# REPORT ON THE

## SETTLEMENT OF THE PROVINCE OF ORISSA.

(TEMPORARILY SETTLED AREAS)

1890 to 1900 A. D.

#### PART-1

#### CHAPTER 1.

### GENERAL SUMMARY OF THE CONTENTS OF THE REPORT.

1. The jurisdiction of the Commissioner of Orissa and Superintendent of Area under report. the Tributary Mahals comprises:—

|   |          |        |        |                           |      |      | Square miles. |
|---|----------|--------|--------|---------------------------|------|------|---------------|
| Seventeen 7   | [ributa: | ****   | 14,387 |                           |      |      |               |
| Cuttack dis   | trict w  | ith an | area c | of                        | •••• | •••• | <b>3</b> ,663 |
| Balasore  | ,,       | ,,     | ,,     | ••••                      | **** | **** | 2,077         |
| Puri  | ,,       | ,,     | 99     | ••••                      | **** | **** | 2,499         |
| $\mathbf{A}_{\mathbf{n}}\mathbf{g}\mathbf{u}\mathbf{l}$ | "        | "      | ,,     | ••••                      | **** | •••• | <b>1,6</b> 81 |
|   |          |        |        | $\mathbf{T}_{\mathbf{c}}$ | otal | •••• | 24,307*       |

The Tributary States pay a quit-rent fixed in perpetuity, while in the three districts, the temporarily settled area amounts to about 6,000 square miles, of which 2,300 are situated in Cuttack, 2000 in Puri and 1,700 in Balasore. Out of this area (6,000 square miles) the Khurda Government Estate comprises about 1,000 square miles. The resettlement of this Estate was completed last year by the Settlement Officer of Orissa and his assistants, and has formed the subject of a separate report already submitted to the higher authorities. It is only necessary to say here that the work was done under the immediate supervision of Mr. James Taylor. Assistant Settlement Officer, and that rents for some two hundred thousand tenants were raised from Rs. 3,09,000 to Rs. 3,77,000, the actual annual gain of revenue to Government being Rs. 55,000 and the cost of the operations, Rs. 1,92,000.

2. The area dealt with by the Survey Department in Orissa is returned as follows:—

|   |                             |      |      | Cadastal Survey |                            |                        |                            |  |
|---|-----------------------------|------|------|-----------------|----------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------|--|
|   | District                    |      |      | (               | 64 incl<br>to the<br>mile. |                        | 16 inch<br>to the<br>mile. | 2 inch<br>and<br>4 inch<br>to the          |
| • | Cuttack<br>Balasore<br>Puri | •••• | •••• | ••••            | 6                          | <b>364</b><br>7<br>993 | 2,412<br>1,858<br>1,026    | mile•<br>740<br>22 <b>3</b><br><b>4</b> 56 |
|   |                             |      | Tota | al              | 6+                         | 1,364+                 | 5,296                      | 1,419                                      |
|   |                             |      | •    |                 | ,                          | 6,666                  |                            |  |

With the exception of the 32-inch work nearly the whole of the survey was original, the areas under canal irrigation and the Khurda Government Estate having been surveyed on the 32 inch scale some fifteen to twenty years ago.

<sup>\*</sup> The revenue of this area is given in paragraph 553,

3. In this report I have only dealt with the temporarily-settled area of 5,000 square miles (excluding the Khurda Temporarily-Settled area. Government Estate). In this area rent; have been settled for some fiteen hundred thousand tenants, and the Government revenue of nearly six-and-a-half thousand estates has been raised from nearly fourteen lakh; of rupees to more than twenty-one-lakhs. The operations lasted from the end of 1889 to the end of 1899; and in addition to the work in the temporarily-settled areas the Settlement Department was entrusted with settlement work in the large Ekhrajat and Satais Hazari Estates belonging to the Puri Temple; with several minor operations in Khurda; with the record of rights in portions of Killa Darpana and Killa Aul (both permanently settled); and with the record-ofrights and settlement of rents in Killa Madhupur, a permanently-settled estate under the Court of Wards.

4. The report is divided into seven parts:

Divisions of the report.

Part I.—Statistical.—Chapters II, III, and IV contain brief statistical accounts of the temporarily-settled areas in Cuttack, Balasore and Puri (excluding Khurda, already dealt with in a separate Settlement Report). These chapters serve to bring up to date the information given by Sir W.W. Hunter in his Statistical Account of Orissa.

Part-II.-Economical.—In this part, economical matters, other than the relations between landlord and tenants (relegated to Part-III) are dealt with. Chapter V contains an account of the Irrigation and Protection works in Orissa and of the enquiry made regarding the proposal to introduce an owner's rate. The information regarding Embankments may be supplimented by the History of Embankments in Orissa lately written by Mr. W. A. Inglis, Superintending Engineer. In Chapter VI an attempt has been made to supplement the information on agriculture given by Mr. N. N. Banerjee and Mr M.H. Arnott. Chapter VII gives a history of prices and chiefly deals with the prices of common rice. In Chapter VIII the material condition of the people is described, and an account is given of the wealth of the Province and of the famines which have at times overwhelmed it.

Part III.—History and Land Tenures.—In Chapter IX a brief account is given of ancient Orissa, its history and its religion, so far as may be gathered from the writings of certain well known authorities. Chapter X contains history of the early Revenue Settlements; while in Chapter XI the history of the Land Tenures is brought down to the present day. In Chapters XII and XIII the relations between landlord and tenant, and the laws which govern these relations, are dealt with.

Part IV.—Procedure.—In this part an account is given of the procedure adopted in different stages of work. So far as possible, the results of the work have been relegated to the next Part (Part V). These chapters have been written, at considerable length for the benefit of the Settlement Officers of 1927. Great difficulty was experienced in discovering the procedure at the last Settlement, as details were not set forth in any one place, and a search in Record rooms, in manuscripts, and even in printed papers involved a considerable expenditure of time. For this reason, the chapters on procedure have been written very elaborately (see also Appendix A).

In Chapter XIV a general account of the procedure is given, together with some references to the officers employed on the work. Chapter XV, XVI, XVII, XVIII, XIX and XX follow the regular sequence of the procedure from the stage of demarcation and survey through the stages of khanapuri, attestation, settlement of rents and settlement of revenue, up to the last stage of arrangement of the final record and its maintenance.

In Part V there are two Chapters—XXI and XXII—describing the results of the work, so far as areas and so far as rents and revenue are concerned.

In part VI there are also two Chapters. Some account of the permanently settled estates, Tributary States and the Killas eligible for specially lenient treatment is given in Chapter XXIII; and Chapter XXIV contains an account of the revenue-free areas, almost inextricably intermingled with the temporarily settled revenue paying area under report.

Part VII of one Chapter (XXV) containing a brief account of the cost of

the operations.

5. The Appendices contain the following information: Appendices.

Appendix A gives a reprint of important correspondence; in Appendix B are the rules under section 189, Bengal Tenancy Act, and the rules prescribed for record writing and attestation. The rules for settlement of rents and assessment of revenue are contained in Appendix C. Appendix D contains certain forms illustrating village areas. In Appendices E and F the Milan Khasra (statement showing the areas of villages under heads 'Cultivated', 'Culturable', etc.) and the crop statements are compiled. Appendix G contains a reprint of the note on the embankments classified by Mr. C W. Odling. Appendices H to M show lists of roads, bungalows ferries, grazing grounds and public lands. Appendix N contains a list of prices of commodities sold at the Bhadrak hat and Appendix O gives an account of a raiyat's annual expenditure. In Appendix P there is a statement showing how rents have been altered. Appendices A.A to E.C give figures for rents and incidences and F.A to F.C for revenues. Appendices G.A. refer to tenure-holders (proprietary) K.A and K.B. give figures for rents payable to under-tenants. L.A. to L.C. show revenue for areas; M.A. to N.C. give an account of the zamindars in the Province. In O.A. and P.A. Mr. Carey's notes on the Amli year and Kists are reprinted. At the end of the Appendices will be found the reports by Messrs D. H. Kingsford and H. McPherson on the settlements of Balasore and Puri. Mr. James Taylor's Report on Khurda has been published separately and separately

6. I cannot conclude this introductory preface without an expression of my deep sense of gratitude and obligation to Mr. J.E. Webster. With the exception of the introductory chapters and the chapters containing reviews of general results, he has either written or drafted a very large portion of the report. He is thus largely responsible for its form, matter and manner. Mr. Webster possesses the most complete knowledge of the literature of the old Settlements, as well as of all the details of the Bengal Settlement laws. My gratitude to the other convenanted officers (Messrs H. McPherson, Carey and Kingsford) who have worked with me has been expressed in the Introductory Chapter to Part IV. In that Chapter the names of other Assistant settlement Officers have also been recorded, and I would only mention here the name of Mr. James Taylor as responsible for carrying out the Khurda Settlement. In addition to the work of inspection and organisation done by the above officers, I would ask permission to draw attention to the very able reports written by Mr. H. McPherson on Puri, Mr. Kingsford on Balasore, and Mr. James Taylor on Khurda. A record is also made in Part IV of the very valuable work done by Messrs Maude, Walsh, and Nathan during the first six years of the Settlement operations. On account of ill-health they were unable to complete their work, and it was thus left to others to reap the fruits of their labours. Extracts have been made (not always with due acknowledgements for the great assistance they have given us) from the historical works of Stirling, Toynbee, and Hunter and from the orders and reports of Directors of the Department of Land Records—Messrs, Finucane, McPherson and Lyon. I beg leave to express here my very great obligations to all these authorities.