

CHAPTER III.—ADMINISTRATIVE.

Section A.—Administrative Divisions.

The administration of the Gurgáon district consists of a Deputy Commissioner assisted usually by three Extra Assistant Commissioners, one of whom is District Judge, another holds charge of the treasury and the third supervises the revenue work.

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**Adminis-
trative
Divisions.**

The district forms part of the Delhi Division, which has its head-quarters at Delhi, and the Deputy Commissioner is subordinate to the Commissioner and Superintendent of the Delhi Division in revenue work and general administration, and to the Divisional and Sessions Judge, Delhi, in criminal work. The District Judge is subordinate to the Divisional Judge in all matters connected with the administration of civil law.

**Head-quar-
ters.**

Each tahsil is in charge of a Tahsildár assisted by a Náib-Tahsildár, while in the months of March and October an Extra Náib-Tahsildár is appointed to each of the tahsils of Nuh and Firozpur-Jhirka. He takes the place of the ordinary Náib-Tahsildár, while the latter is on special duty, supervising harvest inspection of crops under fluctuating assessment.

Tahsils.

The subordinate revenue staff consists of a district kánúngo, assisted by one náib and one moharrir, 17 kánungos, 312 patwáris and 20 assistant patwáris (wazifa khwárs) distributed as follows:—

**Subordinate
revenue staff.**

Tahsil.	KANUNGOS.			PATWARIS.		
	Office.	Field.	Total.	Patwáris.	Assistant patwáris.	Total.
Rewári	1	3	4	56	4	60
Palwal	1	4	5	74	4	78
Nuh	1	4	5	71	4	75
Firozpur	1	3	4	61	4	65
Gurgáon	1	3	4	50	4	54
Total	5	17	22	312	20	332

The Deputy Commissioner is District Magistrate, and usually is invested with enhanced powers under Section 30 of the Criminal Procedure Code to try all offences not punishable with death and to pass sentence of transportation or imprisonment

Magistracy.

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Civil and Criminal Justice.
Magistracy. for a term not exceeding seven years. The District Judge and the Treasury and Revenue officers usually exercise powers of a Magistrate of the first class. Tahsildárs are usually second, and Náib-Tahsildárs third, class Magistrates. In addition the jagirdár of Farukhnagar, Muhamad Siráj-ud-dín Haidar Khán, is an Honorary Magistrate with second class powers and Lála Hari Rám and Lála Makhan Lál of Rewári are Honorary Magistrates with third class powers. They sit as a bench and their jurisdiction extends to offences committed within the limits of Rewári Municipality.
- Police.** The police force is controlled by a Superintendent of Police. The Civil Surgeon holds general medical charge of the district, and the Treasury Officer is *ex-officio* Superintendent of the sub-jail.
- Court of Wards.** The Deputy Commissioner is Court of Wards for the district, but at the present time has no ward under his management.
- Civil justice.** In the administration of civil justice the District Judge is assisted by the two Extra Assistant Commissioners, who are Munsifs of the first class, and by one Munsif stationed at Gurgáon. Tahsildárs are invested with powers of a Munsif of the third class, and Muhammad Siráj-ud-dín Haidar Khan is an Honorary Munsif of the second class.
- Village autonomy.** The *puncháyat* or council of elders is still a potent force amongst the strong and united village communities of this district and the people have constant resort to it in dispute. But it has no place in the district administration. Government is carried on entirely by the district staff. Some assistance is rendered by zaildárs, inámdárs, and lambardárs, who will be mentioned in Section C of this Chapter.

Section B.—Civil and Criminal Justice.

Civil and Criminal Justice.

Tables 34 and 35 give details of criminal and civil cases.

There is no special feature in the constitution of the criminal courts of the district.

Gurgáon is singularly free from crime and all criminal courts are very lightly worked. The predominant forms of crime are cattle-theft and petty burglary. The former is stimulated by the presence of so much foreign territory adjoining the district, and for the same reason a rather serious amount of crime goes undetected, as the criminals take refuge across the border. One class of crime is peculiar to the district and deserves special notice. The offence of committing suicide by jumping down a well is extraordinarily common among women, especially Meo women, who take their lives in this way on the most trivial grounds. Occasionally a

mother jumps into a well with her infant in her arms, and in 1909 there was an extraordinary case in a Meo village in Táoru in which a mother jumped into a well with her infant and was followed by the whole of the rest of the family consisting of four girls aged 18, 15, 8, and 6 respectively. The only reason for the suicide was that the father of the family, an old man, had not punished to his wife's satisfaction a young Meo who had had a petty altercation with her.

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tice.

The number of such suicides committed during the past three years are as follows :—

			Males.	Females.	Total.
1907	...	...	25	48	73
1908	...	...	29	79	108
1909	...	...	20	59	79

Civil work is also very light and shows no tendency to increase. The large number of cases in the year 1901 was due to a desire on the part of creditors holding land as security to get possession of the land before the passing of the Land Alienation Act. The figures in table 35 do not shew any large variations from year to year, but the figures of 1899, 1905 and 1908 indicate that famine and scarcity reduce the number of institutions.

Civil jus-
tice.

The local Bar consists of six first grade and four second grade pleaders with two mukhtárs. There are 13 petition-writers of the first grade and 18 of the second grade.

The Bar.

Table 37 gives statistics about registrations, and details of the number and place of the registration offices. The work is very light and was reduced by the Land Alienation Act for several years after 1901, but the figures have recently begun to rise again. Variations are due to the character of the seasons.

Registration.

Section C.—Land Revenue.

General information about the village communities and tenures of the province are given in Chapter VIII of the Settlement Manual.

Village
communities.

Gurgáon belongs to that part of the Punjab where the true village community has survived in a much more complete form than elsewhere. The members of the proprietary body are in almost all cases united by ties of kinship. The villages are generally divided into main divisions called *pattis* and these again, where the *pattis* are large, are subdivided into smaller sections called *thoks* or *thulas*. In most cases the relationship between the proprietors can be traced

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through the *thula* or *patti* right up to the common ancestor of the village. Among the owners great importance is attached to the *patti* or *thok*, and it is generally inadvisable in carrying on the administration to disregard these internal subdivisions. The hereditary artizans and the hereditary menials who rendered the village communities self-supporting have been described in Chapter II, Section B, and these and other resident non-proprietors still pay fees to the landowners of the village or *patti* on special occasions.

On the marriage of a daughter a fee is almost invariably paid to the proprietors and in some cases food is provided in addition. In some villages a house-tax is levied (*kúdhī kamīni*) and grazing fees are generally exacted from non-proprietors who graze their cattle on the village common lands.

The village trader and oil-presser are expected to provide oil free of charge for the village guest-house and mosques, and the sweetmeat seller (*halwāī*) sometimes has to provide sugar for the proprietors.

Poor people, widows, *dhánaks*, sweepers, *dúms* and *faqirs* are exempt from payment.

Village
headmen.

As stated in Chapter I the village *puncháyat*, which used to manage the affairs of the brotherhood, has ceased to have any official status, but it still regulates the private affairs of the community, and is always appealed to when any question arises affecting their common interests. To take the place of the *puncháyat* Government appointed headmen or lambardárs from among its leading members, and there was usually one or more headmen to each division and sub-division of the village. A cess of 5 per cent. on the land revenue is levied for their emoluments, and this sum is usually divided among them in proportion to the amount of land revenue collected by each. The office of headman is looked upon as strictly hereditary in the eldest branch of the family, and thus forms an exception to the general rule that all the sons share equally in the inheritance without regard to age. If the eldest son be dead or unfit, his eldest son, even though a minor, is considered to have a better right to the post than the second son. Mr. Channing noted at the second regular settlement that the number of lambardárs was inconveniently large in proportion to the number of proprietors and the size and land revenue of the village. The inevitable result of this state of affairs is that the majority of the lambardárs are poor and lacking in influence. Since 1878 their number has been reduced from 3,517 to 3,307 at the end of 1909, but there are still far too many, and a reduction scheme has been prepared during the recent settlement for each tahsil in accordance with the orders contained in the revenue circulars.

The office of chief headmen or 'álá lambardár' was instituted in 1878 on the introduction of the second regular settlement. Chief headmen were appointed only in villages where there were three or more headmen. They were elected by the votes of the proprietary body subject to the sanction of the Deputy Commissioner. They represented the body of headmen, and received Government orders in the first instance, though in respect of the collection of land revenue they possessed no special authority or responsibility. They were paid by deduction of one per cent. from the land revenue of their villages. Their number was 553 in 1878 and 500 in 1904. The system was intended to give greater firmness to the village organization by concentrating responsibility on one lambardár, but very little use was made of it, and in 1909 it was ordered that vacancies among chief headmen should not be filled up, and that in its place a system of *ináms* should be introduced at re-settlement. The total emoluments of these *ináms* were limited to a quarter per cent. of the land revenue, and while it was the duty of the Settlement Officer to work out a final scheme for the whole district, appointments were to be made every five years as money became available owing to vacant álá lambardári posts not being filled up. Under the above scheme 43 inámdárs were sanctioned for this district, drawing Rs. 80 each. As at the end of 1908-09 the emoluments of álá lambardárs had fallen by not filling up vacancies from Rs. 7,932 to Rs. 5,375, a sum of Rs. 2,557 was available for the immediate appointment of 32 inámdárs. Thirty-one have been appointed, and in accordance with the orders passed by the Financial Commissioner in his letter No. 4939, dated 27th September 1909, the remaining posts will be filled by the Deputy Commissioner as soon as the necessary sum is available from the álá lambardári fund.

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men.

Inámdárs.

The duties of inámdárs are the same as those of zaildárs, and the remarks of Mr. Channing about the zaildári system introduced at last settlement are appropriate to inámdárs now:—"Unless the men are from the first kept strictly in hand, and made to understand that they have to give good work in return for their emoluments, a bad tradition will spring up, and the system will be a failure."

At last settlement the only *ináms* sanctioned were four special *ináms* for Meos and Khánzádas in the Nuh and Firozpur tahsils (letter No. 192, dated 15th February 1881, from the Secretary to Government, Panjab, to the Senior Secretary to the Financial Commissioner, Panjab). The object of these *ináms* was to compensate the Khánzáda tribe and certain clans of Meos for not holding zaildárís.

Two of Rs. 100 each were granted in the Firozpur tahsil, and two of Rs. 75 each in the Nuh tahsil. Under the orders sanctioning

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the introduction of 43 zamindari *ináms* for the district, the above four *ináms* were abolished subject to the condition that the existing *inámdárs*, if of satisfactory behaviour, should be appointed *inámdárs* under the new system for their lifetime. Three of them have been so appointed, but the fourth post, which was vacant owing to the death of the incumbent, has not been filled up.

Zaildárs.

The zaildári system was introduced at the second regular settlement in the following manner:—The whole district was divided off into *zails*. In making the division, regard was had as much as possible to the tribe and clan of the proprietors of the villages, and the tradition of old revenue divisions. In many parts of the district there was no such clear basis of division to follow, and it was found necessary first to choose the zaildárs, the necessary qualifications being respectability, hereditary influence, popularity among the headmen of the villages and usefulness to Government, and then to parcel out the villages among them. Several of the zaildárs were men of no great influence and were only appointed because no better could be found. Each received an allowance of one per cent. on the land revenue of his *zail*. This allowance was not a separate cess, but was deducted from the Government demand. Sixty-four zaildárs were appointed, drawing a total remuneration of Rs. 12,671, an average of Rs. 198 each, but this number was subsequently reduced to 63. As regards the introduction of the zaildári agency, Mr. Channing wrote the remarks quoted above in connection with the *inámdári* system. At the present settlement by the orders contained in Financial Commissioner's letter No. 4147, dated July 30th, 1909, the number of *zails* has been reduced to 61, and the graded system has been introduced for all *zails* excepting Rewári, Farukhnagar and the Skinner Estate. In these three *zails* the zaildár is owner of the whole land of his *zail* and is of better social position than the ordinary zaildár. It was therefore thought advisable to exclude them from the grading. The sanctioned scale is as follows:—

Grade.					No. of <i>zails</i> .	Fee of grade.	Total fees.
						Rs.	Rs.
I ...	...	...	...	...	19	275	5,225
II ...	...	...	...	...	19	225	4,275
III ...	...	...	...	...	20	175	3,500
Ungraded	...	...	...	...	8	200	600
Total					61	...	13,600

The rules prescribed by land revenue rule 173-A apply with one exception. One cadre has been sanctioned for the whole district instead of a separate cadre for each tahsil, and when a vacancy occurs promotion will be given to any deserving zaildár in the district, and not necessarily to a zaildár of the tahsil in which the vacancy occurs. This principle is of importance for the proper working of the system, and it should not be allowed to become a dead letter. At present the district is singularly lacking in gentlemen of substance and influence, and little attention has been paid to the warning given by Mr. Channing in the paragraph quoted above. The zaildárs have not been kept strictly in hand, and the result is that many of them are incompetent and useless. Under the graded system, if it is properly used, better results will probably be obtained.

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Zaildárs.

The following statement shews the name of each *zail*, the number of villages, the total revenue, and the dominant tribes :—

Tahsil.	Zail.	No. of villages.	Annual fixed land revenue.	Prevailing caste or tribe.
REWARI ...	Dahina ...	14	25,830	Abírs.
	Balwári ...	14	12,460	Abírs-Rájpúts.
	Tánkri ...	15	16,410	Abírs-Rájpúts.
	Pithrawás ...	31	20,010	Abírs.
	Bháráwás ...	30	19,250	Abírs.
	Dhámálaka ...	37	22,900	Abírs and Gujars.
	Dhárúhera ...	22	23,860	Abírs and Játs.
	Turkiawás ...	28	18,880	Abírs and Játs.
	Rewári ...	4	6,600	Mahájans.
	Qutabpur ...	28	22,860	Abírs.
	Nángal Patháni ...	18	19,550	Abírs.
	Jatusána ...	20	18,290	Abírs, Rájpút Mus- salmáns and Játs.
	Garáora ...	20	22,770	Abírs.
	Mirpur ...	28	26,940	Abírs and Játs.
	Total ...	309	2,76,610	
PALWAL ...	Pirthala ...	16	20,502	Játs.
	Dhatir ...	20	19,537	Játs.
	Allika ...	26	26,000	Játs.
	Palwal ...	12	26,550	Rájpút-Gorwas.
	Aláwalpur ...	11	19,775	Játs.
	Rasulpur ...	15	28,000	Játs, Gujars and Brahmans.
	Aurangábád ...	9	31,800	Játs.
	Sondhad ...	10	33,475	Játs.
	Hodal ...	7	26,475	Játs.
	Bhiduki ...	7	27,600	Játs.
	Líkhi ...	14	21,533	Játs and Biloohes.
	Bilochpur ...	12	37,325	Christian.
	Chándhat ...	14	25,968	Játs and Brahman.
	Chirwári ...	24	16,826	Játs and Rájpút Gorwas.
	Total ...	197	3,61,171	

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Tahsil.	Zail.	No. of villages.	Annual fixed land revenue.	Prevailing caste or tribe.
NUH	Sondh ...	48	24,665	Meos and Ahírs.
	Sunári ...	36	19,828	Meos and Játs.
	Chandaini ...	82	19,780	Meos.
	Nuh ...	31	16,123	Meos and Khanzádas.
	Ujina ...	29	22,424	Meos and Rájpúts.
	Bigháoli ...	29	26,956	Játs, Meos and Rájpúts.
	Kherli-Jita ...	29	32,679	Játs.
	Hathin ...	31	34,749	Meos and Játs.
	Bahin ...	24	45,125	Meos and Játs.
	Total ...	289	2,42,327	
FEROZPUR	Bukháraka ...	19	3,791	Meos.
	Nagina ...	18	21,972	Meos.
	Sákras ...	30	29,777	Meos.
	Madapur ...	18	19,898	Meos.
	Dhádoli ...	17	26,491	Meos.
	Bándholi ...	29	20,374	Meos.
	Akbarpur ...	22	19,694	Meos.
	Marora ...	14	20,802	Meos and Khanzádas.
	Básidpur ...	21	14,033	Meos.
	Bisru ...	23	17,635	Meos.
	Singár ...	17	22,350	Meos.
	Bichhor ...	15	22,049	Meos.
	Total ...	244	2,38,866	
GURGAON	Farukhnagar ...	3	6,712	Sheikhs.
	Garhi Nathe Khán ...	20	22,687	Rájpúts, Ahírs, and Játs.
	Sultánpur ...	22	18,795	Ahírs.
	Garhi Harsaru ...	13	18,325	Rájpúts, Játs, and Sheikhs.
	Daulatpur-Nasirabád ...	19	20,644	Ahírs and Játs.
	Bádshahpur ...	27	29,800	Ahírs and Játs.
	Bhundai ...	15	12,750	Gujars and Rájpúts.
	Hamírpur ...	28	21,175	Ahírs and Rájpúts.
	Bahora Kalán ...	23	24,070	Ahírs and Játs.
	Sohna ...	12	13,216	Rájpúts and Kaiaths.
	Kherli Lála ...	28	14,227	Gujars and Rájpúts.
	Sailáni ...	16	15,975	Játs, Rájpúts and Ahírs.
	Total ...	226	2,32,376	

The only remaining village officers are the chaukidárs or watchmen. They are appointed in the usual manner and in 1904 their number was 1,428. Formerly they were paid by the landowners of their villages in kind, but cash payments are now universal.

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**Land
Revenue.**
Watchmen.

The extent to which common ownership of the village lands prevails determines the form of tenure. The classification of tenures at the third regular settlement was as follows:—

**Village
tenures.**

Tahsil.	ZAMINDARI.		Imperfect Pattidári.	Imperfect Bhaiachára.	Total.
	Single landlord.	Communal.			
Gurgáon ...	1	16	158	51	226
Palwál ...	12	3	74	108	197
Rewári ...	17	24	236	32	309
Núh ...	1	8	81	199	289
Firozpur ...	1	9	53	181	244
Total of the District ...	32	60	502	571	1,265

It is impossible to compare these figures with those of 1878 given in table 15 of the old Gazetteer, as the latter are classified on a different principle, but it may be stated generally that change here as elsewhere has been from status to contract, or in other words from the communal form to severalty. The strong Ahir communities of Rewári and Gurgáon still cling to the former, but amongst the Játs and Meos the tendency is towards the latter. Differences of soil and agriculture probably are to some extent responsible for this state of affairs as the soil of the *tahsils* of Palwal, Núh and Firozpur Jhirka, which are owned by the Játs and Meos, is, roughly speaking, of uniform quality and irrigation is relatively unimportant. Consequently quantity can fairly be taken as the measure of equality. In the other *tahsils*, on the other hand, the difference in the value of the soils is enormous, and equality can only be maintained by giving each owner an equal share of good and bad lands.

The commonest forms of imperfect pattidári tenure are the following. The common land of the village and of the patti as well as the land owned separately is held on ancestral shares called biswas or customary shares called ploughs. Sometimes the common land of the village is held on ancestral shares, while the common land of the patti and the land owned separately is held on customary shares. In a third form possession is the measure of right in the land owned separately, while the common

**Commonest
forms of pat-
tidári and
bhaiachára
tenures.**

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of the assess-
ment over
holdings.

land is held on shares. In the commonest forms of imperfect *bhaiachára* tenure possession is the measure of right in the common land as well as in the land owned separately, or the common land is held on equal or fixed shares, while the rest is held according to possession.

The above remarks on village tenures may be illustrated by a reference to the methods employed at the recent settlement in the distribution of the assessment over holdings. The following table shews the methods adopted in the 1,228 villages placed under fixed assessment:—

Tahsil.	Villages in which the distribution was by differential soil rates.			Villages in which the distribution was by an all-round soil rate.	Villages in which the distribution was on shares including villages owned by a single proprietor or held jointly.	Total.
	Over or inside sub-divisions only.	Throughout.	Total.			
Rewári ...	15	171	186	3	120	309
Palwal ...	2	44	46	98	53	197
Náh ...	1	92	93	142	35	270
Firozpur ...	1	173	174	44	8	226
Gurgáon ...	4	92	96	65	65	226
Total ...	23	572	595	352	281	1,228

The progress of severalty may be gauged by the fact that only 249 out of 1,228 villages distributed their revenue on ancestral shares throughout, as the figure 281 shewn in column 6 includes 32 villages owned by a single owner. It is natural to find that the Rewári and Gurgáon *tahsils* contain the greatest number of villages distributing their assessment in this way, while in the exclusively Meo *tahsil* of Firozpur, where the sub-division of holdings has been greatest the number is only 8.

Panápalat.

A notable instance of the survival of joint proprietorship is the custom of periodical redistribution of lands. This practice, known locally as *panápalat* (from *pana*, a block of land, and *palat*, change) prevails in several villages of the Rewári *tahsil*.

The owners of the village or more usually of a sub-division of the village, owning their land in common, divide it into several blocks (*pana*), which different bodies of them cultivate separately, exchanging blocks at the end of a fixed period, each body of proprietors cultivating all the blocks in turn. There is no universally acted on period; sometimes it is two or four or six years,

and sometimes in the same village are found two different periods acted on. So sometimes there are two, sometimes four, sometimes eight blocks belonging to the same set of owners and exchanged about among them. Usually the blocks are fixed and separately marked off, and simply change hands in regular recognised turn at the end of each successive period; but sometimes the land is redistributed, fields which formed one block being mixed up with fields that formed another block. Sometimes the blocks of land are approximately equal; sometimes one better than another; the different sets of proprietors taking the good and bad blocks in turn. Usually the block is not cultivated by an individual proprietor, but by a number who either cultivate the block in common or divide among themselves by lot for the period of their occupation. Generally the body of proprietors who practise this custom, besides the blocks periodically exchanged, hold permanently some part of their land which is exempt from the custom. A proprietor, occupying for the time a block of this nature, cannot mortgage or sell it, but may transfer his share in the whole land, the transferee taking his place and becoming bound by the custom as he was. Strange to say, this custom has not altogether died out, but it is of course beginning to disappear. Only 38 villages now follow the custom against 58 at the second regular settlement. Sixteen villages in the Gurgáon *tahsil* practise a periodical redistribution of wells, and call it *panápalat*, but strictly speaking, this is not *panápalat*, which exists in its true form in Rewári only.

The distribution of superior and inferior proprietorship (*talukdári* or *alá malkiyat* and *adna malkiyat*) does not exist in this district, and all the *biswadárs*, as the members of the proprietary body are called, are of equal status. The following peculiarities may be noticed among the tenures of the district:—

Proprietary
tenures.

It is very common for an individual proprietor, and still more so for a whole village community to set apart a small piece of land, usually two or three *bighas*, to be held rent-free for the benefit of some temple, mosque or shrine; or to give a piece of land, on similar favourable terms to a *pandit* or other person of a religious order. Such a grant is called a *dohli*, and the holder a *dōhli-dār*. So long as the purposes for which the grant was made are carried out, it cannot be resumed; but should the holder grossly fail to carry out the duties of his office, the proprietors can eject him and put in some one else under a like tenure.

The *bhonda* is like the *dohli*, a grant of a few *bighas* of land rent-free. The principal difference is that, while the service for which the *dohli* is granted is something directly connected with religion, the *bhonda* is given for some secular service, such as the duties of the village watchman (*chaukidār*) or messenger (*bulāhar*). The *bhondadār* may be ejected on failure to fulfil the conditions of his tenure and perhaps in some cases at the will of the proprietors. It is simply an old-fashioned mode of paying for services.

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tenures.

It will be convenient to notice here a peculiar arrangement dating from the first regular settlement by which a few only of the owners shared the profit and loss of the land revenue assessment or lease. The arrangement is thus described in Mr. J. (afterwards Lord) Lawrence's report on the *pargana* of Rewári.

"It is also very usual for the *málgozárs*, by general consent, to become responsible for the revenue, and like sole proprietors or farmers, realize from the joint proprietors and the under-tenants the due agreed on. With them rests the profit and loss of the lease however; should they fail, the village is still responsible. The fact is, that the lease is accepted by all the proprietors on their own account, and the subsequent arrangement is an affair between the individuals of the community, with which the Collector has no concern. In such cases the realizations are all made in kind, or *zabti*.

The practice seems to be peculiar to the *pargana*; at least, I do not recollect observing it elsewhere. It appears to have arisen from Rewári having been during so many years in the hands of the Rájás, who invariably realize their rents by *batái* and *kunkoot*. When the villages were separately assessed, the people, having a predilection for the practice, continued it among themselves.

The custom is so far objectionable that the profits becoming the rights of a few individuals at the expense of the community, will thus render its members poorer than if they shared the profits. But, on the other hand, it gives the *málgozárs* a strong and decided interest in the general improvement of the estate, by which they will endeavour to increase the quantity and quality of the cultivation. It may indeed be urged that if the profit belonged to all the proprietors, the same motive which affected a few would operate on all. The fact, however, is, that what is the interest of all becomes the special duty of none, and, therefore, is more likely to be neglected than when entrusted to a few. Moreover, in a part of the country like this, where land may almost be said to be at discount, the competition is for cultivators, who are infinitely more easily obtained by men who, from their situation, are likely to possess wealth and local influence. Nor will the *málgozárs* be anxious to reap an immediate profit at the expense of the village; their interest in its welfare is permanent, and they would sooner assist their poorer brethren by small advances and timely delay, than, by undue rigour, exact the utmost dues. In cases where a well is sunk, or any other decided improvement made, the *málgozárs* would certainly reduce the rates and allow the benefit of the work. Indeed, I recollect a case in which a mere under-tenant was treated with consideration, and paid lighter rates than those prevailing, solely because his ancestor had built a well in the area of the village.

We must also recollect that it is more advantageous for a poor man to pay, in a series of years, a large amount in kind, than a more moderate one converted into money. To him is not of so much importance the actual amount as the manner and time of payment. In an abundant year, though highly taxed, he can spare it without distress; while in an unproductive season, as he has scanty crops, so he is called on to give little. He has neither the trouble nor expense of conveying his produce to a distant market; nor is he ever called on, by a premature demand, to forestal his crops. The variations of seasons, the accidents of storms, and other misfortunes to which crops are liable are thus alleviated.

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Revenue.Proprietary
tenures.

The farmers and *málgozárs* benefit by the system ; for, if possessing capital, or indeed ordinary foresight, they can make good the losses of one year by the profits of another, so that they obtain a larger return ; it is of less consequence to them if that profit is irregularly collected. In short, it would appear that when the proprietors are numerous and therefore independent of pre-cultivation where the soil is rich, the irrigation abundant, and the crops certain, it is preferable that the proprietors retain the management and pay by *bách*. When, however, the proprietors are few, when cultivation depends on people of other villages where the proprietors are poor, or where the crops are uncertain, in all such instances I think that the village prospers more when in exclusive hands of the *málgozárs*."

The rates at which the men who took the profit and loss under this system, collected from the other proprietors, were generally as high as those taken from most tenants, and so the proprietors in most instances applied at the second regular settlement to be allowed to re-engage in the usual manner and were allowed to do so. At the second settlement only about 10 villages continued the system while at the third settlement the number was reduced to three, *Bháráwas* and *Shadipur* in *Rewári* and *Manauta* in *Firozpur*. In *Bháráwas* the survival of the system has led to much litigation. *Malkíyat kabza* and occupancy and non-occupancy tenancies call for no special mention.

The earliest account of the land revenue system of the district which has come down to us is contained in Fraser's Statistical Report of Gurgáon (1849).

Land reve-
nue under
native rule.

In this report no clear account is given of the system under native rule, but as far as can be gathered, estates were managed *kham* ; and *amals* were appointed who collected each year in cash as much as was possible with regard to the character of the harvests. No record of the actual land revenue demand of the years before annexation exists except in the case of one or two *parganahs*.

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.

As each *pargana* came under British rule it was either summarily settled for a few years, or held, as it is called, *kham*, 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

Early settle-
ments under
British rule.

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ments under
British rule.

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
Sohna	...	...	...	13th	February	1842
Bahora	...	...	...	4th	August	1838
Rewāri	...	...	...	22nd	July	1838
Shāhjānpur	...	...	...	25th	July	1838
Nuh	...	...	...	27th	July	1841
Hātīn	...	...	...	11th	June	1841
Tāoru	...	...	...	30th	November	1837
		Revised	...	21st	December	1841
Palwal	...	...	...	13th	November	1842
Hodal	...	...	...	3rd	January	1842
Pūnahāna	} revised...	...	...	5th	September	1838
Firozpur				17th	May	1841

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 Parganahs.						No. of Vil- lages.	Former Revenue.	Present Revenue.
Jhārsa	...	...	...	...	...	103	82,924	81,839
Pāli	...	...	...	...	...	27	30,684	25,326
Sohna	...	...	...	...	...	169	1,33,261	1,08,698
Tāoru	...	...	...	...	...	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
Nuh	...	...	...	...	...	71	91,698	72,442
Hātīn	...	...	...	...	...	119	1,23,051	92,285
Hodal	...	...	...	...	...	28	70,857	56,265
Pūnahāna	...	...	...	...	...	101	69,166	58,533
Firozpur	...	...	...	...	...	106	55,862	1,26,375
Total						1,274	11,58,786	10,90,358

Tahsil Palwal.

The *tahsil* of Pawal, 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 Nuh and Delhi;

of 16 villages from *parganah* Sohna; of four villages now under first regular settlement, confiscated in 1857 from the rebel Rájá of Ballabgarh, and of two villages transferred from Bulandshahr in 1872.

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Land
Revenue.

The *parganah* of Hodal on the conquest of Delhi was given in *jágir* to Muhammad Khán Afrídi, 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 Ját estates, the whole country was uncultivated. For the *Fasli* year 1220, the *khám* 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, 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 *mukaddami*. 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 *mauza* 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
Hodal.

At the conquest of the Delhi territory by Lord Lake, this *parganah* was given in farm 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

Parganah
Palwal.

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Palwal.

"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. 2,43,413." But again the settlement broke down, the *zamindars* 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 resettled the *parganah*, reducing the assessment first to Rs. 1,92,082, and then to Rs. 1,72,737, or, excluding *jāgīr* 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.

Sohna vil-
lages.

The revenue history of Sohna 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 *jāgīr* 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 Jāts 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.

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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:—

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
Dahri	12	54	41
Percentage	46	69	81

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 Bángar	52
Do. Khádar	73
Do. Bángar Khádar	80
Do. Bhuder	43
Do. Dahri	18
Total	52

Of the 229 villages of this *tahsil*, as at present constituted, 194 belonged to the original *parganah* of Firozpur and Púnahána, which having been conferred in *jagír* by Lord Lake on Nawáb Ahmad Khán, were forfeited in 1835 by his son, Shams-ud-dín Khán, owing to his instigation of the murder of Mr. Fraser at Delhi in 1835. Eighteen villages formed part of *parganah* Hatín, and twelve villages part of Núh. Firozpur and Púnahána lapsed in the *rabi* of 1243 *Fasli* (A. D. 1835), and having been in great

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measure settled in 1835 and 1836 by Messrs Gubbins and Masson, the whole of the assessments were after revision reported as a summary settlement by Mr. M. Gubbins in 1837.

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rozpur.

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 *Jágirdárs'* management, including Rs. 14,700 on account of *abwabs* 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 *muqaddami* 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 Púnahána, had deteriorated much since settlement, and that immediate and permanent relief must be granted. In accordance with his representations the *jama* of Firozpur was reduced by Rs. 30,665, or 19½ per cent., and that of Púnahána by Rs. 17,691, or 23½ per cent., leaving the Firozpur demand at Rs. 1,26,375, and that of Púnahána at Rs. 58,533, total Rs. 1,84,908. Twelve villages from *parganah* Núh, assessed at Rs. 10,500 and twelve from *parganah* Hatín, 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.

Working of
the settlement.

In the statistical account of Gurgáon Mr. Fraser writing about 1849, states that the settlement of both Firozpur and Púnahána 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 *jhil*. 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.

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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:—

Increase of
resources
since settle-
ment.

CIRCLES.	Chiknot.	Mandikhera.	Landoha.	Bhúder.	Pánahána.	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 84
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 Ferozpur valley in which, while in favourable seasons they are flooded by the Landoha, the various hill torrents, and the drainage water of the higher land 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 *manza* 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 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.

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Tahsil Náh.

Of the 311 villages now constituting the *tahsil*, 56 at last settlement formed the *parganah* of Táorú, 108 were contained in the *parganah* of Hatín, 66 in that of Sohna, 60 in that of Náh, 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.	Sohna.	Hatín.	Bahora.	Palwal.	Náh.
Táorú	...	...	...	90	56	23	...	11	...	...
Báugar	...	...	...	105	...	3	86	.	10	6
Dáhar	...	...	...	116	...	40	22	...	...	54
Total	...	...	...	311	56	66	108	11	10	60

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 Sohna, 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.

Parganahs
Bahora and
Sohna.

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 1833, at Rs. 4,863; the eleventh, a *jágir* village, being assessed by Mr. Routh in 1852 at Rs. 1,710, and the Sohna 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.

Parganah
Náh.

For three years after the annexation, in 1803, the *parganah* of Náh 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.

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Revenue.*Parganah*
Núh.*Parganah*
Hathín.

Hathín was held on an *istamrâr* 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 25 per cent. on the former *jama*, of 14 per cent. on the average collections of the last 17 years, and of 12½ per cent. on the average collections of the last ten. In the 108 vilages 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 Gurgáon, published in 1849, Mr. Fraser speaks well of the working of all these settlements. Next to *tahsil* Firozpur, Núh 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

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the settle-
ments.

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

Comparison
of past and
present state
of *tahsil*.

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.

Tahsil
Gurgáon.

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 *pargana*hs of *Jhársa*, *Sohna*, and *Bahora*. The following table shows their distribution among the circles:—

Assessment Circle.	Jhársa villages.	Sohna villages.	Bahora villages.	Delhi villages.	Villages annexed after Mu- tiny.	Total.
Najafgarh <i>/hil</i>	8	...	...	4	...	12
Adjoining Dáhar	9	...	...	...	...	9
Gurgáon	42	...	...	...	...	*42
Sihí	18	5	...	...	...	*23
Hill	10	12	...	...	...	22
Sohna	...	26	...	...	...	26
Sailáni	...	27	...	...	...	27
Farukhnagar	13	...	...	2	18	†28
Sáhibi	...	...	...	...	17	17
Káran	...	8	3	1	...	12
Bahora	...	...	19	...	4	*23
Total	100	78	22	7	34	241

* Two estates afterwards united into one.

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

The original *parganah* of Jhārsa or Bādshāhpur, 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 73 villages. It appears from his report 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 years of 1241 *Fusli* (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.

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Jhārsa.

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, Pāli, Pakal, and Najafgarh, and five villages were in *jāgīr*. 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 *jāgīr* villages increased to six by partition of an estate lapsed in 1848, and were settled by Mr. Routh at Rs. 8,990, 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 1360, making a total of 100 estates assessed at Rs. 87,535. The revenue demand of 1875 was Rs. 85,836, 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 1808. After having been entrusted for short periods to the state of Bhartpur and Rāo Tej Singh of Rewāri, it was about 1808 settled by Mr. Fraser. In 1842 Mr. Barnes wrote:—

Parganah
Sohna.

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Sohna.

"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, Sohnna 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."

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. 1,83,261 to Rs. 1,01,135, being a decrease of $11\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. on the collections of seventeen years, of $14\frac{1}{2}$ 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.

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 Rao Rám Bakhsh, brother of Rao Jai Singh, the *Islamwárdár* 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 *khām* 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."

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Revenue.*Parganah*
Bahora.

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 *Khulisa* 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 *jāgīr*. 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 *jāmas* 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.

Of the 34 villages annexed after the Mutiny, 27 were of the *parganah* of Bādli, which had been part of the State of Jhajjar, three had been held by the Nawāb of Farrukhnagar, and four had belonged to the King of Delhi's *tahsil*, Kot Kāsim. The Bādli 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. 30,333, at which it stood under the Nawāb, to Rs. 27,746; subsequently measurements were commenced and completed in 1863; and the assessments revised in 1864 by Major Cripps, Deputy Commissioner of Gurgaon (the villages having been transferred in 1860), who further reduced the demand to Rs. 26,720. The demand of 1875 was Rs. 26,713.

New territory.

Working of
settlement.

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

"*Parganah Jhārsa*.—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 the seasons 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

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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 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.

Increase in
the resources
of the *tahsil*.

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 Delhi 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.

Tahsil
Rewári.Parganah
Rewári.

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 Mahárája 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 *istamar* tenure on Jai Singh, and a few other *jágir* 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 Gurgaon—

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Rewāri.

"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, Rewāri 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. 63,950, being at the rate of Re. 1-6-4 per cultivated and Re. 1-3-8 per *mālguzāri* 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.

The small *parganah* of Shāhjahānpur, containing nine estates lying to the south of Rewāri in the midst of native territory, was, after the conquest in 1803, continued in *jāgīr* to Har Narain Huldia, until his death in 1824. It was then settled by Mr. Cavendish

Parganah
Shāhjahānpur.

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Sháhjahán-
pur.

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."

Character of
assessment.
Reductions
made.

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 1863 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 Sálíbi, and also for lands taken up for public purposes.

Increase in
resources.

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 Rájputána State Railway on the one side with the Native States of Rájputána, and on the other with Delhi and the East Indian and Panjáb lines.

Working of
settlement.

The percentages of the average annual balance and remission in each circle on the yearly revenue have been as follows:—

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	0·0
Shāhjahānpur	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
Pālāhwas	10·5	7·9	3·3	0·8
Tahsil	5·9	3·8	1·6	0·3

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Revenue.
Working of
settlement.

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 1879 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.

Second
regular
settlement.

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

Basis of the
assessment.

"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.

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"(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 deducted 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 wrote 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 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.

Tahsil.	Assessment Circle.	Chāhi.	Dahri.	UNIRRIGATED.		
				Chiknot and Narmot.	Magda.	Bhūr.
		Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
Palwal.	Bāngar	2 12 0	2 0 0	1 6 0	1 2 0	0 14 0
	Bhuder	2 8 0	...	1 4 0	1 0 0	0 12 0
	Dahri	2 12 0	2 4 0	1 5 0	1 1 0	0 13 0
	Khādar	2 8 0	...	1 6 0	...	...
	Bāngar Khādar	2 10 0	...	1 6 0	1 2 0	0 14 0
Firozpur.	Pānahāna	2 8 0	2 2 0	1 4 0	1 1 0	0 14 0
	Chiknot	2 12 0	2 0 0	1 6 0	1 2 0	0 14 0
	Māndikhera	3 8 0	2 0 0	1 12 0	1 6 0	1 2 0
	Landoba	3 8 0	2 8 0	1 12 0	1 6 0	1 2 0
	Bhuder	3 0 0	2 4 0	1 8 0	1 2 0	0 14 0
Nuh.	Bāngar	2 10 0	1 12 0	1 4 0	1 1 0	0 10 6
	Tāoru	2 8 0	1 12 0	1 2 0	0 14 0	0 9 0
	Dahar	2 8 0	2 0 0	1 6 0	1 4 0	0 10 6
Gurgāon.	Bahora	3 0 0	1 14 0	1 8 0	1 0 0	0 10 0
	Hill	2 8 0	1 12 0	1 3 0	0 14 0	0 10 0
	Dahar or Najafgarh jhil	3 0 0	2 8 0	1 8 0	1 4 0	0 10 0
	Sohna	2 12 0	1 10 0	1 3 0	1 0 0	0 11 0
	Sihri	2 8 0	1 8 0	1 2 0	0 13 0	0 10 0
	Sailāni	2 12 0	2 4 0	1 3 0	1 4 0	0 10 0
	Sāhibi	2 4 0	1 10 0	1 4 0	1 1 0	0 9 0
	Farukhnagar	2 12 0	1 12 0	1 6 0	0 14 0	0 9 0
	Kāsan	2 4 0	...	...	0 14 0	0 9 0
	Gurgāon	2 4 0	1 10 0	1 4 0	1 1 0	0 11 0
Rewāri.	Adjoining Dahar	2 12 0	2 4 0	1 8 0	1 4 0	0 12 0
	Pālhāwās	2 4 0	...	1 6 0	1 0 0	0 12 0
	Pahār	2 8 0	...	...	1 0 0	0 10 6
	Rewāri	2 10 0	...	1 6 0	1 0 0	0 12 0
	Shāhjahanpur	3 0 0	...	1 6 0	1 3 0	0 10 0
	Sāhibi	3 0 0	1 10 0	1 8 0	1 2 0	0 12 0
	Kasāoti	3 0 0	...	1 8 0	1 2 0	0 16 0
	Magda Shor	2 6 0	...	1 6 0	1 3 0	0 12 0
Mundi	Mundi	2 8 0	...	1 6 0	1 0 0	0 12 0

Statement showing Resulting Assessments.

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ments.

Tahsil.	Circle.	Assessment at rates.	Assessment actually announced.	DEDUCT ON ACCOUNT OF				Add on account of transfer of vil- lages.	Initial Khalsah de- mand.	Former demand.
				Transfer of villages.	Protective leases.	Gardens.	Maafia.			
Palwal.	Bángar ...	2,19,940	2,13,615	1,032	1,389	404	511	...	2,10,269	1,55,689
	Bhuder ...	12,901	12,973	...	109	...	...	...	12,864	11,021
	Dabri ...	17,567	17,634	...	46	13	10	...	17,565	17,694
	Khádar ...	13,072	12,588	...	81	21	...	91	12,445	8,909
	Bángar Khádar...	30,581	30,450	...	190	205	...	...	30,055	22,904
Firozpur.	Landoha ...	53,293	51,526	...	217	25	...	...	53,040	47,852
	Mándikhera ...	26,225	27,884	...	26	57	...	...	27,801	31,500
	Chiknot ...	*27,311	25,956	...	158	...	...	...	25,800	23,006*
	Bhuder ...	49,611	49,068	...	683	390	282	...	47,713	44,439
	Púnahána ...	78,286	76,123	...	582	55	480	...	75,006	56,120
Nuh.	Táoru ...	42,391	41,396	2,408	310	...	1,528	...	37,150	33,598
	Bángar ...	1,06,761	1,08,428	3,660	249	30	...	...	1,04,489	84,160
	Dahar ...	1,31,015	1,20,297	4,932	5	99	18	...	1,15,243	1,01,193
Gurgaon.	Bahora ...	23,110	22,118	...	241	27	46	...	21,804	18,432
	Sibi ...	15,429	15,381	...	592	...	2	...	14,787	13,244
	Kásan ...	9,069	8,652	...	152	...	...	...	8,500	6,800
	Sahibi ...	1,79,722	19,270	...	312	...	2,852	...	16,106	?
	Sailáni ...	20,920	21,941	...	174	...	...	...	21,767	19,476
	Sohna ...	19,902	19,955	...	272	63	35	...	19,585	14,103
	Hill ...	13,062	12,690	...	203	...	...	...	12,487	?
	Gurgaon ...	36,613	38,042	...	677	128	22	...	37,215	35,608
	Farukhnagar ...	30,468	31,965	...	668	30	3,952	...	27,315	?
	Chak adjoining Dahar.	10,314	10,732	...	97	...	...	...	10,635	11,137
	Najafgarh ghil ...	21,071	16,696	...	16	...	14	...	16,666	?
Rewari.	Sáhibi ...	63,193	63,318	...	550	75	1,631	...	61,062	61,334
	Kasóti ...	26,717	27,323	...	258	41	89	...	26,935	?
	Sháhjahánpur ...	11,141	11,199	...	54	1	...	...	11,144	?
	Hill ...	34,667	34,157	...	293	11	141	...	33,712	?
	Magda Salt ...	49,430	51,314	...	508	21	5,490	...	45,295	?
	Páiháwás ...	29,307	29,281	...	69	18	9	...	29,185	?
	Rewari ...	22,415	23,322	...	424	221	1,212	...	21,465	?
	Mundi ...	24,838	23,925	...	75	24	946	...	23,830	?

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:—

Increase of
the cesses.

	Per cent. on land revenue
Village headmen's allowance ...	5
Patwári's allowance (average) about ...	3½
Road cess ...	1
School cess ...	1

Total ... 10½

* Excluding Rs. 2,234 or land subject to fluctuating assessment, which yielded Rs. 2,272 in 1877-78 and Rs. 1,981 in 1878-79.

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Revenue.Increase of
cesses.

In 1871 the local rate cess was first imposed at $6\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. : when the Settlement operations commenced in 1872, the *patwári'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 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. was first imposed. In 1880 the local rate cess was increased from $6\frac{1}{4}$ to $8\frac{1}{3}$ per cent., the enhancement having been delayed in this district by special order. The *zaildári* 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 had actually to pay, as follows :—

	Rs.		Rs.
Up to 1870	110 $\frac{1}{2}$	From 1877 to 1880	117 $\frac{3}{4}$
From 1870 to 1877	116 $\frac{3}{4}$	After 1880	119 $\frac{5}{6}$

The cesses payable from 1880 were as follows :—

	Percentage on the land-revenue.		
Headmen's due	5
<i>Patwári's</i> dues	4
Local rates	$8\frac{1}{3}$
Road cess	1
School cess	1
Postal cess	$\frac{1}{2}$
Total	19 $\frac{5}{8}$

besides the *zaildári* and *ála-lambardári* allowance of 1 per cent. each, which were nominally deductions from the land-revenue, the pay of the village watchman which was levied on houses, and the common village expenses which were generally paid by the cultivators in the form of a cess on the land-revenue.

Fluctuating
assessment in
flooded land.

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* Nuh. 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. *bhur*. 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., *juár* 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) Daulatabad, (3) Budhera, (4) Makraula, (5) Nau baramad. 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.

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"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 *juir*, *bajra*, &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 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.

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"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 *ghil* 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 *zamindárs* 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 *zamindár* 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 Agra Canal for cane irrigated by flow is Rs. 6-10-8, or with owner's rate, Rs. 8-13-8. Rice or any other *kharif* 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."

At the end of the settlement, as the result of the transfer of villages from one tahsil to another, each tahsil contained the following villages:—

Rewári	...	...	...	...	...	809
Palwal	...	...	...	...	...	195
Nuh	...	...	...	...	...	289
Firozpur	...	...	...	...	...	244
Gurgaon	...	...	...	...	...	227
Total						1,264

Subsequent
revision of the
assessment of
1877.

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 enjoyed 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

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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 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 662,486 in 1855 to 689,034 in 1898, 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

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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 *lakhs* 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 *khariif* 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 *khariif* 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 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 f.

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 was again poor and the district was still in January 1884 in a critical condition.

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Revenue.Subsequent
revision of the
assessment of
1877.

The total results for the district were as follows:—

Rs.

The sanctioned revenue-roll for 1882-83
(Financial Commissioner's No. 1289,
dated 6th February 1882) was— 12,28,525

Total amount
of reductions
granted.

To this may be added:—

Temporarily remitted on well leases	...	9,293
<i>Ala Lambardárs'</i> allowances	...	7,772
<i>Zaildars'</i> allowances	...	12,527
Remitted on gardens	...	1,940
<i>Ináms</i>	...	730
<i>Jágir</i> and <i>muáfi</i>	...	17,326

Total former assessment ... 12,78,113.

The reductions made for the term of settlement left the

Total assessment ... 12,27,424

Of which the following is the detail:—

	Rs.
<i>Jágir</i> and <i>muáfi</i>	17,040
<i>Ináms</i>	730
Remitted on gardens	1,933
<i>Zaildars'</i> allowances	12,017
<i>Ala Lambardárs'</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 reduced the total assessment (including assignments) from Rs. 12,78,113

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Revenue.Total amount
of reductions
granted.

to Rs. 12,27,424, a reduction of Rs. 50,689 or 4 per cent., which left 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* was as follows:—

Tahsil.	TOTAL ASSESSMENT OF		Reduction per cent.	Total assessment of previous settlement.	Percentage by which reduced assessment still exceeds that of previous settle- ment.
	1882-83.	1883-84.			
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Palwal	2,65,482	2,78,722	2½	2,14,668	80
Firozpur	2,38,563	2,25,623	5½	2,08,759	8
Nuh	2,59,809	2,41,584	7	2,11,380	14
Gurgaon	2,17,432	2,10,253	3½	1,96,514	7
Rewári	2,06,627	2,71,242	2	2,72,038	...
Total	12,78,113	12,27,424	4	11,03,339	11

Thus, had no temporary reductions been granted the revenue roll for 1883-84 would have been 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 brought 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 assessment came into force, *viz.* Rs. 10,86,113. This total reduction of Rs. 1,43,089 was made up of reductions determined for each village individually. It was distributed as follows over the several *tahsils* :—

Tahsil.	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.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Palwal	2,77,865	2,51,329	10	2,14,374	+17
Firozpur	2,31,613	2,00,852	13	2,08,019	-8
Nuh	2,58,634	2,11,473	17	2,10,085	+1
Gurgaon	2,03,770	1,84,697	9	1,91,060	-2
Rewári	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 was for the whole district much the same as it was in 1876-77, it showed an increase of 17 per cent. for *tahsil* Palwal, a large decrease of 9 per cent. for Rewári, a small reduction for Gurgáon and Firozpur and small increase for Nuh. As compared with the Revenue-Roll for 1882-83, the reduction was 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:—

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Revenue.Total amount
of reductions
granted.

Tahsil.	Total number of villages.	NUMBER TO WHICH REDUCTION WAS GRANTED.	
		For term of settlement.	For at least seven years.
Palwal	195	50	121
Firozpur	244	145	205
Nuh	289	205	249
Gurgáon	227	85	142
Rewári	309	88	194
Total ...	1,264	573	911

Permanent reductions were granted all over the district except in the tract in Palwal watered by the Agra Canal, in a tract about Gurgáon and another about Rewári, and they were most numerous and largest in the Nuh *dahar*; and the same may be said of the reductions for seven years.

On 31st March 1883, the arrears of the *khariif* 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 reported their proposals regarding these balances:—

Remissions
recommended.

“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 *khariif* 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 *tahsildars* accordingly. All of this sum except Rs. 3,602 had been realised by the 31st July.

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Revenue.Remissions
recommended.“The details of the remission for the different *tahsils* are as follows:—

Tahsil.	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.
		Rs. (Approximately).	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.
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
Rewari ... ..	...	...	86	120	...	25,441
Total	378	94,412	54,239	822	5,090	1,95,433

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

Final re-
sults of
revision.

During the years between the revision of Mr. Channing's assessment and the date fixed for the reconsideration of the temporary reductions, Mr. Maconachie who had succeeded Mr. Channing as Settlement Officer was Deputy Commissioner.

The character of the seasons improved, revenue management was exceedingly careful, and at the end of seven years, after inspecting at least once and generally more than once each village in which temporary reductions had been granted, Mr. Maconachie was able to recommend the re-imposition of Rs. 78,171 out of the Rs. 93,806 temporarily reduced, and the remission of the remaining Rs. 17,563. His proposals were accepted, and the land revenue for the remaining term of settlement was fixed at Rs. 12,11,583.

Assessment
at the third
regular settle-
ment.

The third regular settlement was begun in October 1903 by Mr. W. S. Hamilton, and on his vacating the post in October 1905 owing to ill health Mr. B. T. Gibson, who had joined as Assistant Settlement Officer in October in 1904, was appointed Settlement Officer. The justification for the re-assessment lay in the increase of irrigation from wells and especially from the Agra Canal, in the rise of prices, in the improvement of communications and last, but most important of all, in the rise of cash rents paid by tenants-at-will.

Assessment
circles.

Detailed information on all these subjects is given in Chapter II, and in the rough estimate of the increase of resources made in the forecast report the Deputy Commissioner estimated the increase of gross land revenue theoretically due to Government at 3 lakhs, out of which he considered, taking into account the indebtedness of the peasantry and the smallness of their proprietary

holdings, Rs. 1,60,000 might actually be taken. The latter estimate was raised by the Settlement Commissioner, Mr. (now Sir James) Wilson to Rs. 2 or 2½ lakhs. For assessment purposes Mr. Channing's numerous circles were amalgamated as follows:—

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Assessment
circles.

Tahsil.	Old Circle.	New Circle.
Rewari ...	Pálhráwás ... Rewári ... Magdashor ... Mundi ... Kasóti ... Shahjáhpur ... Pahár ... Sahibi ... Tranferred villages ...	Chahát Khári. Chahát Mitha. Pahár. Sáhibi.
Palwál ...	Bángar ... Bhuder ... Dahri ... Bángar-Khádar (part) ... Do. do. (part Khádar) ...	Bángar. Khádar.
Nuh ...	Táoru ... Dahar ... Bángar ...	Unchanged.
Firozpur ...	Punahána ... Tranferred villages ... Bhuder ... Landoha ... Maudikhera ... Chiknot ...	Bángar. Bhuder. Dahar Mitha. Dahar Khári. Chiknot.
Gurgáon ...	Sáhibi ... Gurgáon ... Dahar ... Adjoining Dahar ... Farukhnagar ... Sihi ... Kásan ... Hill ... Sohna ... Sailáni ... Bahora ...	Sahibi. Gurgáon. Bhur. Hill. Sohna. Bahora.

When assessment had been completed the Dahar Mitha and Dahar Khári circles of Firozpur were combined into one circle called Dahar, and the Gurgáon-Pahár was amalgamated with Bhur. At the previous settlement the assessment had been based almost entirely on the estimate of the produce, cash rents, which for reasons stated in Chapter II Mr. Channing considered unreliable, being used only as a check on the produce estimate. In this settlement owing to the increase in the area under, and rates of, cash rents the position was reversed. The assessment was based almost wholly on cash rents paid by tenants-at-will, the produce estimate being used only as a check on the cash rent estimate. The sanctioned half asset and revenue soil rates were as follows:—

Sanctioned
half asset and
revenue soil
rates.

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half asset and
revenue soil
rates.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Sanctioned half assets rates of circles under fixed assessment.		TAHSIL BHAWARI.				TAHSIL PALWAL.		TAHSIL NUH.		
		Cháhát Khári.	Cháhát. Mitha.	Pahár.	Sáhibi.	Bángar.	Khádar.	Táoru.	Dahar.	Bángar.
	Chahi ...	{ Pakka ... 2 0 0 Kachcha 1 8 0	{ 3 6 6 1 8 0	{ 2 7 8 1 10 0	{ 2 11 0 1 8 0	{ Irrigated 2 13 0 Unirri- 2 8 0 gated.	{ 1 12 0 1 2 0	{ 2 10 0 1 3 0	{ 1 13 0 1 13 0	{ 2 3 0 1 10 6
	Nahri ...	...	...	...	...	{ Irrigated 3 4 0 Unirri- 2 8 0 gated.	{ 1 8 0 1 2 0	...	...	{ 2 8 0 1 10 6
	Abi ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1 15 0	1 13 0	...
	Dahri ...	...	1 7 0	...	1 13 6	...	...	1 6 0	1 13 0	...
	Chiknot and Narmot	...	1 5 6	1 7 0	...	2 8 0	1 2 0	1 3 0	1 13 0	1 10 6
	Magda ...	...	1 1 6	1 3 0	1 4 6	1 15 0	1 2 0	1 3 0	1 13 0	1 10 6
	Bhur ...	...	0 12 0	0 10 0	0 12 6	1 7 0	0 11 0	0 12 0	0 15 0	0 12 0
	Culturable waste ...	...	...	...	...	...	0 4 0	...	...	...
	Chahi ...	{ Pakka ... 2 0 0 Kachcha 1 8 0	{ 3 0 0 1 8 0	{ 2 0 0 1 10 0	{ 2 8 0 1 8 0	{ Irrigated 2 4 0 Unirri- 1 14 0 gated.	{ Bángar 1 8 0 Khádar 0 15 0	{ Irrigated 2 6 0 Unirri- 1 1 6 gated.	{ 1 8 9 ...	{ 1 15 0 1 6 0
	Nahri ...	...	...	...	...	{ Irrigated 2 4 0 Unirri- 1 14 0 gated.	{ Bángar 1 8 0 Khádar ...	{ Irrigated Unirri- gated.	{	{ 1 10 0 1 6 0
	Abi ...	...	...	...	...	...	{ Bángar 1 4 0 Khádar 0 15 6	1 1 6	1 8 9	...
	Dahri ...	...	1 5 0	...	1 12 0	...	{ Bángar 1 4 0 Khádar 0 15 0	1 1 6	1 8 9	...
	Chiknot and Narmot	...	1 5 0	1 5 0	...	1 14 0	{ Bángar 1 4 0 Khádar 0 15 0	1 1 6	1 8 9	1 6 0
	Magda ...	...	1 1 0	1 2 0	1 1 0	1 2 0	{ Bángar 0 14 0 Khádar 0 10 0	1 1 6	1 8 9	1 6 0
	Bhur ...	...	0 11 0	0 9 0	0 9 6	0 13 0	...	0 9 6	0 10 6	0 11 0
	Culturable waste ...	...	...	...	...	...	Khádar 0 3 0	...	...	...

1	2	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
Sanctioned half assets: rates of circles under fixed assessment.		TAHSIL FIROZPUR.				TAHSIL GURGAON.					
		Bangar.	Bhader.	Dahar Mitha.	Dahar Khari.	Sahibi.	Gurgaon.	Bhur.	Hill.	Sohna.	Bahora.
Chahi ...	{	2 8 0 1 13 0	2 11 0 1 14 0	3 10 0 2 1 0	3 6 0 2 14 0	2 12 0 1 2 0	3 12 0 1 10 0	3 4 0 1 1 0	3 2 0 1 3 0	3 0 0 1 10 0	4 6 0 1 8 0
Nahri ...	{	2 8 0 1 13 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Abi	2 11 0	...	3 6 0	1 2 0	1 10 0	1 1 0	1 3 0	1 10 0	1 2 0
Dahri	2 2 0	3 1 0	2 4 0	1 12 0	2 4 0	1 9 0	1 3 0	2 1 0	2 15 0
Chiknot and Narmot	1 13 0	1 14 0	2 1 0	2 14 0	1 8 0	1 10 0	1 9 0	1 9 0	1 10 0	2 6 0
Magda	1 13 0	1 14 0	2 1 0	2 14 0	1 2 0	1 10 0	1 1 0	1 3 0	1 10 0	1 2 0
Bhur	0 15 0	0 14 0	1 6 0	2 14 0	0 11 0	0 12 0	0 9 6	0 12 0	0 13 0	0 13 0
Culturable waste	0 2 0	...	0 3 0	0 3 0	0 3 0	...
Chahi ...	{	2 3 0 1 8 0	2 11 0 1 12 0	3 0 0 1 12 0	2 12 0 2 0 0	2 6 0 0 15 0	3 4 0 1 6 6	2 12 0 0 14 0	2 10 0 1 0 0	2 8 0 1 6 0	3 12 0 1 4 0
Nahri ...	{	1 11 0 1 8 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Abi	1 8 0	1 12 0	...	2 0 0	...	1 6 6	...	0 10 0	1 6 0	...
Dahri	1 8 0	2 2 0	2 8 0	2 6 0	1 8 0	2 0 0	1 5 0	1 0 0	1 12 0	2 8 0
Chiknot and Narmot	1 8 0	1 12 0	1 12 0	2 0 0	1 4 0	1 6 6	1 5 0	1 5 0	1 6 0	2 0 0
Magda	1 8 0	1 12 0	1 12 0	2 0 0	0 15 0	1 6 6	0 14 0	1 0 0	1 6 0	0 15 0
Bhur	0 11 0	0 11 0	1 0 0	1 10 0	0 9 0	0 11 0	0 8 3	0 10 0	0 11 0	0 11 0
Culturable waste	0 2 0	...	0 2 6	0 1 0	0 2 6	...

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III. C.
Land
Revenue.
Sanctioned
half asset and
revenue soil
rates.

CHAP.
III, C.

The results of the re-assessment are shewn in the following table:—

Land
Revenue.Fixed assess-
ments.

1	2	3	4	5	6
Tahsil.	Circle.	Old Demand.	New Demand.	Increase or decrease per cent.	REMARKS.
		Rs.	Rs.		
REWARI...	Cháhát Khári	1,25,818	1,26,810	+1	
	" Mitha	37,618	38,250	+2	
	Pahár ...	32,350	32,540	+1	
	Sáhibi	72,727	79,010	+9	
	Total Tahsil...	2,68,513	2,76,610	+3	
PALWAL ...	Bángar ...	2,57,198	3,50,201	+36	
	Khádar ...	12,362	10,970	-11	
	Total Tahsil ..	2,69,560	3,61,171	+34	
NUH ...	Táoru ...	36,501	44,491	+22	
	Dahar ...	1,01,251	*77,684	-23	*Whole of 15 and parts of 4 villages newly placed under fluctuating assessment.
	Bángar ...	1,00,360	1,20,152	+20	
	Total Tahsil...	2,38,112	2,42,327	+2	
	Bángar ...	79,661	1,00,504	+26	
FIROZPUR	Rudber ...	44,420	48,198	+9	
	Dahar Mitha	47,276	48,127	+2	
	" Khári	37,411	42,037	+12	
	Chiknot ...	14,151	†...	...	†Whole of 15 and parts of 3 villages newly placed under fluctuating assessment.
	Total Tahsil...	2,22,919	2,38,866	+7	
	Sáhibi ...	18,491	17,169	-7	
	Gurgáon ...	64,175	70,542	+10	
GURGAON ...	Bhur ...	52,225	55,215	+6	
	Hill ...	12,088	15,140	+25	
	Sohna ...	40,045	43,193	+8	
	Bahora ...	21,136	21,290	+1	
	Total Tahsil...	2,08,160	2,22,549	+7	
	Total District	12,07,264	13,41,523	+11	

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III. C.Land
Revenue.Land revenue
fluctuating
assessments.

The system of fluctuating assessment introduced at the second regular settlement has already been described. At the recent settlement it was extended compulsorily to the villages noted in the preceding statement, while the remaining villages of the Dahar circle of Nuh, and the whole Khadár circle of Palwal, were given the option at any time during the currency of the settlement of exchanging their fixed for a fluctuating assessment. For the villages in the Dahar and Chiknot circles, the system recently sanctioned in the west of the Punjab was adopted. The following schedule of crops and rates per matured acre were sanctioned:—

Class.	Crops.	Rate.
		Rs. a. p.
I	Cane, rice, cotton, til, hemp, indigo, wheat, gojra, gochni, spices, tobacco, dhanla, orchards and fruit and vegetable gardens (excluding carrots, turnips and extra rabi vegetables and melons)	2 4 0
II	Barley, bejhar, gram and rabi oilseeds	1 12 0
III	All other crops	0 12 0

These rates are for unirrigated crops. No extra rate was imposed on crops irrigated from wells, but crops of classes I and II, if naturally flooded (*dahri*) pay 12 annas per matured acre extra.

These rates were varied within a fixed limit from village to village, in accordance with the revenue-paying capacity of the landowners, and arrangements were made for reducing the assessment on a poor crop. The same schedule and the following crop rates were sanctioned for the Palwal Khádar, in case any of the villages of the circle subsequently exercise the option of changing their method of assessment:—

Class of crop.	Rate.
	Rs. a. p.
I	2 4 0
II	1 10 0
III	0 14 0

The principle of varying the rates from village to village was not adopted in this circle.

The system introduced at the second settlement in the Najafgarh basin has been left unchanged pending the report of the Settlement Officer of Delhi.

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III, C.
Land
Revenue.

The estimated fluctuating land revenue demand of the area newly placed under fluctuating assessment in the Dahar and Chiknot circles is Rs. 42,645. This sum added to the new fixed demand shown above, makes the increase of the gross assessment Rs. 1,76,904 or nearly 15 per cent.

Cesses.

Cesses amount to Rs. 13-5-4 per cent. as follows :—

								Rs. a. p.
Local rate	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8 5 4
Lambardari	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5 0 0

Dates for
payment of
land and canal
revenue.

The assessment was a full one in the Rewári and Gurgáon tahsils, and is light only in the canal-irrigated villages of the three Bángar circles.

At the second settlement two instalments were fixed for each harvest as follows :—

Kharif	...	...	...	November 15th	December 15th
Rabi	...	...	...	May 15th	June 15th

At the revision of the settlement in 1883, the kharif dates, which were obviously too early for a cotton-growing district, were changed to December 15th and January 15th. Twenty years later by letter No. 2214, dated 16th April 1904, from the Under-Secretary to the Government of India, Finance and Commerce Department, to the Revenue and Finance Secretary to Panjab Government, sanction was conveyed to the substitution of one instalment for two with the following dates :—

Kharif	...	...	...	...	...	January 15th
Rabi	...	...	...	...	...	June 1st

The system of having only one instalment has worked well, and at the enquiry made in 1909 after the announcement of the new demand, it was found that no change was either desired by the people or necessary on administrative grounds. As regards the existing dates, it appears that the kharif date was suitable, but that the rabi date was a little too early to allow of the prudent zamindár, especially in canal-irrigated tracts, disposing of his produce to the best advantage. At the same time it was by no means too early for the unprovident Meo. January 15th was proposed for the kharif date all over the district, and for the rabi date—June 15th for the Rewári, Palwal and Gurgáon tahsils, and the Bángar circles of Nuh and Firozpur which are canal irrigated. For the rest of the Nuh and Firozpur tahsils it was proposed to maintain the existing date, June 1st. The proposal, however, to have different dates for different areas was not sanctioned, and January 15th for the kharif and June 15th for the rabi were sanctioned for the whole district by Financial Commissioner's letter No. 2683, dated 4th May 1909, to the Settlement Commissioner, on the understanding that the latter date will be changed to June 1st in the Nuh and Firozpur tahsils if difficulty subsequently occurs with regard to collection from the Meo Zamindárs.

The dates now fixed for payment of the canal water rates are February 15th and July 15th, one month later than the dates for payment of the land revenue.

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III, C.
Land
Revenue.

Nahri parta.

In villages where during the currency of the settlement there is any material increase or decrease of the area irrigated from the Agra canal, arrangements have been made in the former case for imposing an additional assessment called *nahri parta*, and in the latter case for reducing the *nahri parta* assessed at Settlement. The additional assessment will be four annas per acre in newly irrigated villages, and in villages previously irrigated four annas, or the difference between the rates imposed at Settlement on canal irrigated and unirrigated land, respectively.

The amount reduced in the case of reductions of irrigation will be the difference between the latter rates. No change however will be made, unless the amount of enhancement or reduction exceeds Rs. 50 or 10 per cent of the revenue of the village, whichever is less.

The following table shews the amounts assigned for general purposes and for the maintenance of gardens and groves:—

Assignments.

	Assignments for		Total.
	General purposes.	Gardens and groves.	
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Last year of expired Settlement	15,186	1,068	16,249
First year of new Settlement	15,945	1,791	17,736

In paragraphs 9-12 of his review of the Nuh-Firozpur assessment reports, Sir James Wilson recommended for any village in the district, the assessment of which had not been announced, that where the circumstances of the village made it desirable to assess the poor landlord at a lower pitch than the rest, a reduction of four annas per rupee should be granted on the land revenue due from them. He also recommended that the total revenue of each circle, after the reductions had been given, should be within 3 per cent. of the assessment sanctioned for the circle by Government. In the orders passed on the assessment reports sanction was given to the proposal, subject to the following modifications:—

Reduction to
impoveryshed
Meo land-
owners.

(a) It was confined to the Mewát as being a border tract held by a class of proprietors of very special character, and to circles other than the Bángar.

(b) It was limited to unencumbered holdings.

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Revenue.Reduction to
impoverished
Meo land-
owners.

(c) The reduced revenue was to be re-imposed on any subsequent sale or mortgage of a holding to which the reduction had been granted.

By subsequent orders it was decided that *Khánzádas* were entitled to the reduction equally with Meos, and that the demand finally announced should be the demand sanctioned by Government, less the reduction, instead of being within 3 per cent. of the sanctioned demand as proposed by the Financial Commissioner. The reductions granted in each circle, as sanctioned by the Financial Commissioner in his letter No. 314 S., dated 2nd August 1909, to the Settlement Commissioner, Punjab, were as follows :—

Tahsil.					Circle.				Amount of reduction.
									Rs.
Nuh	...	...	...	...	{	Táoru	...	...	1,414
						Dahar	...	...	2,177
Firozpur	...	...	...	...	{	Budher	...	...	2,732
						Dahar	...	...	4,360
					Total				10,683

The figures in the Nuh Dahar circle are for the villages under fixed assessment only. The reduction will also be given in the fluctuating villages of this and of the Chiknot circle.

Di-alluvion.

The only tract subject to river action is the Jamna riverain where the whole or parts of 29 villages have been placed under di-alluvion rules. Under the rules framed at the recent settlement, provision was made for the remission of assessment on land rendered wholly unfit for cultivation or grazing, and for the reduction of assessment on land injured though not rendered totally unfit for cultivation. New cultivated land will pay Re. 1 or 8 annas per acre according as it grows first or second-class crops, and new unculturable waste will pay 3 annas per acre, provided the area of such waste exceeds 25 acres.

River bound-
ary between
the United
Provinces and
Gurgaon.

By Government of India Notification No. 4, dated 3rd January 1870, the deep stream of the Jamna was declared to be the boundary for purposes of jurisdiction between the United Provinces and the Punjab, and by Punjab Government Notification No. 94, dated 2nd April 1884, instructions were issued for an annual verification of the deep-stream boundary. The latter notification is included in the di-alluvion procedure rules (*vide* paragraph 48)

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III, C.
—
Land
Revenue.

River bound-
ary between
the United
Provinces and
Gurgaon.

which are contained in the *Das'ur-ul-amal*. Neither of the above notifications affect proprietary right, which is regulated by the custom recorded in the administration papers. The custom recorded at last settlement was the modified deep-stream rule in all villages except Bahrámpur where the boundary was recorded as fixed. In paragraph 307 of the final report of last settlement Mr. Channing noted that three villages—Gurwári, Bághpur and Bahrámpur—had fixed boundaries, but this statement does not agree with the entries in the administration papers and appears to be incorrect. On enquiry from the United Provinces at this settlement it was found that no village on that side of the river had ever heard of the modified deep-stream rule. Out of the villages affected, six were recorded as having a fixed boundary and the remainder as following the deep stream. On further enquiry it was found that the six villages recorded as having a fixed boundary in practice adhered to the deep-stream rule, and as all the villages on this side of the stream, except Bahrámpur, stated that they also in practice followed the deep-stream rule and wished to have this practice correctly recorded, they are now entered in the administration papers as following the deep-stream custom. The difference between actual practice and recorded custom is a point which should receive attention when the next revision of rights of the Bulandshahr district takes place, and in the meantime, it should be noted in case of dispute, that the boundary of proprietary right is the deep stream on both sides except in the case of Bahrámpur and the village opposite to it on the United Provinces' side of the river. The Punjab Government has recently recommended to the Government of the United Provinces that there should be a fixed boundary for jurisdiction and proprietary right between the two provinces, and the matter is still under discussion.

Under the standing orders on the subject villages were classed as secure or insecure, and for the latter a scheme for suspensions, collections and remissions of land revenue was drawn up. The only secure villages are 116, the whole parts of which are fully protected by the Agra canal. The remaining villages are insecure. For each circle containing insecure villages, rates were worked out which are applied to the matured cropping of each village, harvest by harvest, and the resulting demand gives some indication of the paying capacity of the village. If this hypothetical demand is less than two-thirds of the actual demand of the harvest, the question of granting suspension has to be considered. This scale is called the danger scale and two-thirds of the actual harvest demand is called the danger demand. Gurgáon is a very insecure district, a normal harvest is very rare, the seasons being nearly always above or below average. The greatest elasticity in revenue management is therefore essential, suspensions must be given freely during bad seasons and collections be as freely made

Suspension
scheme.

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III. C.Land
Revenue.

when the harvests are good. The kharif is the principal harvest, and a failure of this harvest is more serious than of the rabi. Experience shews that in Gurgáon long cycles of good and bad years follow one another.

Remissions of suspended arrears therefore should not be too freely given, even at the end of a long series of bad harvests, as an equally long series of succeeding good harvests may permit of the collection of the whole arrears.

Remission
of land reve-
nue on acc-
ount of reh,
submersion
and wells
falling out
of use.

Arrangements were also sanctioned for remitting the revenue (a) on lands in the canal-irrigated tract rendered unculturable by reh (alkali); (b) on flooded lands rendered unculturable by submersion; and (c) on lands irrigated from a masonry well, when the well falls out of use. In the third case the wet assessment only is remitted, and in the first and third cases the amount remitted is to be re-imposed if the land is subsequently cultivated or the well is worked.

Survey and
record work.

First settle-
ment.

✓ At the first settlement the measurement and record work was done by *amins*. The field maps were not prepared to scale and were nothing more than rough sketches of the area of each village. They shew only the shape and situation of the cultivated fields, waste lands, *abadi*, wells, etc. Each cultivated field was given a number. The dimensions of each field were ascertained by chaining the sides and entered in the *Khasra*, but were not shown in the field map.

The classification of the soils varied with the idiosyncrasies of the settlement officers, but generally the division was into *cháhi*, *dahri*, *chiknot*, *narmot*, *magda* and *bhur*, being in fact much the same as that adopted at the second and third settlements. The contents of the record of rights were as follows:—

1. Index.
2. *Tarij asámiwár*, a sort of list of holdings.
3. *Fard Lákhiráj*, or list of assignments.
4. Statement No. 2 showing details of area and land revenue of the whole village.
5. Office report.
6. The tender of engagement.
7. A statement shewing the distribution of the revenue over sub-divisions of the village (*tarij khewat*).
8. Statement showing the field numbers checked (*khasra partál*).
9. The field book (*khasra*).
10. The field map (*shajra*).
11. List of mutations of owners.
12. A sort of *jamabandi* (*kháta bandi*).
13. An abbreviated administration paper (*Ikrárnáma zamindarán*).

The record exists in a complete form for tahsil Rewári only. In the other tahsils most of the papers were destroyed in the Mutiny :—

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III. C.
Land
Revenue.

Second
settlement.

At the second regular settlement, the whole district was re-measured by triangulation. Boundary maps, on the scale of 16 inches to the mile were first prepared, and tracings of these were sent to the officer in charge of the survey party by whom the district was measured between 1873-76. They were reported by that officer to be excellent, and the best that he had ever seen. Field maps were prepared on the same scale as the boundary maps, except in a few villages of which the lands stretched down into the jhils. Here the people had divided their fields into long narrow strips stretching from the higher to the lower parts of the estate, so that all would suffer and gain alike as the waters rose and fell. In such villages the scale had to be doubled. The result of the comparison of the areas, according to the settlement maps with those of the Revenue Survey, shewed that the former were extremely accurate. The measurement work and completion of the measurement papers was carried out by *amins*. The Standing Record contained the following documents :—

1. The title page and list of papers.
2. The field register or khasra, accompanied by—
3. The field map or shajra, placed in a pocket at one end of the volume.
4. The tender of engagement.
5. An index to the khewat-khatauni.
6. The khewat-khatauni or the register of the rights and liabilities of the owners and occupiers.
7. The statement of proprietary tenure.
8. An index to the well statement.
9. The well statement.
10. The statement of ponds and tanks used for irrigation.
11. The list of revenue assignments.
12. The list of judicial cases decided in the Settlement courts.
13. The village administration paper.
14. The final proceeding.

In addition to the above a statement of the rights and rents of tenants was prepared, but did not form part of the settlement record.

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III, C.Land
Revenue.Third settle-
ment.

At the third regular settlement the maps of the previous settlement were found to be so accurate that very little re-measurement was necessary. The maps of 1,197 villages were merely corrected, and only 68 villages were wholly or partially re-measured. Where re-measurement was necessary, it was carried out on the square system, and the scale adopted was 16 miles to the inch, except in the case of 33 villages where this scale was doubled. A feature of the measurement work was that no *amins* were employed, the whole survey and record work being carried out by the ordinary patwari staff of the district. Measurement work was completed in all but 85 villages by the end of 1905-06. The standing record contains the following documents :—

1. Preliminary proceeding (*robkār ibtadāi*) containing the notifications under which the settlement operations were undertaken. This document also serves the purpose of an index.
2. Genealogical tree (*shajra-nasb*) of the landowners of the village. In the case of small villages this is placed in a pocket in the cover, while in large villages it is placed in a separate cover.
3. Index of field numbers (*fard numberwar*) showing the khatauni number and area of each field number.
4. Alphabetical index of owners and tenants (*vide radifwār*) showing their holdings.
5. *Jamabandī*.
6. List of assignments and pensions (*fahrist ma'afiat aur pension*).
7. Statement of rights in wells (*naksha hakuk chāhāt*).
8. Order of the Collector determining the assessment.
9. Order of the Collector distributing the assessment over holdings.
10. Village administration paper (*wājib-ul-arz*).
11. Sanctioned mutations.
12. Field map (*shajra-kishtwār*).

The record was completed in Rewāri in 1907-08 and in the four other tahsils in 1908-09.

Owing to the amalgamation of three estates into two in the Gurgāon tahsil and the subdivision of two estates into four in the Palwal tahsil the number of estates at the end of settlement was 1,265.

Number of
villages.