more than average heaviness, the experiment was successful, while a couple of villages which had planted cane in 1873 lost it in the rains of that year, and were too crippled to repeat the experiment next year, when it would have been successful. The *Dahri* lands then of this circle are of great value, if after being sufficiently flooded, they are laid dry at the proper season, but as they are unfortunately liable to excessive submersion, most of the villages in which they are situated are at present very far from flourishing; and two or three which are very heavily assessed are now, from a succession of heavy floods, in a miserable state. The way in which I propose to deal with the difficulties of assessment thus arising is, to form into a separate *chak* the 1,772 acres which form the actual basin of the *jhil*, and are even in ordinary years liable to excessive submersion. I regard the reclamation of these lands as wholly due to the action of the drainage works constructed by the Canal Department, and I propose that the Canal Officers should take credit for the whole income obtained from them, it being thus made their interest to make the drainage as efficient as possible. For lands laid dry in time for the *rabi* sowings, and on which some 13 to 15 maunds per acre of wheat may be grown, they might collect Rs. 3 per acre. If part of the lands remained submerged beyond the period of *rabi* sowing, but were later planted with melons or *rabi juar* (which latter is grown in chiefly for fodder), they might take Re. 1-8-0 per acre. I do not think that the rate for melons should be higher than this: the produce is said not to be good from the lands drying up under the summer sun, and the market rate is naturally very variable, inasmuch as such a perishable crop must be sold off at once when ripe; half the full rate was the highest which the *zamindars* consulted would agree to pay for lands planted with melons, and in a village which is cultivated by tenants under an auction purchaser, the *zabti* rate for melons is only Rs. 2-8-10 per acre. If the lands had been planted with sugarcane, no rate should be charged that season, as no income would be derived from the crop until the following season, when too it would appear whether the crop, which, as I have before pointed out, is eminently speculative, had succeeded or failed. If it had failed, the *zamindar* would have been a heavy loser, and nothing should be paid: but if the cane had come to maturity, he would be able to pay a

double rate, or Rs. 6 thus making good the last season's remission. The occupier's rate on the Agrá canal for cane irrigated by flow is Rs. 6-10-8, or with owner's rate, Rs. 8-13-8. Rice or any other *kharij* crops, besides sugarcane, might be charged Rs. 3 per acre. It probably would be best to treat the whole of this as an owner's rate."

Protective leases for wells were given under the provisions of the circular of the Board of Administration, Panjáb, No. 41 of 1850, to which attention was called by Secretary to Government Panjáb's No. 546, dated 3rd April 1861. Under it protection from levy of the irrigated land-rate was to be given for 20 years in the case of new wells, and for 10 years where an old well had fallen out of use and had been repaired; for cuts from rivers and *jhils* from 5 to 10 years according to the sum expended on the work. By a reference to Government it was decided that the date of the letter of 1861, above quoted, should be the earliest limit for leases now taken out; that is to say, if any protective leases had been taken out after 1858, when Gurgáon came into the Panjáb, and before 1861, the owners of them would be entitled to dry assessment, otherwise protection was to be claimed only for works constructed after the issue of the orders in the latter year. Practically, however, this proved unimportant, as no one cared greatly to apply for protection, and Government had already noticed the fact. It was further directed that exemption extended only to wells constructed of masonry, and not those of a temporary nature. The following statement shows the numbers of wells dealt with under these provisions in each *tahsil* during settlement:—

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Protective leases for  
wells.

Name of <i>Tahsil</i> .	No. of leases.	Extent of land.	Average per lease.	To whom given.
			A. R. P.	
Firozpur ...	105	1,091	10 1 22	{ 97 Proprietors 6 Proprietors and tenants. 2 Tenants
Gurgáon ...	183	2,300	12 2 11	{ 172 Proprietors 0 Proprietors and tenants. 11 Tenants.
Núh ...	35	416	11 3 22	{ 34 Proprietors. 0 Proprietors and tenants. 1 Tenant.
Palwal ...	105	1,316	12 2 5	{ 98 Proprietors. 1 Proprietor and tenant. 6 Tenants.
Rewári ...	88	1,720	19 2 7	{ 81 Proprietors. 6 Proprietors and tenants. 1 Tenant.
Total ...	516	6,843	13 1 2	{ 492 Proprietors. 13 Proprietors and tenants. 21 Tenants.

It will be noticed that some of the leases were given to tenants either alone or acting in concert with the proprietors of the lands

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they tilled. In Palwal two of these cases were of tenants-at-will, in the others tenants with right of occupancy.

As already noticed, the manufacture of salt by evaporation from brine raised from wells was till quite lately carried on in two distinct parts of the district, (a) the Nūh or Salambha salt circle near Nūh, (b) the Sultānpur circle near Farrukhnagar. Of these, the former has been abolished since settlement. Whether this manufacture should or should not be subject to taxation of the nature of land revenue in addition to the ordinary salt duty, and what form this additional taxation should take, are questions which have more than once been debated, and on which different views have at different times prevailed. At the settlement of *parganah* Jhārsa in 1836, the Government decided to abandon its claim to the share formerly taken by the Begam Samrū of the produce of the salt manufactured in the three villages of the Sultānpur circle (Mahmūdpur-Saidpur, Sadhrāna and Hamīrpur), which were then British territory; and in the Nūh or Salambha circle, the salt pans were included in the settlement of the estates within which they were situated, and were assessed at the rates used for irrigated land. When the territories belonging to the Nawābs of Jhajjar and Farrukhnagar were annexed after the events of 1857, it was found that both those rulers took from the salt manufacturers a certain share of the salt produced, which was known as the *Hākimi hissa*, or ruler's share; and the question of maintaining or abolishing this cess was debated in a long correspondence. At first it was ruled in Secretary to Government's letter No. 1948, of 20th December 1860, that the cess should be abolished; but subsequently, on the representations of Messrs. Cust and A. A. Roberts who had visited the works, the operation of this order was suspended. The Customs Officers did not, however, cease their opposition to this cess, which, they maintained, unduly weighted the works subject to it in their competition with the other salt sources; they argued that the maintenance of two different systems of treating salt works in such close proximity was anomalous, and that the abolition of the cess would lead to an increased manufacture, and consequently to an increased income from the ordinary excise duty on salt, which would more than recoup Government for the loss of the cess. On the other side it was argued that the ordinary excise was a duty on the consumer levied on all salt, whether produced in foreign or in British territory, and that, in addition to this, the Government was entitled by immemorial custom to a share of all the produce of the land in every estate, and in the case of salt works the most convenient method of taking this share was the *Hākimi* cess, and that the abandonment by the State of the income from this source would benefit not the public, but the owners of the land, who would assuredly appropriate the income thus relinquished. It was not until 1869 that final orders were passed, maintaining the cess, and fixing it at definite rates varying in different estates according to the quality of the salt produced; it was at the same time ordered that the old system of leasing out the cess to a contractor should be discontinued, as it was found that it led to undue interference with the manufacturers.

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Soon after the commencement of the recent settlement, orders were received from the Financial Commissioner that the same system was to be introduced into the other salt-producing villages; that the rates to be paid by the several descriptions of salt should be fixed by the Customs Department in concert with the Settlement Officer, and that it should then be decided what share belonged to the Government and what to the proprietors of the estate. In accordance with these orders, after communicating with the Customs Officers, Mr. Channing reported on the matter,\* and final orders were passed in a letter from Secretary to Government, to Secretary to Financial Commissioner, No. 125, of 5th February 1879. It will be sufficient to state here the result of those orders.

*First.*—As regards the villages already assessed to *Hákimi* cess. In these the rates found in existence were as follows:—

First class villages, Sultánpur, Mubárikpur, Sarbasáirpur. Rate of cess Re. 0-1-9 per maund.

Second class village, Ikbálpur. Rate of cess Re. 0-1-0 per maund.

Third class village, Kaliawas. Rate of cess Re. 0-0-6 per maund. These rates it was decided to maintain unaltered.

In these villages it had been arranged in the summary settlement of the *Bádli pargana*h, to which they belonged, that a certain percentage of the collections should be paid to the owners of the estates, in consideration of their proprietary rights in the lands occupied by the salt pans. In the case of lands that had been long devoted to the manufacture, the rate was to be five per cent., and in the case of lands newly taken up 12 per cent. The 12 per cent. rule had never been acted on, as no new lands had been taken up; and as the consent of the proprietors would be necessary before their land could be thus occupied, it seemed unnecessary to retain this provision, which, if acted upon, would have complicated the accounts very considerably. The five per cent. allowance had been paid (but at irregular intervals) to the proprietors of the villages, except Sarbasáirpur, which is owned by Government, and had been divided by them in different ways according to the custom of each estate. The final orders of Government sanctioned the proposal to continue the refund of a percentage of the collections fixed for the future at the uniform rate of five per cent., and directed that the amounts thus due should be paid annually by the Deputy Commissioner. It was also arranged that the owners of the wells and pans, when not also the owners of the soil, should no longer be recorded as tenants-at-will or occupancy tenants, but be entered in the column which shows the occupancy or tenancy of the land as "owner of the well" or "owner of the pan." This change was advisable, as these men clearly held under a tenure very different from that of an ordinary tenancy; they had always exercised the right of transfer, and had paid no rent, except the *Hákimi* cess. They are not indeed in most cases the owners of the soil occupied by the works, and have therefore not participated in the allowance from the *Hákimi* cess; but there can be no doubt that they

\* This correspondence was printed in Proceedings, Panjáb Government, No. 1, of August 1878, Revenue, Agriculture and Commerce Department.

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possess full rights over the wells and pans as long as these remain in existence.

*Secondly.*—As regards the villages of the Sultānpur circle not hitherto subject to the *Hakimi* cess. These are three in number, Saidpur-Mahmūdpur, Sadhrāna, and Hamīrpur. When these villages were in the Begam Sainrū's *jāgir*, she collected half-an-anna per maund on the salt when manufactured, and also from Rs. 10 to Rs. 29 on every Rs. 100 realised by its sale. When the British Government abandoned its claim to this income, it fell into the hands of the proprietors of the estates, who have since, while exempt from assessment to Government on account of their salt lands, been levying dues from the salt manufacturers, fixed either as lump sum rents, or as percentages, varying in different works on the value of the salt sold. These rates were not, however, liable to vary at the mere will of the proprietors of the estate, but were fixed in the administration papers. In these estates the rate of *Hakimi* cess has been fixed with reference to the quality of the salt and to the rates levied in the adjoining Sultānpur circle villages, at Re. 0-1-3 per maund; the amount paid on this account by the salt manufacturers will not, it is estimated, differ to any great extent from that formerly paid to the village proprietors. These will no longer levy any dues from the salt manufacturers, but they will be allowed 50 per cent. of *Hakimi* cess collections; in the other Sultānpur circle villages, the proprietors of the soil have never received from the salt pans more than a compensatory allowance but in these villages the land owners have since the regular settlement been in the enjoyment of the full rent of their lands, and although the Government is entitled under the ordinary rule of assessment to claim half of this income, yet it could not justly take a larger share. The difference in the history of the properties thus accounts for the enormous difference in the percentage allowed in the two sets of immediately contiguous estates. The long abandonment of the Government claim undoubtedly made the treatment of these estates somewhat difficult, and there was some discussion as to the character of the arrangement which should be introduced. The allowance will, as in the other villages, be paid annually by the Deputy Commissioner to the village proprietors.

*Thirdly.*—As regards the salt producing villages of the Salambha or Nūh circle. The lands occupied by the salt pans had heretofore been treated as ordinary irrigated lands, were assessed at regular settlement at irrigated rates, and had been included by the people in the *bachh* or distribution of assessment over holdings. They were therefore excluded from the assessment and the *bachh*; and *Hakimi* cess was imposed at the following rates:—

	Re. A. P.	
First class villages. Rate of cess per maund	0 0 4	Malab, Fazilpur, Kherla, Adbar
Second class villages. Rate of cess per maund	0 0 2	Bai, Nuh, Dundaheri, Salaheri, Untaka
Third class villages. Rate of cess per maund	0 0 1	Firozpur.

No allowances out of the collections were to be made in this circle: the pans and wells belonged to, and were worked by, the owners of the village lands on which they are situated, and therefore no compensatory allowance for proprietary rights was required; nor

did the rates represent more than that half share of the net produce to which the Government is entitled. The rates, it will be observed, were much lower than those in the Sultānpur circle, but the salt manufactured in the Salambha villages was inferior, and the facilities of Railway carriage lately gained by the Sultānpur villages did not here exist: and the manufacture has consequently been discontinued.

The dates on which the revenue becomes due are—

<i>Kharif harvest.</i>		<i>Rabi harvest.</i>	
15th November.	15th December.	15th May.	15th June.

The proportions of the instalments vary exceedingly: some hill villages have no spring crop, and pay all their assessment in the *kharif*; while some low-lying flooded villages pay almost the whole of their assessment in the *rabi*. The table on the next page gives the general result.

The dates fixed at Settlement for the payment of the *kharif* instalment, viz., 15th November and 15th December, were too early. By the 15th November much of the *kharif* crop is still unthreshed; and November is perhaps the busiest month of the whole year, for not only is the *kharif* crop to be cut and threshed, but most of the sowing of the *rabi* is done in that month, and it must seriously interfere with farming operations to require the peasant to hurry on the threshing of his *kharif* crop and take part of it to market in the beginning of November. It is impossible too for the District Officers to learn the circumstances of the *kharif* harvest in individual villages all over the district by the 15th November, or to obtain from the *patwāris* returns showing the area cultivated and the approximate outturn; so that before the circumstances of individual villages can be ascertained, the machinery for the collection of the revenue is set in motion, and much hardship results. For these reasons, and with regard to the fact that in the adjoining Muttrā district the *kharif* instalment is payable in December and January, the Panjāb Government sanctioned the postponement of the *kharif* instalments by a month: viz., to 15th December and 15th January.

Table No. XXX shows the number of villages, parts of villages and plots, and the area of land of which the revenue is assigned, the amount of that revenue, the period of assignment, and the number of assignees for each *tahsil* as the figures stood in 1881-82. The *māfis* and *jāgirs* of Gurgaon are comparatively few in number, but they reached, at the recent settlement, the respectable figure of Rs. 44,001 yearly, distributed thus: Gurgaon Rs. 12,795, Rewāri Rs. 15,230, Palwal Rs. 5,779, Nūh Rs. 4,824, and Fīrozpur Rs. 5,373. They were investigated under the same authority as those of Delhī, and in very few cases was it found necessary to refer to Government for orders. As entered in the registers the grants are distributed thus as regards yearly value—less than Rs. 5,—38; between Rs. 5 and 10,—28; between Rs. 10 and 20,—29; between Rs. 20 and 50,—32; between Rs. 50 and 100,—12; and above Rs. 100,—25. The four transferable *jāgirs* held in perpetuity in Nūh are the villages Kāngarka, Madārka, Bharangpur, and part of the township of Tāorū held by the *kāzis* of that place. The assignment has come down hereditarily from the time of the kings. Among the 11 *jāgirs*, held in perpetuity but not transferable, of more than Rs. 100 in value may

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## Land and Land Revenue.

Assessment of  
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salt manufacture.

Total demand; and  
revenue instalments.

Assignments of land  
revenue.

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Statement showing the amount of Government demand due on each instalment of 1879 for each Assessment Circle of Gurgáon District.

Total demand; and  
revenue instalments.

Tahsil.	Assessment Circle.	RABI 1879.			KHARIF 1879.			Grand Total.
		1st Instalment.	2nd Instalment.	Total	1st Instalment.	2nd Instalment.	Total.	
GURGAON.	Bahora ...	6,245	6,242	12,487	4,481	4,474	8,955	21,442
	Pahár (Hill) ...	990	982	1,972	5,170	5,159	10,329	12,301
	Dahar ...	4,903	4,897	9,800	3,290	3,285	6,575	16,375
	Sohná ...	3,076	3,069	6,135	6,583	6,572	13,155	19,290
	Sihi ...	2,159	2,148	4,307	5,129	5,115	10,244	14,551
	Sailáni ...	5,526	5,512	11,038	5,199	5,186	10,385	21,423
	Sáhibi ...	5,268	5,260	10,528	2,683	2,669	5,352	15,880
	Farrukhnagar ...	6,355	6,345	12,700	7,104	7,091	14,195	26,895
	Kásan ...	542	541	1,083	3,640	3,633	7,273	8,356
	Gurgáon ...	7,722	7,702	15,424	10,611	10,586	21,197	36,621
	Adjoining Dahar	3,173	3,169	6,342	2,062	2,057	4,119	10,461
	Total ...	45,959	45,857	91,816	55,952	55,827	1,11,779	2,03,595
REWARI.	Pálhawas ...	8,621	8,603	17,224	5,765	5,744	11,509	28,733
	Pahár (Hill) ...	7,647	7,633	15,280	8,982	8,965	17,947	33,227
	Rewári ...	6,975	6,951	13,926	4,203	4,186	8,389	22,315
	Shahjáhpur ...	2,885	2,884	5,769	2,585	2,583	5,168	10,937
	Sáhibi ...	19,989	19,962	39,951	9,568	9,540	19,108	59,059
	Kansoti ...	7,764	7,758	15,522	5,466	5,461	10,927	26,449
	Magda Salt ...	13,851	13,816	27,667	8,511	8,477	16,988	44,655
	Mundi ...	6,336	6,324	12,660	5,432	5,424	10,856	23,516
	Transferred from Nuh and Gurgáon	3,291	3,285	6,576	2,747	2,737	5,484	12,060
	Total ...	77,359	77,216	1,54,575	53,259	53,117	1,06,376	2,60,951
PALWAL.	Bángar ...	43,335	43,329	86,664	60,002	59,998	1,20,000	2,06,664
	Bhuder ...	2,453	2,449	4,902	3,878	3,875	7,753	12,655
	Dahar ...	4,081	4,080	8,161	4,534	4,536	9,070	17,231
	Khádar ...	4,047	4,054	8,101	2,059	2,063	4,122	12,223
	Khádar Bángar ...	7,568	7,572	15,140	7,211	7,211	14,422	29,562
	Total ...	61,484	61,484	1,22,968	77,684	77,683	1,55,367	2,78,335
NUH.	Bángar ...	19,582	19,629	39,211	31,713	31,746	63,459	1,02,670
	Táoru ...	4,598	4,623	9,221	13,657	13,697	27,354	36,575
	Dahar ...	28,899	28,946	57,845	27,691	27,737	55,428	1,13,273
	Transferred from Palwal	189	190	379	316	317	633	1,012
	Total ...	53,268	53,388	1,06,656	73,377	73,497	1,46,874	2,53,530
FIROZPUR.	Chiknot ...	7,405	7,394	14,799	5,372	5,356	10,728	25,527
	Mandikhera ...	8,052	8,041	16,093	5,620	5,604	11,224	27,317
	Landoha ...	13,306	13,295	26,601	11,956	11,940	23,896	50,497
	Bhuder ...	9,486	9,457	18,943	14,247	14,217	28,464	47,407
	Punáháná ...	13,845	13,796	27,641	23,038	22,982	46,020	73,661
	Transferred from Nuh	1,369	1,364	2,733	2,562	2,557	5,119	7,852
	Total ...	53,463	53,347	1,06,810	62,795	62,656	1,25,451	2,32,261
	Grand Total ...	2,91,353	2,91,292	5,82,625	3,23,067	3,22,780	6,45,847	12,28,672

be mentioned that of Farrukhnagar and Sewári held by Sarájuddín Haidar, son of Captain Mufti Tafazzul Husain Khán; and the four villages Buráni Phadairi, Kutbpuri, Ghurkawas, and  $\frac{1}{2}$  share of Kanhauri held by the Saiyads of Turkiawas in Rewári. The village of Jalálpur in Palwal is held for life by the four sons of Nanne Singh.

Table No. XVII shows the area and income of Government estates; while Table No. XIX shows the area of land acquired by Government for public purposes. In 1876 Mr. Channing, the Settlement Officer, submitted a report on the circumstances of the following estates, which were or had been held to be the property of Government: Murádpuri in *tahsil* Rewári, Sarbasirpur, and Jhund Sarai Wairán in *tahsil* Gurgaon; Saidpur, Sadarpur, Durgápur, Khusropur, and half of Raidáska in *tahsil* Palwal. It is not necessary to give any account of the correspondence in which the history of each estate was fully detailed: it will suffice to note how each case has been finally disposed of in accordance with the orders contained in the letters from the Secretary to Government to Secretary to Financial Commissioner, No. 773 of 9th July 1877, No. 1339 of 13th December 1877, and No. 259 of 4th March 1881.

*Murádpuri*.—The proprietary right, it was ordered, should be sold to the representatives of the original proprietors, at a price of Rs. 1,755, paid by instalments spread over the whole term of settlement.

*Sarbasirpur*.—With reference to this state, Mr. Channing reported as follows:—

“Sarbasirpur is an estate of 381 acres close to Farrukhnagar. It originally formed part of the estate of the Nawáb of Farrukhnagar, but was excepted from the gift to Captain Tafazzul Husain. It is mainly occupied by salt pans, the property in which practically rests with the salt manufacturers, although Government is recorded as owner of the land. The land not so occupied consists of inferior uncultivated *bhúr* in hillocks, and is leased for grazing purposes to the *jágrdár* and yields about Rs. 250 annually. The *jágrdár* is anxious to be recorded as owner of Sarbasirpur, but has no especial claim on the estate, and in view of the manufacture of salt in most of the lands and the need of grazing ground for the cattle thus employed, it may be as well for Government to retain the estate, periodically letting the grazing ground.”

This view was approved, and the estate remains the property of Government: alienation of it to an individual might be injurious to the interests of the salt manufacturers, both in the matter of restrictions on grazing for their cattle, and in claims for dues of a proprietary character on the lands occupied by the salt pans.

*Jhund Sarai Wairán*.—In this estate it was held that the Government claim, which was of a very doubtful character, should be abandoned, and the parties in possession have been recorded as proprietors.

*Saidpur*.—The sale was sanctioned of this estate for Rs. 1,000 to the proprietors of the neighbouring village of Sikandarpur, who had long held it in farm.

*Sadarpur*.—The proprietary right of this estate has been sold to the parties who had held it in farm for ten years' *jama* or Rs. 6,730, payable in twenty-nine yearly instalments of Rs. 225 and a thirtieth

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*Sarbasárpur*.—With reference to this state, Mr. Channing reported as follows:—

“Sarbasárpur is an estate of 381 acres close to Farrukhnagar. It originally formed part of the estate of the Nawáb of Farrukhnagar, but was excepted from the gift to Captain Tafazzul Husain. It is mainly occupied by salt pans, the property in which practically rests with the salt manufacturers, although Government is recorded as owner of the land. The land not so occupied consists of inferior uncultivated *bhúr* in hillocks, and is leased for grazing purposes to the *jágirdár* and yields about Rs. 250 annually. The *jágirdár* is anxious to be recorded as owner of Sarbasárpur, but has no especial claim on the estate, and in view of the manufacture of salt in most of the lands and the need of grazing ground for the cattle thus employed, it may be as well for Government to retain the estate, periodically letting the grazing ground.”

This view was approved, and the estate remains the property of Government: alienation of it to an individual might be injurious to the interests of the salt manufacturers, both in the matter of restrictions on grazing for their cattle, and in claims for dues of a proprietary character on the lands occupied by the salt pans.

*Jhund Sarai Wairán*.—In this estate it was held that the Government claim, which was of a very doubtful character, should be abandoned, and the parties in possession have been recorded as proprietors.

*Saidpur*.—The sale was sanctioned of this estate for Rs. 1,000 to the proprietors of the neighbouring village of Sikandarpur, who had long held it in farm.

*Sadarpur*.—The proprietary right of this estate has been sold to the parties who had held it in farm for ten years' *jama* or Rs. 6,730, payable in twenty-nine yearly instalments of Rs. 225 and a thirtieth

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instalment of Rs. 215: these payments become due with the first *rabi* instalment of revenue each year.

*Durgapur.*—The proprietary claims of certain Brahmins were settled by the grant to them of three-twentieths of the estate; and the remaining seventeen-twentieths have been sold to the former farmers for Rs. 9,300, or ten times the new assessment, payable in yearly instalments of Rs. 310 per annum for thirty years, due with the first *rabi* instalment of revenue annually.

*Khusropur.*—The Government claim on this estate was declared invalid, and the proprietorship was recorded as belonging to certain Brahmins and Gújars, who had the best *prima facie* claim to the ownership. They must defend their rights, if necessary, against other claimants in the ordinary Civil Courts.

*Half of Raidaska.*—Descendants of the old proprietary body were granted by Government rights of occupancy, defined by the terms of the grant to be rights under Section 5 (2) of the Tenancy Act, in 256  $\frac{1}{2}$  *bighas*; and then the ownership of this estate, i. e.,  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the whole village, known as the Gújars' *patti*, was sold to the farmer for a lump sum of Rs. 4,625, equivalent to five years' *jama*, payable with the first *rabi* instalment of 1878. In most of the above sales, other persons were by consent joined with the farmers in the deed of sale.

*Part of Palwal.*—There was also some correspondence on the subject of the ownership of two *pattis* in *Mauza* Palwal, on which final orders were passed in Secretary to Financial Commissioner's letter No. 5551 of 11th August 1879. The lands had originally been owned by persons who before the regular settlement lost their proprietary rights, probably by refusing to engage for the revenue, when the grants by which they held their lands revenue-free were resumed. On this abandonment the Gújar and Mali tenants of the land seem to have stepped into the practical position of owners, and at the regular settlement were found by the Settlement Officer thus holding the land, but on an admittedly defective title, which might have been disputed either by the former owners, or by the Government, as entitled to all lands not the subject of private ownership. Practically this state of things had continued to the present day, and the title of the parties in possession had been judicially pronounced to be imperfect, although no stronger private title had been put up. The Additional Financial Commissioner, on reference being made to him, agreed that no claim should be put forward on the part of the Government, and directed that the parties, who had since the regular settlement been in the practical position of owners, should be recorded as such.

*One-third of Páchlai.*—An investigation into the ownership of one-third share of *Mauza* Páchlai in Rewári led to this share of the estate being declared to be Government property; but as this was a result of what appeared a mistaken judicial decision of a former Deputy Commissioner, Mr. Channing recommended the grant of the Government interest in the land to the heirs of the man, Jugal Kishor, whose claim had been denied by that decision; the Government agreed in the view taken, and sanctioned the grant in letter

No. 929 of 15th August 1877, from Secretary to Government to Secretary to Financial Commissioner.

*Other plots.*—The Government also owns plots of land in Firozpur, Bádshahpur, and six other villages. Secretary to Government's letter No. 46 of 14th January 1879, directed that the plots at Firozpur should be leased annually, until required as rewards to deserving persons; Secretary to Financial Commissioner's letter No. 4943 of 14th July 1879, directed that Bádshahpur land should also be leased out for short periods: the other plots, which are very petty, are eventually to be sold by public auction. (Secretary to Financial Commissioner's letter No. 8363 of 22nd December 1879.

The following figures show the occupier's rates, charged for the use of water on the Agra canal. In addition to these an owner's rate is levied, consisting of one-third of the occupier's rates, and representing the assessment of land revenue due to canal irrigation:—

Class.	Nature of Crop.	Per Acre irrigated.		Per.
		Natural flow.	Lift.	
		Rs. As. P.	Rs. As. P.	Year.
I.	Sugarcane, rice ... ..	6 10 8	3 5 4	
II.	Tobacco, opium, vegetables, orchard and waternuts ...	4 0 0	2 0 0	Crop.
III.	All <i>rabi</i> crops, indigo, and cotton	3 0 0	1 8 0	Do.
IV.	All <i>kharif</i> crops not specified above	2 0 0	1 0 0	Do.

In the beginning of the year 1877 the condition of the district, as a whole, was unusually prosperous. There had been no serious drought for eight years and the harvests had been almost without exception up to or above the average for at least five years. The district had engaged for 35 years an assessment, which towards the end of the term had, with the exception of a few tracts and scattered villages, become a light one owing to the rise in prices and development of resources. There had been no serious mortality of men or cattle for some years; and in population, extent of cultivation and irrigation, number of cattle and amount of accumulated capital, the district was probably richer than it had ever been before. But the rains of 1877 were very scanty in amount and very inopportune in their distribution; the autumn crop of 1877 was a complete failure and the following spring crop very poor. Four-fifths of the district presented the appearance of a barren desert, and the usual growth of grass and fodder entirely failed. The supply of fodder available was soon consumed, and even the dry thatch of deserted huts was pulled out, chopped up, and given to the cattle as fodder mixed with the leaves of trees as a last resource for keeping them alive. During the cold weather the cattle died rapidly and in great numbers, and heaps of bones lying round nearly every village attested the great mortality. It was estimated that nearly a half of the 300,000 cattle in the district died of starvation in that one year, a loss to the peasantry equivalent to 15 lakhs of rupees or more than a year's land revenue of the district. The scarcity caused by the failure of harvests hardly deepened into actual famine, although there were some deaths from

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starvation, and a large portion of the population was greatly weakened by want; but it was followed in 1878 and 1879 by a dreadful epidemic of fever, and in those two years 103,000 persons or more than a seventh of the total population died; the death-rate per thousand per annum was 68 in 1878, and 81 in 1879, and the abnormal mortality of those two years was more than 60,000 persons. It was estimated that 95 per cent. of the population were effected by fever in 1879; and for the month of October in that year the death-rate for the whole district reached the terrible figure of 204 per thousand per annum. Several villages lost a fourth of their population. The autumn crop was an abundant one, but a great deal of the grain was destroyed before it could be got in; many proprietors offered half the crop for the labour of reaping it, and still failed to get labourers able to undertake the work. The villages in December 1879 were a picture of misery, the houses in ruins, and their inhabitants in the extremity of weakness and despair. The birth-rate in the three years following 1877 was less than half the average, and the loss of population between 1876 and 1881 due to excessive mortality, abnormal infecundity, and unusual emigration must have been at least 70,000 or over 10 per cent. of the population. The population which had increased from 6,62,486 in 1855 to 689,034 in 1868, was found in 1881 to have fallen off to 641,848, a decrease of 7 per cent. The severe drought of *kharif* 1877 was followed by three other poor harvests; the crops of the next year were good, but could not be reaped owing to the epidemic of fever; and the following five harvests were all decidedly below the average. The peasants thus lost in six years the equivalent of a year-and-a-half's crops which may be valued at more than a million sterling. Owing to the loss of population and cattle about a *lakh* of acres or nearly 10 per cent. of the total cultivated area fell out of cultivation in those six years, and the standard of cultivation deteriorated greatly. Long-rooted plants and grass extended their hold over large areas of land and impaired its fertility. Numbers of wells were left unused owing to the want of cattle to work them; but irrigation from the Agra canal extended and to some extent compensated for the loss of well-irrigation; The indebtedness of the peasants greatly increased, and during those six years nearly 3 per cent. of the cultivated area of the district changed hands by sale, and mortgage increased from 5 to 12 per cent. of the total cultivated area; the amount of debt so secured on the land being over 20 *laks* of rupees or one-and-a-half-year's revenue of the whole district. In 1883, large tracts of land formerly cultivated but then lying waste, villages half deserted and in ruins, and the ill-clad appearance of the surviving inhabitants bore witness to the impoverishment of the peasantry; and the condition of the district formed a marked contrast to the prosperity of six short years before.

In the beginning of 1877 while the villages were still in the height of their prosperity, and there was no sign of the coming troubles, the new assessments which had been previously sanctioned were announced throughout the district to come into force with the *kharif* instalment of 1877. The result of the revision of assessment was to raise the total revenue of the district (including assignments) from Rs. 11,03,339 to Rs. 12,78,113, an increase of 16 per cent. The very first season in which this enhanced assessment came into force

was the disastrous *kharif* of 1877, and thus the new settlement and the period of agricultural distress began together—a coincidence which is apt to lead to the conclusion that the increase of the land revenue demand was one of the chief causes of the distress. It was, however, really due to the unfavourable seasons; and the increase of assessment, although it must have aggravated the evil, was one of the least important of the causes that led to it. From time to time relief was granted by suspension and remission; but on the whole the land-revenue was collected with great regularity and the total loss incurred by Government up to October 1882 was under two *lakhs* of rupees: the total remissions up to that date amounted to Rs. 1,60,000, and the balance was then less than Rs. 9,000; while advances for the purchase of bullocks and seed had been made to the extent of a *lakh* of rupees. In 1882 the hopes that had till then been entertained by Government that the return of good seasons would enable the district to recover from its depression were given up, and special measures of relief were sanctioned. Each village in the district was inspected, and its condition compared with what it had been before the commencement of the distress. Reductions of assessment for the whole term of settlement were granted to nearly half the villages, bringing the total land revenue down from Rs. 12,78,113 to Rs. 12,27,424, a reduction of Rs. 50,689 or 4 per cent; and in addition to this, temporary reductions for seven years were granted to 911 of the 1,264 villages, the result being that the net revenue demand was reduced by Rs. 1,43,089 or 12 per cent. from Rs. 12,28,525 in 1882-83 to Rs. 10,85,436 in 1883-84, or practically the same as it had been before the revision of the assessment in 1877. Remissions to the amount of Rs. 2,00,522 or one-sixth of a year's demand were also granted, and advances to the amount of a *lakh*-and-a-half of rupees were made to the peasants for the purchase of plough-bullocks. The people were generally more than satisfied with the relief granted them, which was much more liberal than they had expected, and there was reason to hope that it would be sufficient to restore the district to something of its former prosperity, provided the harvests were not much below the average. But the autumn harvest of 1883 has again been poor and the district is still (January 1884) in a critical condition.

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Subsequent revision of the assessment of 1877.

The total results for the district are as follows:—

The sanctioned Revenue-Roll for 1882-83 (Financial Commissioner's No. 1289, dated 6th February 1882) was—

Rs.

Total amount of reductions granted.

To this may be added:—

Temporarily remitted on well leases	...	...	...	9,293
<i>Ala</i> <i>Lambardār's</i> allowances	...	...	...	7,772
<i>Zaildār's</i> allowances	...	...	...	12,527
Remitted on gardens	...	...	...	1,940
<i>Indāms</i>	...	...	...	730
<i>Jāgīr</i> and <i>Muāfi</i>	...	...	...	17,326

Total former assessment ... 12,78,113

The reductions made for the term of Settlement leave the

Rs.

Total assessment ... 2,27,42

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ductions granted.

<i>Jagir and Mudfi</i>	...	...	...	Rs	17,040
<i>Indams</i>	...	...	...	...	730
Remitted on gardens	...	...	...	...	1,933
<i>Zaiddars'</i> allowances	...	...	...	...	12,017
<i>Ala Lambardars'</i> allowances	...	...	...	...	7,437
Temporarily remitted on well leases	...	...	...	...	9,025
Balance, which would be the Revenue-Roll to be					
sanctioned for 1883-84, were no further temporary					
reductions granted	...	...	...	...	11,79,242

The reductions granted for the term of Settlement thus reduce the total assessment (including assignments) from Rs. 12,78,113 to Rs. 12,27,424, a reduction of Rs. 50,689 or 4 per cent., which leaves the total assessment still 11 per cent. above the amount of Rs. 11,03,339, at which it stood before the recent revision. The reduction granted in each *tahsil* is as follows :—

<i>Tahsil.</i>	TOTAL ASSESSMENT OF		Reduction per cent.	Total assessment of previous settlement	Percentage by which reduced assessment still exceeds that of previous Settlement.
	1882-83.	1883-84.			
Palwal	2,85,482	2,78,722	2½	2,14,668	30
Firozpur	2,38,663	2,25,623	5½	2,08,759	8
Nuh	2,59,809	2,41,584	7	2,11,360	14
Gurgaon	2,17,432	2,10,253	3½	1,96,514	7
Rewari	2,76,827	2,71,242	2	2,72,038	...
Total	12,78,113	12,27,424	4	11,03,339	11

Thus, were no temporary reductions granted, the Revenue-Roll for 1883-84 would be Rs. 11,79,242. The reductions granted for seven years amount on this sum to Rs. 93,806 or 8 per cent., and with the permanent reductions, bring the actual Revenue-Roll down from Rs. 12,28,525 in 1882-83 to Rs. 10,85,636 in 1883-84, a reduction of Rs. 1,43,089 or 12 per cent., leaving the actual Revenue-Roll just below what it was in 1876-77, the last year before the new assessments came into force, viz., Rs. 10,86,113. This total reduction of Rs. 1,43,089 is made up of reductions determined for each village individually. It is distributed as follows over the several *tahsils* :—

<i>Tahsil.</i>	Revenue-Roll for 1882-83.	Reduced Revenue-Roll for 1883-84	Reduction per cent.	Revenue-Roll of 1876-77.	Increase or decrease per cent. over Revenue-Roll of 1876-77.
Palwal	2,77,885	2,51,329	10	2,14,374	+17
Firozpur	2,31,613	2,00,852	13	2,08,019	-3
Nuh	2,53,634	2,11,473	17	2,10,035	+1
Gurgaon	2,03,770	1,84,697	9	1,91,060	-2
Rewari	2,61,623	2,37,085	9	2,62,625	-9
Total	12,28,525	10,85,436	12	10,86,113	0

Thus while the reduced Revenue-Roll for 1883-84 is for the whole district much the same as it was in 1876-77, it shows an increase of 17 per cent. for *tahsil* Palwal, a large decrease of 9 per cent. for Rewári, a small reduction for Gurgaon and Firozpur and a small increase for Nuh. As compared with the Revenue-Roll for 1882-83, the reduction is largest in the Meo *tahsils* of Nuh and Firozpur and much the same in the other three *tahsils*. Of the 1,264 villages in the district reductions were granted for the term of Settlement to 573, and either for the term of Settlement or for seven years to 911, as follows :—

<i>Tahsil.</i>	Total number of villages.	NUMBER TO WHICH REDUCTION HAS BEEN GRANTED.	
		For term of Settlement.	For at least seven years.
Palwal ...	195	50	121
Firozpur ...	244	145	205
Nuh ...	289	203	249
Gurgaon ...	227	85	142
Rewári ...	309	88	194
Total ...	1,264	573	911

Permanent reductions have been granted all over the district, except in the tract in Palwal watered by the Agra Canal, in a tract about Gurgaon, and another about Rewári; and they are most numerous and largest in the Nuh Dahar; and the same may be said of the reductions for at least seven years.

On 31st March 1883, the arrears of the *kharif* instalment amounted to Rs. 2,55,636, besides unremitted arrears of former instalments amounting to Rs. 6,609. Mr. Wilson, who consulted with the Deputy Commissioner, thus reports their proposals regarding these balances :—

“The remission of these balances is, in the present state of the district, almost more important than the reduction of the assessment. We recommend the remission of Rs. 1,95,433 of the *kharif* instalment of 1882, and of Rs. 5,090 of the unremitted balances of former instalments, total remission of arrears Rs. 2,00,523, or one-sixth of a year's *jama*. The remaining unremitted arrears, Rs. 61,722, we thought should be realised without delay, and orders were issued to the *tahsildárs* accordingly. All of this sum, except Rs. 3,602, had been realised by the 31st July.

The details of the remissions for the different *tahsils* are as follows :—

<i>Tahsil.</i>	REMISSIONS ALREADY SANCTIONED.			NOW RECOMMENDED.		
	No. of villages.	From 1877 to <i>kharif</i> 1881.	For <i>rabi</i> 1882.	No. of villages.	For former instalments.	For <i>kharif</i> 1882.
		(Approximately)				
Palwal ...	11	166	5,308	87	...	24,142
Firozpur ...	164	50,424	18,827	221	2,220	46,491
Nuh ...	156	34,984	25,436	267	1,442	71,902
Gurgaon ...	47	8,838	4,632	127	1,428	27,457
Rewári ...	...	...	36	120	...	25,441
TOTAL ...	378	94,412	54,239	822	5,090	1,95,433

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Remissions recommended.

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The reductions were to take effect from the *kharij* instalment of 1882, and the seven years' reductions will therefore end with the *rabi* instalment of 1889.

Remissions recom-  
mended.

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