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CENSUS OF INDIA, 1911.

VOLUME V.

**BENGAL, BIHAR AND  
ORISSA AND SIKKIM.**

PART I.

*REPORT*

BY

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OF THE INDIAN CIVIL SERVICE,  
FELLOW OF THE ROYAL STATISTICAL SOCIETY,  
SUPERINTENDENT OF CENSUS OPERATIONS, BENGAL.



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## PREFACE.

THE report to which this is a preface deals with the results of the census of 1911 in the Presidency of Bengal, the Province of Bihar and Orissa and the State of Sikkim, which have an aggregate area of nearly 200,000 square miles and a population of 85 millions, or over one-fourth of the total population of India.

The late appearance of the report is due to causes beyond my control. Since the census of 1901 Bengal has undergone two partitions, and Sikkim has been detached from it—changes which have involved the preparation of fresh statistics for the census of 1911 and also for each preceding census. It is perhaps almost superfluous to explain that if the census figures of any given area are to be of value for comparative purposes, those of previous censuses must be accessible. Accordingly, before the census of 1911 took place, figures were compiled for Bengal as constituted after the partition of 1905, for the only available figures related to the province as it stood in 1901. After the census of 1911 was concluded, tables showing its results were prepared for the two provinces of Bengal and Eastern Bengal and Assam as then existing. While this work was in progress, the repartition was announced, and the figures both of the census of 1911 and of each census since 1872 had to be worked out afresh for the Presidency of Bengal and the new Province of Bihar and Orissa. All this involved additional labour and delayed the preparation of the tables and report. On this account also I have not been able to take up all the subjects prescribed for the report, and have had to curtail the discussion of some of those with which I could deal.

The arrangements for the census followed the lines laid down in 1901, and a brief summary of them is all that  
ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE CENSUS. is required. The first step was to obtain an accurate and up-to-date record of all inhabited areas, *i.e.*, to prepare a register in which every occupied village or collection of houses was entered. This is not altogether an easy task in some areas, where the villages are small clusters of houses scattered through the jungle, which are commonly deserted by their primitive inhabitants when anything untoward happens. In such cases it is believed that the village has incurred the anger of some evil spirit, and the people abandon the site and build their houses elsewhere. The village register having been compiled, each district was parcelled out into census divisions. The smallest unit was the block, which consisted of 40 to 50 houses, for which one enumerator was responsible. The blocks were grouped together by circles, each of which was under a supervisor: ordinarily about 10 to 15 circles, *i.e.*, 400 to 600 houses, were assigned to each supervisor. The circles again were grouped together by charges, which, as a rule, corresponded to police-stations. The Charge Superintendents, who were responsible for the operations throughout each charge, were themselves subordinate to the Subdivisional Officers and to the District Census Officers, who were appointed for each district.

The actual enumeration was conducted by an improvised agency of supervisors and enumerators, who were drawn from the ordinary population. In Bengal as constituted at the time of the census 23,000 supervisors and 326,000 enumerators were employed. In many localities it was no easy matter to obtain a sufficient supply of men who could read and write, and a long training was necessary before they could understand the duties required of them. Even where suitable men were available, their natural reluctance to serve without pay had to be overcome, and the lesson brought home to them that the census was conducted by, through and for the people, and that, perhaps for the first time in their lives, they would be actively discharging a public duty.

When they had been appointed, their first duty was to number every house, a house being defined as the residence of a commensal family. The application of this definition gave rise to numerous knotty questions, which illustrate very forcibly the differences in local conditions in a large and heterogeneous province. How, for instance, were the village dormitories, in which aboriginal boys and girls sleep, to be treated? Was a separate number to be given to each house in the Paharia villages, on the summits of the Rajmahal Hills, where each married couple has a separate hut, but the whole family have their meals together in another hut. Again, how were the numbers to be affixed? The Paharia huts, for instance, are mere shanties made of branches and poles fixed in the ground, and no number could be painted on them. So, the numbers had to be put on slabs of wood, which were either stuck on the walls or hung from the eaves. The Paharias did not leave them there, but carefully wrapped them up in rags and kept them in the bamboo baskets which form their strong boxes.

In February 1911, after they had been methodically trained in their duties, the enumerators conducted the preliminary enumeration, *i.e.*, they entered all the necessary particulars in the schedules for every person ordinary resident in each house. The record thus prepared was systematically checked by superior officers in order to ensure its accuracy and also its absolute completeness. The final census was held on the night of the 10th March 1911, the enumerators going round to each house and revising the preliminary record so as to make it correspond to the state of affairs as then existing. In other words, they struck out the entries for all persons who had died or gone away since the preliminary enumeration, and added fresh entries for new-comers and for infants who had been born in the interval. Too high praise cannot be given to them for the thorough manner in which they fulfilled their duties, and for their assiduity in making sure that there were no omissions. As an instance in point, I may quote the experience of a small aboriginal tribe, who feared that some mysterious evil might befall them if they were counted, and fled from forest to forest, but failed to escape the enumerators. Mistakes were of course made, some of which show how simple-minded a few of the enumerators are. One man solemnly entered an idol in his schedule, and gave particulars of age, *viz.*, 200 years, and of language, *viz.*, Hindi. Another recorded the language of a deaf-mute as



*atpat* (an onomatopœic word describing the sounds he emitted). A globe-trotter described his occupation or means of livelihood as that of a tourist.

In many cases the enumerators had to face great difficulties, not the least of which was the danger of work in plague-infected areas, where they felt that they were fulfilling their duties at the risk of their lives. Many died of plague while engaged in the preliminary enumeration, and others on the day of the census itself. The local officers had the greatest difficulty in finding successors, often 'at a moment's notice'; and as those who were appointed could scarcely be expected to take over the dead men's papers, the work in some cases had to be done over again. Elsewhere enumerators were exposed to attacks from wild animals in the jungles. One man who had left his home on account of the ravages of a man-eating tiger, but volunteered to show the enumerator the way to his old village, was carried off by the tiger just as he reached its outskirts.

The day after the census the preparation of the provisional totals was taken in hand, *i.e.*, the entries on the schedules were totalled up to ascertain the number of males and females and the aggregate population. This may seem a simple matter, but in Bengal (as constituted at the time of the census) it involved the collection of over a third of a million men at various centres and the compilation of figures for each census division. It is by no means easy to do this quickly where distances are great and the means of communication few. Nor is it easy to ensure accuracy when, as among the Santals, the enumerators are ignorant of the elementary principles of calculation, many not being able to post figures above 100. Lastly, there is the danger of loss or destruction of papers. In one district the provisional totals were delayed by one enumerator not having compiled his totals. The Subdivisional Officer went to the spot and found that the enumerator's house had been burnt on the night of the census, and with it the census papers and two of his wives. His block had of course to be censused again.

In spite of these and other difficulties, the provisional totals for the whole of Bengal were despatched within a week after the census. Their speedy collection and despatch are due to the excellent organization effected by the District Officers, the employment of all available means of transport (one of the most useful being the bicycle), and the indomitable energy of the census staff. In the Patna State the figures had to be despatched by couriers to the nearest telegraph station, a distance of 76 miles, and in Kalahandi they had to be sent 114 miles: in the latter State the authorities had, in the words of the Political Agent, "to deal with 1,200 square miles of the most awful country inhabited by the wildest of Khonds." The totals of these two States were wired on the 13th and 15th March, respectively. In the Darjeeling district the figures for the people living on a mountain 12,000 feet high and 50 miles distant from head-quarters reached Darjeeling within 36 hours of the census. In Singhbhum again many of the census staff had to march at night through forests infested by man-eating tigers carrying torches to scare them away, and completed in 10 hours marches which, as a rule, take two days. Bad weather had to be faced

in some places. The District Census Officer of one Bengal district reports that the men had to travel through a violent hail-storm and came in late at night, "all with hurts and bruises, but with the circle summaries and enumeration books dry. I had to give up the idea of sending any special messenger to head-quarters on such a fearful night, and early next morning I acted as special messenger myself and plied my bike on a muddy road of 32 miles and carried in the provisional totals safe." In this and other cases the reports are reminiscent of "How they brought the good news from Ghent to Aix."

The final results were obtained by compilation and tabulation, of which there are three stages, viz., slip-copying, sorting and compilation.

COMPILATION AND TABULATION.

Slip-copying is the process of copying the entries in the schedules on to slips. A separate slip is used for each of the persons enumerated, so that 85 million slips had to be used for the population dealt with in this report; but much labour is saved by the use of slips of different colours to indicate religion, of symbols to indicate sex and of abbreviations for the actual entries in the schedules. As in 1901, the greater part of the slip-copying was carried out in district offices. The slips when ready were sent to the central offices, where the sorting and subsequent operations required for the preparation of the final tables were carried out. In the central offices arrangements were made for copying the slips of the districts in which they were situated, together with some or all of the slips for other districts where there were difficulties in the way of getting the work done locally. For instance, the slips of Angul and the Orissa Feudatory States were copied at the Cuttack central office besides those for Cuttack: at this office no less than 6 million slips were copied. At one time the copying staff in the Bengal offices (excluding those in Eastern Bengal) numbered over 3,000, the total outturn in the week being nearly 10 million slips, and the daily average per man 590. The average is remarkably high, considering that the work had to be done in the height of the hot weather, and in some cases, where buildings could not be secured, in tents or verandahs.

Sorting is the process of arranging the slips under the heads required for the various final tables, counting the slips as thus arranged and entering the number on forms provided for the purpose, which are called sorters' tickets. This operation was performed in the central offices, of which there were seven for the area dealt with by me. They were situated at the following places and sorted for the population noted against each, viz., Berhampore (9 millions), Bhagalpur ( $7\frac{3}{4}$  millions), Cuttack (9 millions), Gaya ( $6\frac{1}{2}$  millions), Hazaribagh ( $5\frac{3}{4}$  millions), Hooghly (10 millions) and Patna ( $9\frac{1}{2}$  millions). While sorting was in progress, inquiry was made into doubtful entries, which often raise questions which it is difficult to solve. One tribe, for instance, was entered as Jhar Manjhi, *i.e.*, men of the woods, or Makarkhia, *i.e.*, monkey-eaters. On inquiry it was ascertained that they went by no other name, and that they did not know their original habitat and could only give an account of their recent wanderings. Specimens of their language were then obtained, and it was ascertained that they were Birhors, which also means men of the woods.

Sorting was followed by compilation, or the process of combining the figures in the sorters' tickets, so as to obtain the totals for the district. The compilation registers, in which the figures were entered, were despatched as soon as they were ready to my office, where a detailed examination of the statistics was carried out, doubtful entries checked and discrepancies inquired into. This is an operation of the greatest importance, as errors in compilation affect not merely units, but hundreds and thousands. After this the tables were prepared and the report was written. The statistics are numerous enough, but some desired to utilize the census record still further. One Bengali gentleman wanted copies of all the entries—1½ million in number—that were made in the schedules for members of his caste. Another Bengali gentleman calmly asked for the names and addresses of all literate persons in the province, in order that advertising circulars might be sent to them. He naively pointed out that this would swell the postal revenue besides developing trade.

The accounts of census expenditure were maintained separately for the provinces of Bengal and Eastern Bengal and Assam during the two years 1910-12, and jointly for Bengal and Bihar and Orissa in 1912-13. Divided proportionately according to the population of the two provinces as now constituted, the aggregate cost is Rs. 2,67,322-10-8 for Bengal and Rs. 2,05,550-10-11 for Bihar and Orissa, representing an incidence of Rs. 5-12-4 and Rs. 5-5-7 respectively per head of the population. The average cost is higher than in 1901 owing mainly to the fact that wages have risen in the interval, so that the staff engaged in compilation and tabulation had to be paid more. Additional expenditure, moreover, had to be incurred in consequence of the repartition of Bengal, which necessitated the compilation of revised statistics for the two provinces.

I cannot acknowledge too fully the services of the large body of private individuals and Government officers who conducted the census and brought it to a successful conclusion. The census laid a heavy burden on the District Officers and their subordinate staff, which they loyally bore without increase of establishment. Their self-sacrifice materially helped to keep down the cost of the operations. My grateful acknowledgments are further due to a large number of official and non-official gentlemen for interesting reports on ethnological and sociological questions, which have been freely drawn upon in this report. I also desire to mention the good work done by the Presidency Jail Press, under the supervision of Mr. J. Gray, in printing and despatching the forms which were used at various stages of the operations. Their aggregate number exceeded 70 millions, and they had to be printed in six different characters, viz., English, Bengali, Kaithi, Devanagari, Oriya and Nepali Hindi: some Tibetan forms were also printed by the Secretariat Press at Darjeeling.

My special thanks are due to the following Deputy Magistrates and Deputy Collectors for the services which they rendered as Deputy Superintendents of Census in charge of the central census offices mentioned against their names:—Babu Brajendra Nath Ray (Hooghly), Babu Nilmani Dey (Bhagalpur), Babu Manmatha Nath Sen (Cuttack), Maulvi Abdul Kadir Khan (Patna), Babu Anadi Ranjan Bose (Gaya) and

Babu Krishna Gopal Ghosh (Berhampore). Much useful work was also done by my Head Clerk, Babu Harendra Krishna Mitra, whose previous experience was a valuable asset. Lastly, I am greatly indebted to Babu Naba Gauranga Basak, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, who, as my Personal Assistant, was closely associated with me in the preparation of the tables and of the report. Two of the chapters and part of a third were written in collaboration with him, and all the diagrams, maps and subsidiary tables were prepared under his supervision.

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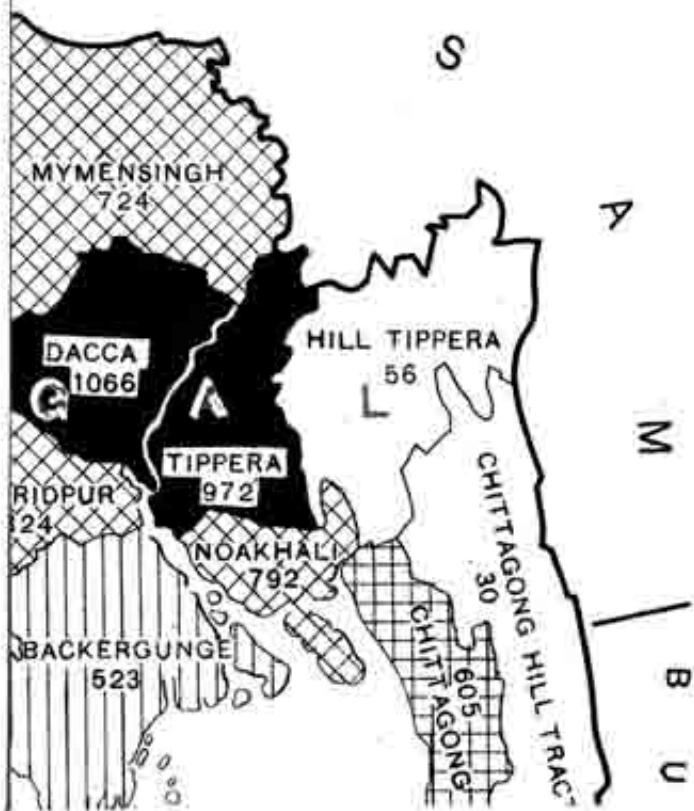
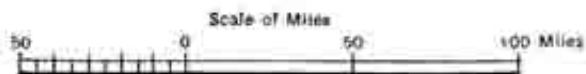


# BENGAL BIHAR & ORISSA AND SIKKIM

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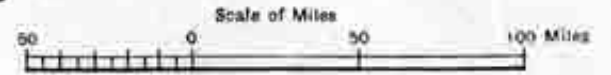
Under 250 persons per	
250 and under	400
400 .....	500
500 .....	600
600 .....	700
700 .....	900
900 .....	over

Showing density of population by Districts and States.

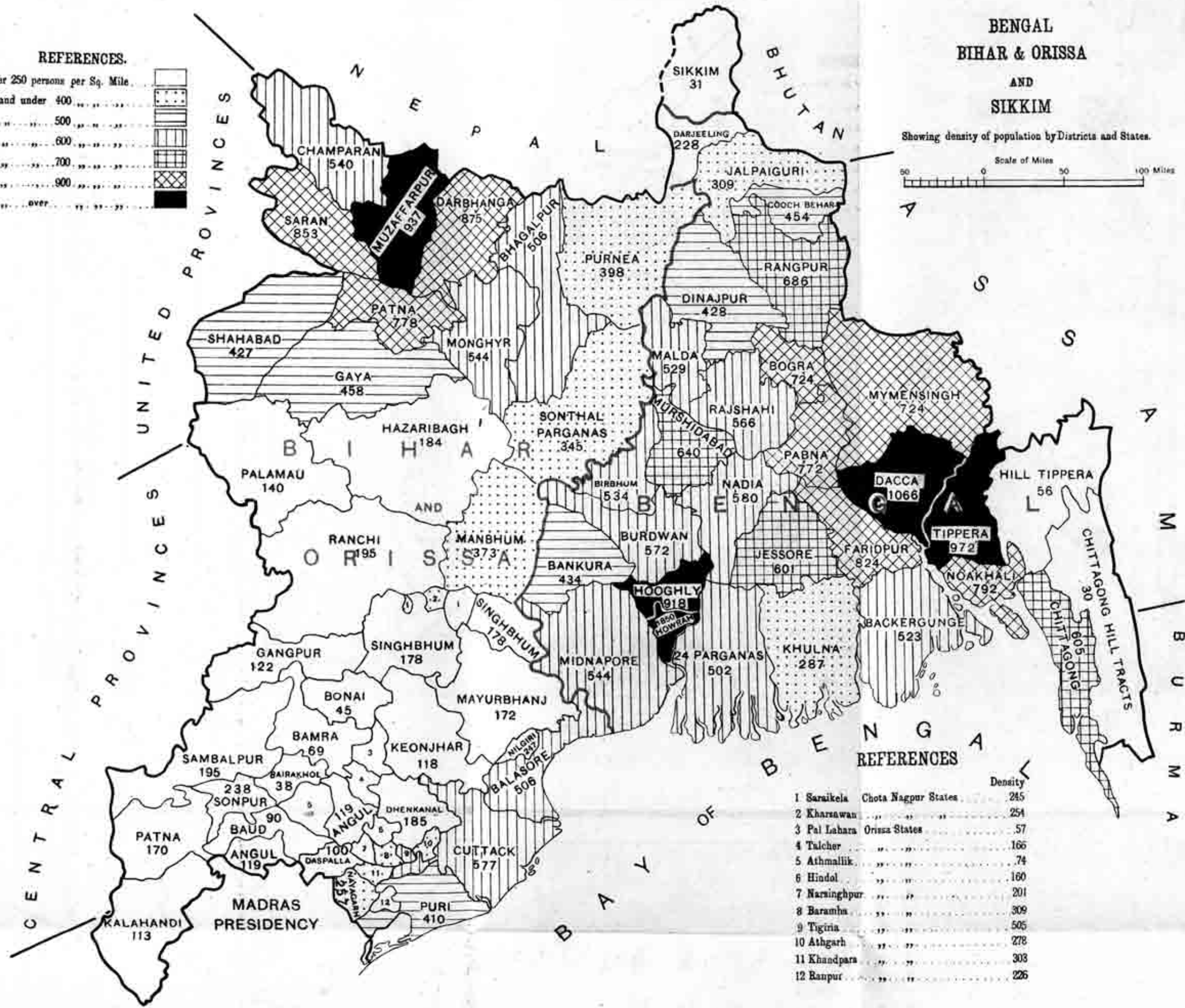
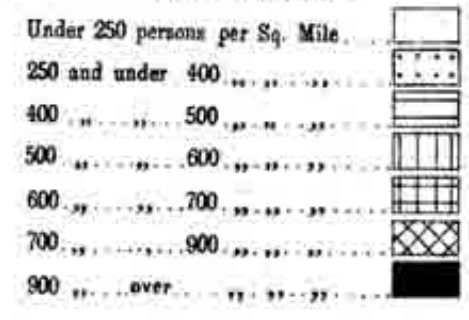


BENGAL  
BIHAR & ORISSA  
AND  
SIKKIM

Showing density of population by Districts and States.



REFERENCES.



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# REPORT

ON THE CENSUS OF

## BENGAL, BIHAR AND ORISSA, AND SIKKIM, 1911.

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### CHAPTER I.

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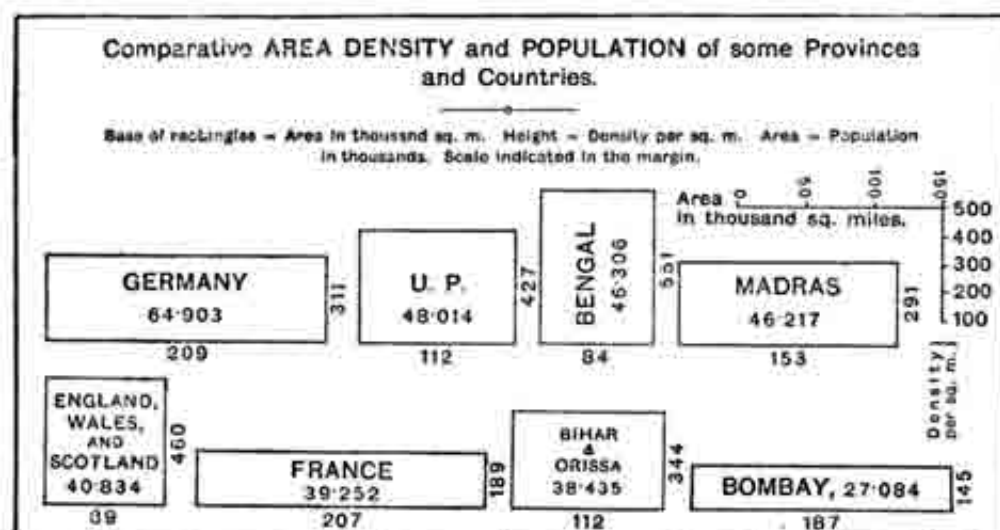
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At the census of 1901 the Presidency of Bengal and the Province of Bihar and Orissa (except Sambalpur and five Feudatory States) were included in the Lieutenant-Governorship of Bengal, a Province extending over 196,408 square miles and containing a population of 78,493,410 persons. The government of such a large and populous territory had long been a task of increasing difficulty owing to the growth of population—in 30 years it had increased by over 26 millions—the commercial, industrial and educational development of the country, and the increase in the number and complexity of its administrative problems. It had been realized for some years that the Province was too large for a single administration, and eventually in 1905 a partition, accompanied by transfers of territory between it and the adjoining Provinces, was carried into effect. A new Province, called Eastern Bengal and Assam, was constituted, which included Assam and a considerable portion of the old Province of Bengal, viz., the Divisions of Dacca, Chittagong and Rajshahi (except Darjeeling), the district of Malda and the State of Hill Tippera. The five Feudatory States of Jashpur, Surguja, Udaipur, Korea and Changbhakar were at the same time transferred to the Central Provinces, while the district of Sambalpur (with the exception of two zamindaris) and the Feudatory States of Patna, Sonpur, Kalahandi, Bamra and Rairakhol were transferred from the Central Provinces to Bengal. The Province of Bengal, as constituted after these changes, extended over 148,592 square miles, and contained a population, according to the census of 1911, of 57,206,430 persons. The results anticipated from the partition not having been altogether realized, another scheme of reconstruction, accompanied by organic changes in the system of government, was determined upon. By this second partition which took effect on 1st April 1912, Bihar, Chota Nagpur and Orissa (*i.e.* the whole Province of Bengal as constituted after 1905 with the exception of the Bardwan and Presidency Divisions, the district of Darjeeling and the State of Cooch Behar) were formed into a separate Province under a Lieutenant-Governor in Council, Assam was restored to its former position as a Chief Commissionership, and the remainder of the Province of Eastern Bengal and Assam, the Presidency and Bardwan Divisions, the district of Darjeeling and the State of Cooch Behar were created a Presidency under a Governor in Council.

Sikkim was under the Government of Bengal until 1906, when the control of its affairs was taken over by the Government of India. The figures for this State are therefore given separately and not included in those for Bengal, as in 1901.

## AREA AND POPULATION.

2. The Presidency of Bengal contains a population of 46,305,642 persons, and extends over 84,092 square miles, of which 5,393 square miles are in the States of Cooch Behar and Hill Tippera, and the remainder constitute the Burdwan, Presidency, Rajshahi, Dacca and Chittagong Commissionerships or administrative Divisions. Though somewhat smaller than Great Britain, it contains nearly a million more inhabitants than the whole of the British Isles. Compared with other Provinces in India, it is a little larger than the Central Provinces excluding Berar, and it has the greatest population next to the United Provinces (48,014,080), being closely followed by Madras with 46,217,245 inhabitants. Throughout almost its whole extent it is a low-lying alluvial plain, the southern portion of which is formed by the united deltas of the Ganges and Brahmaputra, while the northern portion consists of the valleys of these great rivers and their tributaries. Whether physical conditions, the character of the people and their language are considered, the Presidency is, with a few exceptions, remarkably homogeneous, but for practical purposes it may be treated as consisting of four natural Divisions, viz., Western, Central, East and North Bengal, of which a brief account will be found later in this chapter.



3. The Province of Bihar and Orissa has an area of 111,829 square miles and a population of 38,435,293 persons. Its area is slightly smaller than that of Austria (115,903 square miles), and a little greater than that of Italy (110,550 square miles), while its population is very little less than that of France (39,252,245). The largest Province in India next to Burma, Madras and Bombay, its population is only exceeded by that of Bengal, Madras and the United Provinces. It consists of the Divisions or Commissionerships of Patna, Tirhut, Bhagalpur, Orissa and Chota Nagpur, and of the Orissa and Chota Nagpur Feudatory States. The five Divisions, which have an area of 83,181 square miles and a population of 34,490,084, are the same as in 1901, with the following exceptions. The Orissa Division had the district of Sambalpur added to it in 1905, when the first partition of Bengal was effected. The district of Malda was at the same time transferred from the Bhagalpur Division to the Province of Eastern Bengal and Assam, whence it has been retransferred to Bengal. In 1908 the Patna Division was reconstituted, the North-Gangetic districts of Saran, Champaran, Muzaffarpur and Darbhanga being formed into a new Division known as Tirhut, while the districts of Patna, Gaya and Shahabad on the south of the Ganges were formed into another Commissionership, which retained the name of the Patna Division. Owing to the transfers which took place in 1905, the Orissa Feudatory States, which in 1901 contained 17 States, now contain 24 States, the five States of Patna, Kalahandi, Sonpur, Bamra and Rairakhol being added from the Central Provinces, and two other States, Gangpur and Bonai,

from the Chota Nagpur States. Owing to this loss and to the transfer to the Central Provinces of Jashpur, Surguja, Udaipur, Korea and Changbhakar, the Chota Nagpur States now consist only of the two small States of Kharsawan and Saraikela. The effect of these changes is shown in the marginal table.

	Area in square miles.		Population.	
	1901.	1911.	1901.	1911.
Orissa Feudatory States ...	14,307	28,046	1,947,502	2,796,562
Chota Nagpur States ...	16,014	802	1,001,429	148,646

Unlike Bengal, the Province of Bihar and Orissa is wanting in homogeneity. It consists of three sub-provinces, Bihar, Chota Nagpur and Orissa, which have different languages and land systems, while their physical configuration and the character of their peoples are entirely distinct.

4. Bihar, which for administrative purposes is divided between the Patna, Tirhut and Bhagalpur Divisions, extends over 42,361 square miles, and has a population of

**BIHAR.**

23,752,968 persons, or nearly 10 millions more than the Central Provinces and Berar. Physically it consists of the eastern portion of the Gangetic valley, which is bounded on the north by the lower spurs of the Himalayas and on the south by the Chota Nagpur plateau. It is an alluvial plain watered and drained by the Ganges and its tributaries, such as the Gandak, Son, Gogri and Kosi, which sometimes sweep down in disastrous floods. The climate is drier than in Bengal, and the rainfall is not only lighter, but more capricious, its vicissitudes exposing the country, especially to the north of the Ganges, to periods of scarcity, which occasionally culminate in famine. Rice is the main harvest, but heavy crops of maize, wheat and barley are also raised. The people are sturdy cultivators, clinging to their lands with grim tenacity; their industries and manufactures are of little economic importance. A little over 30 years ago they were described by the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal as "poor helpless discontented men, bound down to a state of extreme depression and misery, tenants of the richest Province in Bengal, yet the poorest and most wretched class we find in the country." The monopoly of agriculture, the excessive dependence of the cultivators on the winter rice crop, the precariousness of that crop, rack-renting and the oppression of landlords, made it difficult for the people to accumulate reserves on which they could fall back in a year of crop failure. Since then, the security of tenure, and the protection against arbitrary enhancement of rents, afforded by the Bengal Tenancy Act and the preparation of a record-of-rights, together with the extension of railways, have worked what may almost be described as an agrarian and economic revolution. Bihar has now passed from a condition of recurring famines to one in which, though the pinch of high prices is felt, widespread famine due to the actual absence of food is only a grim memory. In times of scarcity both cultivators and labourers display staying powers which were previously unknown, while the pressure of high prices is relieved by the annual migration of landless labourers to centres of industry, and by the remittances made by them to their families.

5. Chota Nagpur, which includes the Division of that name and the petty States of Kharsawan and Saraikela, extends over 27,679 square miles, and has 5,754,008

**CHOTA NAGPUR.**

inhabitants, or nearly half as many as Burma. It is an upland plateau which forms the north-eastern portion of the table-land of Central India. The surface is undulating and hilly, and a large part is still covered by jungle, in which the *sal* tree (*Shorea robusta*) predominates. Cultivation is mainly confined to the valleys and the depressions between the ridges, which are enriched by the detritus washed down from above; laborious terracing is necessary to make rice cultivation possible on the slopes. The rainfall is about the same as in Bihar, but owing to the broken undulating surface the rain runs off rapidly, and artificial irrigation is necessary to bring the rice crop to maturity. Failures of the harvest occur periodically, but scarcity does not press severely on the people, as they are mostly hardy aboriginals, who, even in times of prosperity, have recourse to edible jungle products, such as the fruit of the *makua* tree, and can manage to subsist under conditions which would result in famine among the cultivators of the plains. For centuries this hilly tract remained almost a *terra incognita*, outside the sphere of administration of the Mughal Government, which saw little hope of revenue from its barren

forest-clad hills. It was part of the *Jharkhand* or jungle land, a name given to the whole country stretching from Birbhum and Manbhum to Central India, and from the fort of Rohtasgarh in Shahabad to the borders of Orissa. The Mughals exercised only a nominal suzerainty over the native chiefs and, except for a few punitive expeditions, rarely penetrated its recesses, remaining content with a tribute of a few diamonds from the Chief of Kokrah (Ranoli).<sup>\*</sup> It is still the home of non-Aryan tribes, who were never completely subjugated till the advent of the British, and, as stated in the last Census Report, "have preserved an individuality in respect of tribal organization, religion and language, which their congeners in the plain have long since lost."

6. Orissa, with an area of 41,789 square miles and a population of 8,928,316 persons, is by far the largest but most sparsely populated sub-province. It corresponds to the Orissa Division and the Orissa Feudatory States, and consists of two distinct portions, viz., a low-land tract along the sea board and a hilly interior. The former tract, which comprises the districts of Cuttack, Balasore and Puri, is a delta formed by the Mahanadi, Baitarani, Brahmani and other rivers debouching into the Bay of Bengal. The greater part of this alluvial delta was under the direct control of the Mughals, and formed the Mughalbandi or crown lands, from which the Mughals obtained a regular revenue. On the collapse of their power, it passed under the domination of the Marathas, and did not come under British rule until 1803. It has been throughout its history a tract difficult of access, having little communication with the rest of north-eastern India; it is only within recent years that it has been connected by rail with Madras on the south and Bengal on the north. Owing largely to this isolation, the people have social characteristics and a caste system different both from that of Bengal and that of Madras, while their language (Oriya) has but few foreign elements. The interior of Orissa forms an elevated plateau with occasional higher hills, some of which reach sub-temperate altitudes. In this hinterland there are two British districts, viz. Sambalpur, the suzerainty of which was ceded by the Marathas in 1826, but which only came under direct British rule in 1849, and Angul, part of which was annexed in 1847, and the remainder, known as the Khondmals, in 1855. The rest of the country is under the rule of Feudatory Chiefs, who, protected from invasion by the nature of the country, were nominally subject to the Mughals and Marathas, but otherwise remained independent. Their subjects are mainly forest and hill tribes, or semi-Hinduized aborigines, who have been but little affected by outside influences.

7. Sikkim, with an area of 2,818 square miles is smaller than an average district in Bengal, Bihar and Orissa, while its population is less than that of any district in the two Provinces. Within its narrow limits it presents almost every conceivable condition of climate, tropical, temperate and alpine, the mountains running up beyond the snow line, the valleys sinking to 1,000 feet above sea level. At the higher altitudes arctic cold prevails; the valleys have a moist, hot and enervating climate. The rainfall in the south is very heavy: at the capital, Gangtok, it averages 133 inches in the year, but in the drier valleys to the north it falls to 20 inches or less. From about 7,000 up to 14,000 feet which is the limit of tree growth, the country is under virgin forest and uninhabited, except for occasional settlements of graziers. The population is almost exclusively confined to the valleys, slopes, and ridges below 7,000 feet, that being the highest level at which maize, the staple food of the people, comes to maturity. This and other crops, such as millets and pulses, are generally raised by means of *jhuming*. The forest is cut or burnt down, and a crop raised from the denuded surface for two years in succession, the land lying fallow for the succeeding eight years. When all the forest on his holding has been destroyed, the peasant resumes cultivation on the patch he first cleared, cutting and burning down any forest growth and scrub that may have sprung up in the meantime. At the lower levels, *i. e.*, below 4,000 feet, rice is grown by means of wet-terracing. The hill side is carved out into terraces, the outer edge of which is banked up to a height of about one foot; a channel is led from the nearest stream to the topmost terrace, from which it runs down to the terraces below, each of which is irrigated

<sup>\*</sup> H. Blochmann, Notes from Muhammadan Historians, J. A. S. B., V l. XL, 1871.

in turn. The population is a mixed one, consisting of Bhotias, Lepchas and Nepalese. The Bhotias, who are mainly graziers, live at the higher elevations. The Lepchas are a timid peaceful race of cultivators found in the lower part of the Tista valley and its affluents. Unable to face the cold, they favour the warmth of the valleys, where they lead a somewhat lazy life. The Nepalese, who are found mainly in the south and west of Sikkim, are the most thrifty and enterprising cultivators in the State, and are far more energetic and virile than the Lepchas, who give way to them whenever they come into contact.

8. In the Imperial Tables the districts have been grouped together by the administrative divisions known as Commissioner-ships, but this arrangement is not altogether convenient for discussing the main results of the census, the limits of Divisions having been fixed for administrative purposes and without regard to physical and ethnological considerations. In the Orissa Division, for instance, the Angul district is entirely different from the seaboard districts. The former is a hilly district with a non-Aryan population largely composed of Kandhs (Khonds) who till about 60 years ago practised human sacrifice. The latter are deltaic districts long under the domination of Brahmans, with an Aryan population, an old civilization and a peculiar caste system. The Bhagalpur Division again contains the Sonthal Parganas, which physically is a part of the Chota Nagpur Plateau, while its people are mainly Animistic Santals and Sauria Paharias, the latter of whom cling to the hill tops and are one of the most primitive races in the Province. In this report, therefore, and in the subsidiary tables attached to it, the districts are grouped together by natural divisions with physical and ethnical affinities. These divisions are the same as those adopted in 1901, except that Sikkim, being no longer under the Government of Bengal, is not included in North Bengal, and that the Chota Nagpur Plateau now comprises the district of Sambalpur and the States transferred from the Central Provinces, while it excludes the States which, as mentioned in paragraph 3, have been detached from Bengal.

9. The following statement shows the districts and States included in each natural division :—

NATURAL DIVISION.	Districts and States.	Divisions and States.	
BENGAL.	West Bengal	Burdwan ...	Burdwan.
		Birbhum ...	
		Bankura ...	
		Midnapore ...	
		Hooghly ...	
	Central Bengal	Howrah ...	Presidency.
		24-Parganas ...	
		Calcutta ...	
		Nadia ...	
		Murshidabad ...	
	North Bengal	Jessore ...	Rajshahi.
		Rajshahi ...	
		Dinajpur ...	
		Jalpaiguri ...	
		Darjeeling ...	
East Bengal	Rangpur ...	Cooch Behar.	
	Bogra ...		
	Pabna ...		
	Malda ...		
	Cooch Behar ...		
	Dacca.	Dacca ...	
		Mymensingh ...	
		Furidpur ...	
		Backergunge ...	
		Tippera ...	
Chittagong.	Noakhali ...		
	Chittagong ...		
	Chittagong Hill Tracts		
Presidency.	Khulna ...		
	Hill Tippera ...	Hill Tippera.	



NATURAL DIVISION.		Districts and States.	Divisions and States.
BIHAR AND ORISSA.	North Bihar	Saran ...	Tirhut.
		Champanan ...	
		Muzaffarpur ...	
		Darbhanga ...	
		Bhagalpur ...	
	South Bihar	Purnea ...	Bhagalpur.
		Patna ...	Patna.
		Gaya ...	
	Shahabad ...		
	Orissa	Monghyr ...	Bhagalpur.
		Cuttack ...	Orissa.
	Balasore ...		
	Puri ...		
	Chota Nagpur Plateau	Hazaribagh ...	Chota Nagpur.
		Ranchi ...	
		Palamau ...	
		Manbhum ...	
		Singhbhum ...	
		Sonthal Parganas ...	Bhagalpur.
Angul ...		Orissa.	
Sambalpur ...			
Athgarh ...			
Athmallik ...			
Bamra ...			
Baramba ...			
Baud ...			
Bonai ...			
Daspalla ...			
Dhenkanal ...			
Gangpur ...			
Hindol ...			
Kalahandi ...			Orissa States. Fendatory
Keonjhar ...			
Khondpara ...			
Mayurbhanj ...			
Narsinghpur ...			
Nayagarh ...			
Nilgiri ...			
Pal Lahara ...			
Patna ...			
Rairakhol ...			
Ranpur ...	Chota States. Nagpur		
Sonpur ...			
Talcher ...			
Tigiria ...			
Saraikela ...			
Kharsawan ...			

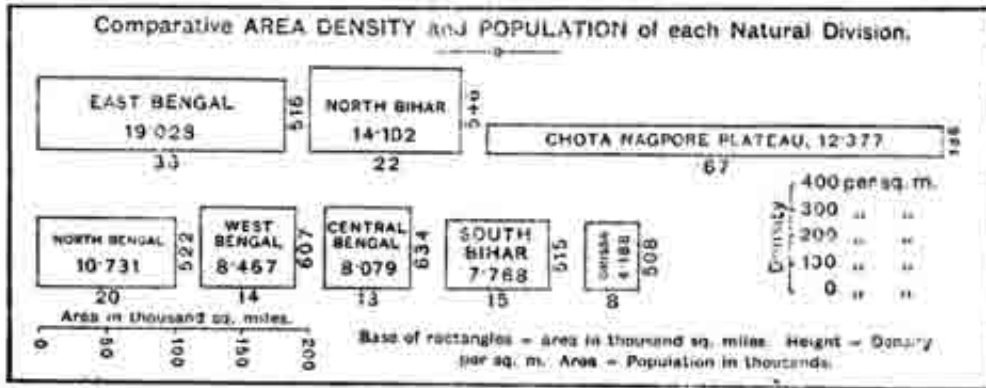
## DENSITY OF POPULATION.

10. Statistics of the area, population, towns, villages and occupied houses of each district are given in Imperial Table I. Provincial Table I, which will be found at the end of the volume of Imperial Tables, gives similar figures for thanas, together with percentages of variation since 1891 and the density per square mile in 1911. Attached to this chapter are seven subsidiary tables showing—(i) statistics of density, water-supply and crops, (ii) the distribution of the population classified according to density, (iii) the distribution of the population between towns and villages, (iv) the number per mille

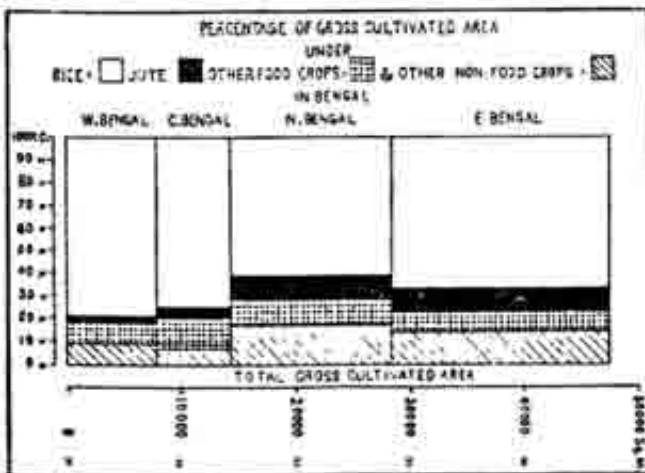
of the total population and of each main religion who live in towns, (v) towns classified by population, (vi) density and variations in the population of cities, and (vii) the number of persons per house and of houses per square mile. As indicated in paragraph 6, these subsidiary tables show the districts by natural divisions, the area and

LOCALITY.	Area in square miles.	Population.
<b>Bengal</b> — — — — —	<b>94,092</b>	<b>46,305,642</b>
West Bengal — — — — —	12,941	8,467,314
Central Bengal — — — — —	12,734	8,074,303
North Bengal — — — — —	20,542	10,721,204
East Bengal — — — — —	26,866	19,028,819
<b>Bihar and Orissa</b> — — — — —	<b>111,829</b>	<b>38,435,293</b>
North Bihar — — — — —	21,422	14,108,314
South Bihar — — — — —	15,076	7,747,692
Orissa — — — — —	8,234	4,196,109
Chota Nagpur Plateau — — — — —	68,693	12,877,188

population of which are given in the margin.



11. Bengal, with an average density of 551 persons to the square mile is far more thickly populated than any European country, except Belgium and England. Its density would be even greater were it not for the large area occupied by hills, rivers, swamps and estuaries, which cause the most extraordinary variations within comparatively narrow limits. One district in the same natural division may be densely populated, and another support less than half the number; even in the same district one thana may contain a teeming population, and another have a few inhabitants scattered over its surface. For instance, the 24-Parganas supports 502 persons per square mile, but the adjoining district of Khulna only 287; if we exclude the uninhabited forest area in the Sundarbans, a labyrinth of tidal rivers, swampy forests and half-submerged islands, their density is 776 and 515 respectively. In Eastern Bengal the district of Dacca has 1,066 persons per square mile, but in the Chittagong Hill Tracts each square mile supports only 30 people. In Western Bengal, again, 1,850 persons per square mile are found in Howrah, and 434 in Bankura. Owing to these variations the conditions

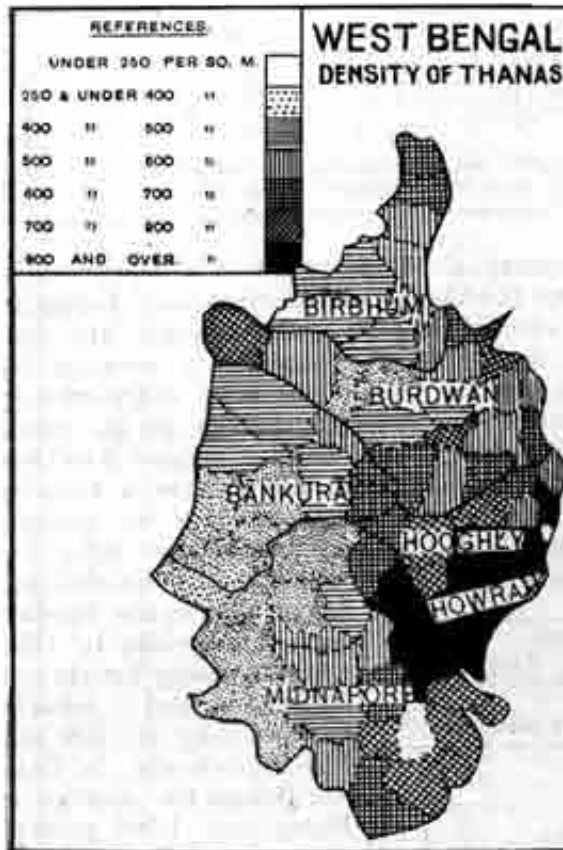


of each natural division and district will be discussed in some detail. 12. In the Presidency as a whole the pressure on the soil is less in North Bengal and East Bengal, where there are few big cities or large industries, than in Central Bengal and West Bengal, which contain the populous cities of Calcutta and Howrah and the metropolitan districts of Hooghly and the 24-Parganas. Central Bengal, with 634 persons per square mile, has the greatest density of population, and is closely followed by West Bengal with

607 to the square mile. In North Bengal the ratio is 522, and in East Bengal 516 per square mile. No less than one-fourth, however, of the area included in the latter division is accounted for by Hill Tippera and the Chittagong Hill Tracts, whose jungle-covered hills contribute only one-fiftieth of its population. If these two tracts are left out of account, the ratio in East Bengal rises to 674 to the square mile and is higher than in any other division.

The most congested district is Howrah, in which, as already stated, each square mile supports 1,850 persons. The only other district with a density of over 1,000 is Dacca, but two more districts (Hooghly and Tippera) have over 900 persons per square mile. Five districts, and the two States of Cooch Behar and Hill Tippera, support less than 500 persons per square mile. The scantiest population is found in the Chittagong Hill Tracts, where, density does not exceed 30 per square mile.

13. West Bengal extends along the right bank of the Bhagirathi (or Hooghly, as the river is called in its lower reaches), and approaches the Chota Nagpur Plateau on the west, while on the south it is bounded by the Bay of Bengal. It consists of two distinct zones, one a semi-aquatic rice plain, the other a rolling upland country. The portion included in the Hooghly and Howrah districts, and in the east of Burdwan, Midnapore and Bankura, is an alluvial plain formed



by the Bhagirathi, Damodar, Ajay and Rupnarayan rivers. The soil is fertile and bears heavy crops of rice, but the climate is damp and enervating, jungle grows thick and fever is rife. The country is but little raised above sea level, and is intersected by rivers, many of which are now silted up, while the beds of others are being gradually raised by the annual deposition of silt. Between the rivers are swampy depressions, and a large area is waterlogged. Urban or semi-urban conditions prevail along the bank of the Hooghly from Chinsura on the north to Howrah on the south. In this riparian strip of land town follows town with scarcely a break, and the development of manufactures in the last half century has converted it into a busy industrial centre. The remainder of the tract is higher in elevation and consists of rolling country with a laterite soil, which in the west includes the

eastern fringe of the Chota Nagpur Plateau. A poor ferruginous soil and hard beds of laterite here take the place of the fertile deltaic detritus, and wide expanses of scrub-jungle are found instead of the closely-tilled village lands of the east. Instead of containing a well-educated population of Hindus and Muhammadans, this western tract is comparatively thinly inhabited by races or castes of a less advanced type, into whose constitution an aboriginal or semi-Hinduized element enters. Rural conditions generally prevail, there being few towns or industries of any importance except in the Asansol subdivision of the Burdwan district, where the coal-fields have attracted a large immigrant population.

14. The most populous districts are Howrah and Hooghly, which are entirely alluvial, and then follow, in order, Burdwan, Midnapore, Birbhum and Bankura, in all of which there are under 600 persons to the square mile. Howrah city alone contains nearly one-fifth of the total population of the Howrah district, but even if it is excluded, the average per square mile is

1,525 and exceeds that returned by any other district in the Presidency. This teeming population is due to the neighbourhood of Calcutta and the number of jute mills, cotton mills, engineering and other industrial works clustered along the bank of the Hooghly. Density is high even in rural tracts, no thana having less than 1,293 persons per square mile, while Dumjor has 2,212—an astonishingly high figure, for, though this thana adjoins Howrah city, part of the land is marshy and uncultivable. In the Sadar subdivision, which contains the city of Howrah and most of the manufacturing works, density is more than twice as great as in the Uluberia subdivision to the south, which is more purely agricultural. The density of the district has risen by nearly 50 per cent. since 1872, and even in the last decade there has been an increase of 182 persons per square mile. This growing pressure on the soil is due not only to industrial expansion, but also to the drainage of swampy areas, a large scheme affecting over half its area having been carried out since 1891. Dumjor and Jagatballabhpur thanas, which have especially benefited by it, show an increase of 268 and 198 per square mile in these twenty years, though the former was already densely populated. The population is most scanty in Amta, the drainage of which was proposed as long ago as 1873, but which still remains partially water-logged and liable to inundation.

In Hooghly the highest density is found in the Serampore subdivision, where conditions are similar to those in Howrah, and where part of the land has been rendered cultivable by the Dankuni drainage scheme. The Serampore thana, which is a riparian strip containing five municipal towns, has as many as 5,098 persons per square mile, and, of the remaining four thanas, two have over 1,000 and two over 900 to the square mile. In the Hooghly subdivision to the north the people congregate thickly along the Hooghly as far as Tribeni, but in the low-lying, unhealthy country inland the average falls below 550. In the Arambagh subdivision the density varies according to the nature of the soil, the alluvial tract having an average density of 838 and the laterite uplands of Goghat only 677.

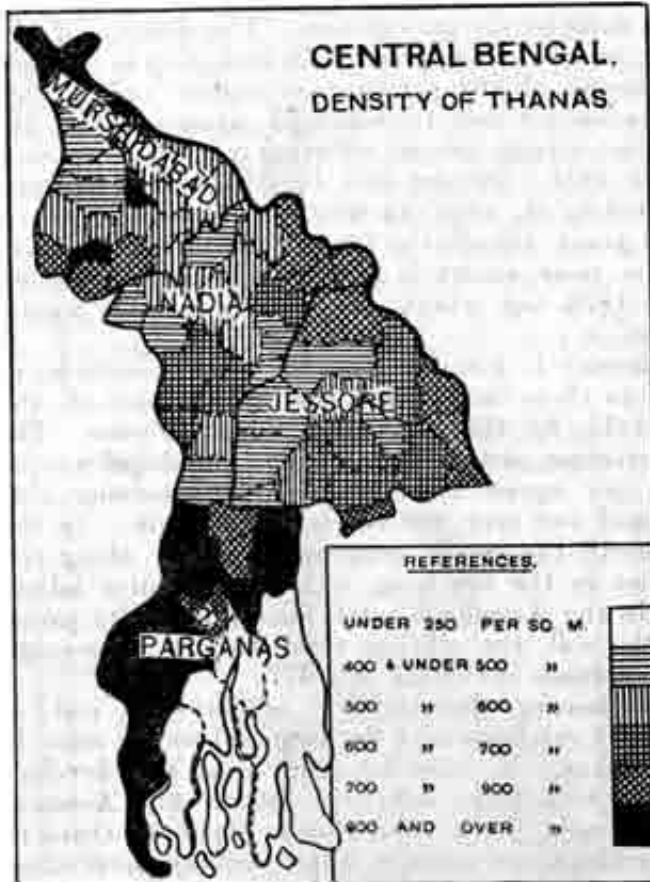
15. The relatively low density characteristic of lateritic soil is further exemplified in the Asansol subdivision of Burdwan, where the ratio is under 400 in Ausgram and Kaksa. In other lateritic areas the development of the coal-fields has led to a large influx of labour, and Asansol, with 887 persons to the square mile, is the most thickly populated thana in the district. In the alluvial portion the population is fairly evenly distributed, the pressure on the soil being greatest in the Katwa and then in the Kalna subdivision, both of which lie along the Bhagirathi.

There is a very uneven distribution of the people over the 5,186 square miles that make up the Midnapore district. The eastern half of the district, which is alluvial, is thickly populated, while the west of the district, which has a lateritic soil covered here and there with jungle, is sparsely inhabited. The most populous areas lie along the bank of the Rupnarayan and the estuary of the Hooghly, the maximum density being found in the Tamluk and Ghatal subdivisions (921 and 811 respectively), which lie along the Rupnarayan and consist of fertile rice plains. Contai, with 728 persons to the square mile, lies on the sea-coast to the west of Tamluk, and there are large tracts of sandy or salt-impregnated soil. Conditions in the Sadar subdivision are very different. Two-thirds of it form part of the lateritic plateau running down from Manblum, which cannot support a large population, for considerable areas are covered by *sal* forest and jungle. In this subdivision there are only 397 persons per square mile, while five thanas, which still retain the old name of Jungle Mahals, and cover 1,827 square miles or more than half the total area, have a mean density of under 300 to the square mile.

— In Birblum the density of population decreases towards the west on the borders of the Sonthal Parganas, where the surface is barren and undulating, and increases towards the east, which is an alluvial flat. It rises to over 600 in the Rampur Hât subdivision, which is mainly a fertile rice plain, and it is less than 500 in the Sadar subdivision, the minimum (449) being reached in the Suri thana, which is an undulating tract with a sterile soil. The difference between the density of the alluvial flats to the east and the uplands to the west is equally marked in Bankura. The Bankura subdivision, which is hilly and undulating, with large jungle tracts, has a density of only 389.

whereas in the Vishnupur subdivision, which is part of the deltaic country and almost entirely under rice cultivation, there is an average of 560 to the square mile.

16. Central Bengal consists of a portion of the delta in which the process of land formation has ceased. It is an alluvial plain intersected by numerous rivers, which formerly received a supply of water from the Ganges, and in their turn supplied and enriched the land with annual deposits of silt. The



influx of fresh water from the Ganges has ceased except in the rains, the result being that for the greater part of the year they have no current, but merely contain long stagnant stretches of water covered with vegetation. The banks of the rivers having been raised above the surrounding country by the accumulation of silt, depressions are found between them, the fall from all directions being towards the centre. Many of these depressions are of small size, but others are practically inland lakes. Some are mere accumulations of water upon low-lying ground, while others are natural drainage basins, the level of which does not admit of drainage. In some places these basins are on a fairly high level, and the central depression is under regular cultivation. Other

depressions are water-logged, but can still be used for growing rice, while others again are always under water.

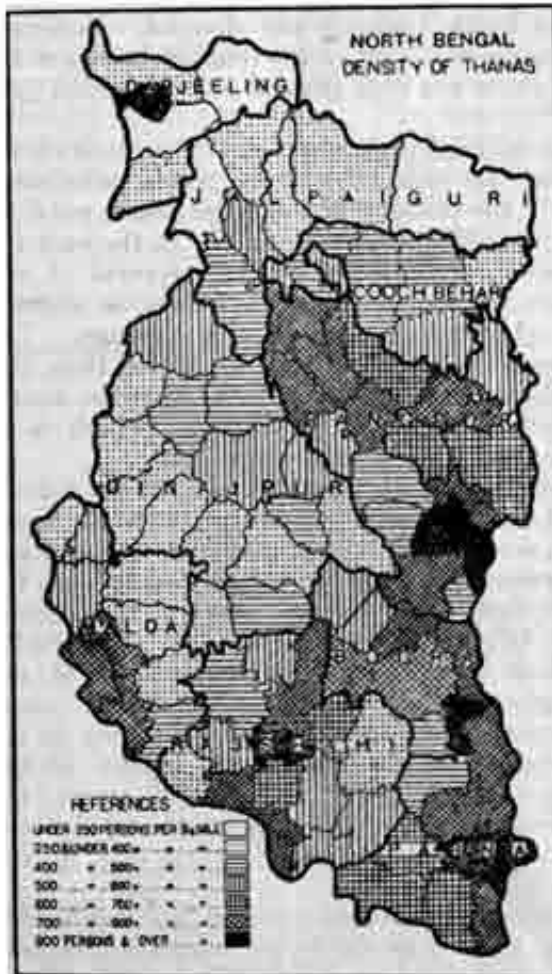
In the Division, as a whole, there are 634 persons to the square mile, but the density is increased by the large population of Calcutta; if the latter be excluded, there are 565 persons per square mile. This is a high figure, when it is remembered that in the 24-Parganas the uninhabited forest area in the Sundarbans extends over 1,711 square miles or more than one-third of the whole district. Excluding this area, the 24-Parganas has an average density of 777 per square mile. In the remaining districts the pressure on the soil does not vary very greatly, there being 640 persons to the square mile in Murshidabad, 601 in Jessore and 580 in Nadia.

17. In the 24-Parganas numerous towns with busy jute and cotton mills stretch along the whole length of the Hooghly from Garden Reach northwards. Away from its banks, however, the population is almost entirely rural and devoted to agriculture. Density in the different subdivisions varies accordingly, being as high as 1,540 in the Barrackpore subdivision, which is a narrow riparian strip crowded with municipal towns, factories and mills. In the Diamond Harbour subdivision the density is less than a third of this, and in the Basirhat subdivision there are only 223 persons per square mile. Both these subdivisions, however, lie to the south and merge in the Sundarbans. The difference between conditions in the north and south is even more plainly seen in the thana returns; no less than 19 thanas have more than 1,000 persons per square mile, while in two (Mathurapur and Husainabad), which extend into the Sundarbans, there are less than 100 per square mile.

In Murshidabad the people cluster more closely in the alluvial country to the east of the Bhagirathi than to the west, where the country is slightly undulating and the level is higher. The most densely populated thanas lie

along the banks of the Bhagirathi, four of them having a density of over 1,000, while four thanas to the west have under 500 persons per square mile. In Jessore the average density of population is least in the Bangaon subdivision to the south-west, where the silting up of rivers has deprived the country of the fertilising deposits it formerly received. It gradually increases as one proceeds from west to east, and reaches the maximum of 740 in the Narail subdivision in the south-east. Here the rivers still have a flowing current, and one thana contains no less than 897 persons per square mile. The Kushtia subdivision, a fertile tract lying between the Ganges and Mathabhanga, is by far the most populous part of Nadia. The scantiest population in that district is found in the Ranaghat subdivision in the extreme south-east, in spite of the fact that it contains a larger urban population than any other subdivision. Elsewhere the inhabitants are fairly evenly distributed, varying only from 521 to 554 per square mile.

18. North Bengal, lying from east to west between Purnea and the Brahmaputra, and from north to south between the lower spurs of the Himalayas and the Ganges, a remarkably homogeneous area, except for the hills portion of the Darjeeling district, which forms



part of the Himalayas and is inhabited by Mongolian races, mostly descendants of immigrants from Nepal. In the north there is an unhealthy submontane tract, the Tarai, from which the country gradually slopes southwards in a wide alluvial plain watered by the rivers flowing southwards from the Himalayas and broken only by the Barind. This is a comparatively high belt of laterite formation lying on the confines of Dinajpur, Malda, Rajshahi and Bogra, which grows only one crop, late rice, and which in consequence is subject to scarcity in years of deficient rainfall. The rest of the area has a rich soil of sandy loam, mainly under rice, which accounts for two-thirds of the cultivated area. Jute is also grown extensively and covers one-tenth of the cropped area; tea is raised in the submontane tract, known as the Duars, in Jalpaiguri and the Tarai in Darjeeling, as well as on the hills in the latter district. Except in the south-east, communication is mainly by land, and the demand for speedy transport

has resulted in large railway extensions.

19. In most of the districts the distribution of the people is affected by the changes in the river system which have taken place since 1787. The Tista once flowed south through the centre of North Bengal to meet the Ganges, but in that year it changed its course and cut out a new channel by which it found its way to the Brahmaputra. Owing to the vagaries of this great river, North Bengal is full of silted river beds, which obstruct drainage and are largely responsible for the unhealthiness which prevails. Density is highest in the districts bordering on the Brahmaputra, viz., Pabna (772), Bogra (724) and Rangpur (686); the only other districts with over 500 per square mile are Rajshahi and Malda lying along the Ganges. In the case of both the Ganges and Brahmaputra the mean density of the districts rises according to their situation along the rivers' downward course, and it has been suggested that this is due to their fertilizing powers increasing with the fall of the level

of the land. The least populous tracts are Cooch Behar, Jalpaiguri and Darjeeling to the north, of which the two latter have large areas under forest.

20. Density in the Pabna district is highest in the Sirajganj subdivision, a fertile jute-growing tract, in which the drainage has not been obstructed by deserted river beds to the same extent as in the headquarters subdivision. Its average density (867 per square mile) is one-third greater than that of the latter subdivision, but there are extraordinary variations, the Shahzadpur thana supporting 1,209, and the Raiganj thana only 490 persons to the square mile. The latter is an unhealthy tract over which malaria has a hold, and, moreover, the large lake known as Chalan Bil occupies a considerable portion of it. The only thana in the Sadar subdivision in which the district average is exceeded is Mathura, which, lying in the angle between the Padma and the Brahmaputra, is specially benefited by the deposit of silt brought down by the rivers.

In Bogra the scantiest population is found in the west of the district, which forms part of the elevated *quasi*-laterite tract known as the Barind. The minimum (457) is reached in the Sherpur thana to the extreme south-west, where a large area is still overgrown with jungle. The mean density is double as high as this in the adjoining thana of Dhunot, which is traversed by flowing rivers and is one of the most fertile tracts in the district. Generally speaking, the population is very dense in the east of the district between the Karatoya and Dakopa rivers, where there is a rich alluvial soil in which jute is the main crop.

21. Rangpur consists of a wide alluvial plain unbroken by natural elevations of any kind. In the north there are extensive sandy plains, admirably suited to the cultivation of tobacco: the density of the Nilphamari subdivision, which is comprised in this tract, is 758 per square mile. In the east the Kurigram and Gaibandha subdivisions are enriched by the deposits of silt brought down by the Brahmaputra: the density in the former is slightly below and in the latter considerably above the district average. The Gaibandha thana supports 1,188 persons per square mile, while less than half that number are found in the Shaghatta thana which adjoins it on the south. The least populous part of the district is the Sadar subdivision, which is at once more unhealthy and less fertile than the other subdivisions.

Rajshahi is composed of four tracts with distinct agricultural conditions, viz.—(1) the tract along the bank of the Padma, which is subject to its direct fluvial action, (2) the Barind, on the north-west, with a *quasi*-laterite soil and a high undulating surface (3), a swampy water-logged depression on the east, and (4) the remainder of the district, which has neither the special advantages nor the disadvantages of the other three areas. The Sadar subdivision, which includes the whole of the first tract and portions of the second and fourth tracts, has the highest density in the district. Next comes Noagaon, in which two thanas are comprised in the Barind and two in the fourth tract. In the Nator subdivision, which includes the whole of the swampy tract and very small portions of the first and second tracts, the effects of unfavourable agricultural conditions are accentuated by the prevalence of malaria. This is consequently the least populous part of the district.

22. Density varies greatly in the three tracts making up the Malda district, viz., (1) the area, locally known as the Diara, which is fertilized by the Padma, (2) the older alluvium, which is not so fertile as the Diara, and (3) the Barind, which is still less fertile. The thanas are not exactly

Tract.	Thana.	Density.
1 ...	Kaliachak ...	... 815
	Sibganj ...	... 804
2 ...	English Bazar ...	... 739
	Kharba ...	... 584
3 ...	Gunnastapur ...	... 397
	Malda ...	... 357
	Gajol ...	... 356

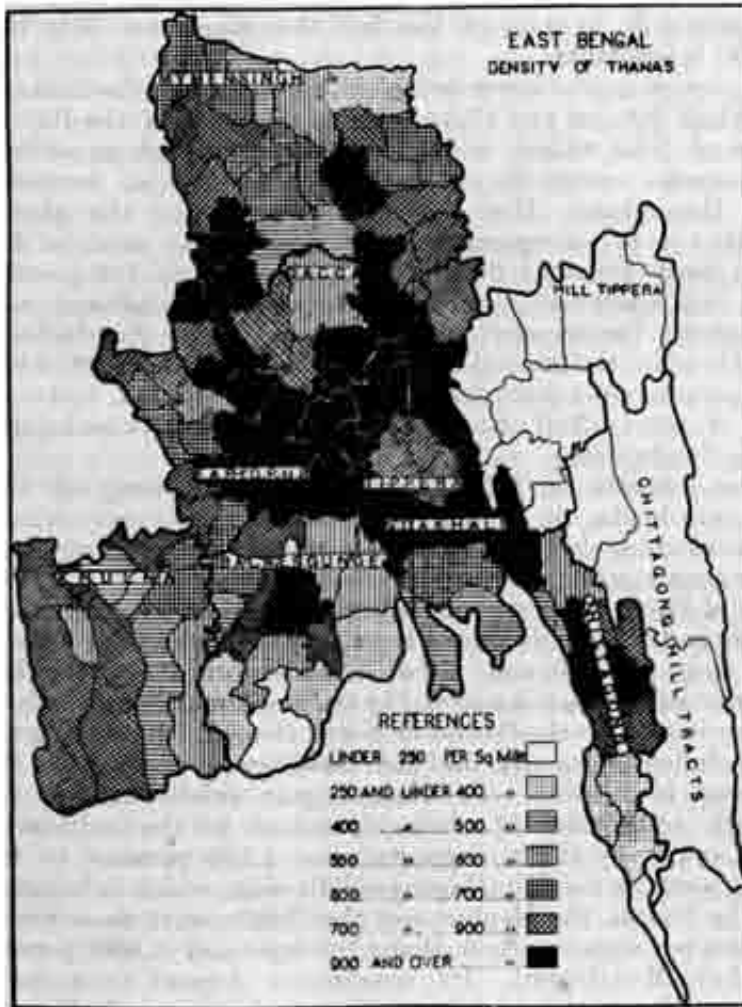
conterminous with these natural divisions, but the marginal statement clearly indicates the influence of the character of the soil on the distribution of population. The State of Cooch Behar is thinly populated, density nowhere rising above 552. Dinhatā in the south and Haldibari in the extreme west support, on the average, 545 persons per square mile, but the mean density is reduced to 421 in the remainder of the State, and tails off to 359 in Tufanganj to the north-east, which is as yet not fully developed. In Dinajpur conditions are not favourable to any great density of population. It is not watered by either the Ganges or the Brahmaputra: its climate is unhealthy, and the south is covered by the high

undulating ridges of the Barind, in which cultivation is either impossible or unprofitable. The Balurghat subdivision, which includes the greater portion of the Barind, supports only 380 persons per square mile. In the district as a whole the population is fairly evenly distributed, the lowest thana density being 315 in Parsa, which lies in the Barind, and the highest 553 in Dinajpur, which includes the district headquarters.

23. In Jalpaiguri, which lies at the foot of the Himalayas, the average is reduced by the large area under forest, the reserved forests alone accounting for more than one-sixth of its total area. If these forests and the Baikantipur forest are left out of account, the average rises to 381 per square mile. The Sadar subdivision, where cultivation is most advanced, supports nearly twice as many persons per square mile as the Alipur subdivision, where the average falls as low as 162 in the Alipur thana to the east. The latter subdivision is, however, by far the more progressive of the two, as the waste lands available for settlement are being rapidly taken up and reclaimed, the result being that since 1901 its average density has been nearly doubled. In Darjeeling also the space available for settled habitation is very greatly reduced by the area under forest. Reserved forests extend over more than a third of the district, while a considerable area is taken up by tea gardens. Excluding the forests, there is an average density of 369 persons per square mile, which is very little less than the corresponding figure for Jaipalguri. The most populous part of the district is the Siliguri subdivision in the Tarai. The sparsest population is found in Kalimpong, in which, however, the greatest development has taken place, the ratio rising from 65 to 120 p.p.r square mile during the last 20 years.

24. East Bengal is for the greater part a deltaic plain, composed of the upper and lower portions of the deltas of the Ganges and Brahmaputra. It forms a wide alluvial expanse, broken, in the north-east, by an elevated tract known as the Madhupur

EAST BENGAL



Jungle and, in the east, by hills which run south into and through Chittagong. The greater part is a fertile semi-aquatic plain covered by a network of rivers and waterways, which form almost the only means of communication. They are heavily charged with silt, and their banks, raised by its annual deposition, are higher than the surrounding country. The depressions between the high river banks form large marshes, which are especially numerous in the south of Faridpur and the west and north-west of Backergunge, where the whole country is a succession of basins, full of water in the rains,

but partially or wholly dry in the winter months. The largest of these



depressions is the Chalan Bil, which has a water area varying from about 20 square miles in the dry season to 150 square miles in the rains. The greater part of the country is annually enriched by the silt brought down by the rivers, which in the rains overflow their banks and spread over the low-lying lands between them. The rainfall is heavy, the monsoon consisting of a series of cyclonic depressions which follow each other up the Bay of Bengal. Unlike the cultivators of Bihar, therefore, the inhabitants of this favoured region have no reason to complain of lack of moisture for their crops.

25. While this is the general character of the country, East Bengal really consists of three distinct parts. The central portion, which may be designated East Bengal proper, forms the upper portion of the delta of the Ganges and Brahmaputra, and comprises the districts of Dacca, Mymensingh, Faridpur and Tippera. It is a land of rivers and plains with a fertile soil, abundant crops and a salubrious climate. Plague, the terror of Bihar, is unknown, and malarial fever, the scourge of Central Bengal, is not wide-spread. Rice is the staple crop, but in recent years the area under jute has expanded enormously and is now equal to nearly a third of that devoted to rice. The land supports a teeming population, pressure on the soil being limited mainly by the *bils* or marshes stretching away from the river banks and the laterite formation in the north-east. The marshes are partially dry and covered with rice in the cold weather, but are under water in the rains, when they form an almost unbroken fresh-water sea bordered by the river banks, which stand only a few feet above the flooded country. In the north-east are outcrops of laterite, rising to a small height above the alluvium and usually covered with *sal* forest, which constitute the Madhupur Jungle. These forests are gradually yielding to the axes of the Santals and other pioneers of cultivation. The average density of population rises to 1,066 in Dacca, which is a remarkably high figure, considering that, though the town of Dacca contains over 100,000 inhabitants, there is only one other town of over 20,000. It is closely followed by the Tippera district, in which there are 972 persons to the square mile, in spite of the fact that there are only two towns with over 20,000 inhabitants.

26. The second portion is the lower delta, which comprises the districts of Backergunge, Noakhali, Khulna and Chittagong on the shore of the Bay of Bengal. It is a region of tidal waters, which, distributed through an endless chain of connected channels, eventually merge into the brackish estuaries of the Meghna and Haringhata. Here rice predominates to the almost entire exclusion of other crops, occupying no less than 79 per cent. of the cultivated area. The most populous district is Noakhali with 792 persons to the square mile, but elsewhere, owing to the large uninhabited area included in the mangrove forests and swampy islands of the Sundarbans, density falls off considerably, the general average being reduced to 488, while Khulna has only 287 persons per square mile. In this latter district, however, 2,089 square miles, or nearly half the total area, consist of uninhabited reserved forests in the Sundarbans.

The third portion consists of Hill Tippera and the Chittagong Hill Tracts, two hilly hinterlands, in which there is a scanty population, practising primitive methods of cultivation among their native jungle, and averaging only 42 per square mile.

27. The district of Dacca supports a teeming population, but there is a wide range of variations in density. In two of the four subdivisions the density is below the district mean of 1,066, and in two considerably above it. The greater part of the Sadar subdivision is covered by the Madhupur Jungle, which in its general character resembles the Barind of North Bengal. Excluding the Dacca thana, which includes Dacca city, and also Nawabganj, which is in the alluvial area, the average is only 661. The Narayanganj subdivision on the east has a more fertile soil, which is admirably suited to the cultivation both of rice and jute, and every thana supports over 1,100 persons to the square mile. On the south in the Munshiganj subdivision, which is hemmed in on three sides by the Padma, the Meghna and the Dhaleswari, there are as many as 1,996 persons per square mile in thana Srinagar and 1,600 persons per square mile in thana Munshiganj. Its inhabitants depend to a much smaller extent on agriculture than in any other subdivision of Eastern Bengal: only 51 per cent. of its population are supported by ordinary cultivation, while a very large number of males find employment elsewhere

in clerical and other work. Agricultural conditions in the Manikganj subdivision are as favourable as in Munshiganj, but it suffers from an unhealthy climate, and during the past decade two thanas have lost considerably by diluvion.

28. Tippera enjoys exceptional advantages in regard to both climate and soil. The Meghna, which sweeps past the western border, enriches a large tract of land, on which fine jute is produced, while a number of smaller streams, bringing down silt from the hills, spread it over the greater portion of the district. While the soil is exceedingly fertile, the rainfall is abundant and well distributed. The result of these favourable conditions is the high average of 972 persons per square mile. The range of variations is small, the density falling below the district average in only five thanas, three of which, viz., Chandina, Laksham and Hajiganj, are low-lying and suffer from occasional floods. The most densely populated part of Faridpur is the Madaripur subdivision, which consists of a flat alluvial plain, subject to the fertilizing action of large rivers and comparatively free from the ravages of malaria. In this subdivision density rises to over 1,000, while none of the others support over 800 per square mile.

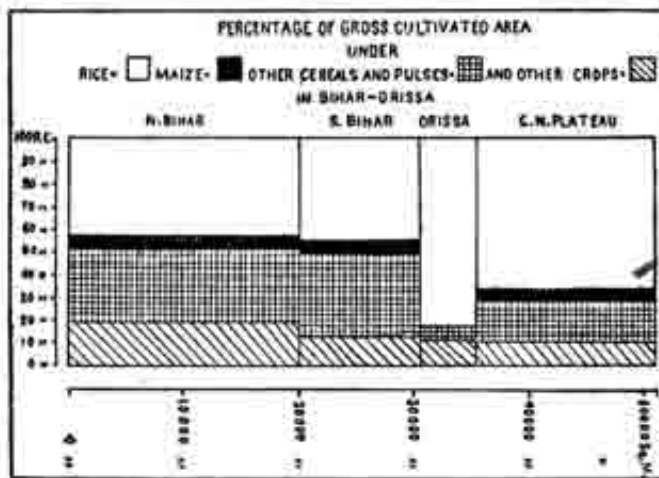
29. For considering the local variations of density, the Mymensingh district may be divided into five parts. The western part, including the Tangail subdivision and a portion of the Jamalpur subdivision, is watered and drained by the system connected with the Jamuna. This tract resembles the flat alluvial tract on the other side of the Brahmaputra in the Rangpur Bogra and Pabna districts, density in the Tangail subdivision being 989 as against 815 in Gaibandha, 724 in Bogra and 867 in Serajganj. The central portion, which includes the greater part of the Madhupur Jungle with its extensive forest reserve, corresponds to thanas Mymensingh, Fulbaria, Gaffargaon and Muktagacha of the Sadar subdivision, in all of which the density is below the district average (724). The third tract, comprising thanas Nandail, Iswarganj and part of Fulpur in the Sadar subdivision, Netrakona and part of Kendua in the Netrakona subdivision, and Kishoreganj and Kathiadi in the Kishoreganj subdivision, consists of rich alluvial lands, on which heavy crops of rice and jute are raised. The density in this tract is considerably above the district average, that of Nandail (1,171) being the highest in the district. The fourth and easternmost tract is much lower in level than the third tract and is intersected by large marshes or *haors*, where people gather during the fair weather to catch fish, graze cattle and grow *boro* rice. The density in this tract is generally below the district average. The fifth tract lying along the foot of the Garo Hills includes portions of thanas Dewanganj, Nalitabari, Sherpur, Fulpur, and Durgapur, in which the population is very sparse, the density of Durgapur (333) being the lowest in the district.

30. Noakhali consists of a mainland tract and a number of islands, the largest of which are Sandwip and Hatia. The estuary of the Meghna, which is here about 7 miles broad, sweeps past the western and southern sides of the mainland, where alluvial changes occur with surprising rapidity. The thanas which are most subject to fluvial action are Sudharam, Sandwip and Hatia, where the density falls considerably below the district average. Old lands are being constantly cut away in this area and new lands formed, which take time to develop into cultivation. In the remainder of the district, the variation is very small, the lowest average being 954 in Feni and the highest 1,223 in Ramganj, where the growth of betelnuts and coconuts brings the cultivators large profits. Only 40 per cent. of the total area of Chittagong is under cultivation, the uncultivable area comprising jungle-covered hills, which traverse the district, and deltaic mangrove swamps along the coast. The proportion of land under cultivation is much higher in the Sadar subdivision, where the average density is 789 persons per square mile, than in the Cox's Bazar subdivision, where it is as low as 277 persons per square mile. The land, where under cultivation, is fairly fertile, and if the uncultivated area be excluded, the density comes to 1,511 persons per square mile, a ratio which is exceeded in Eastern Bengal only by the Faridpur and Dacca districts.

31. In Backergunge the distribution of the population is limited by the uncultivable area included in the Sundarbans. The tract bordering the Sundarbans, although fertile, is also backward in cultivation and sparsely populated, the people being exposed to the dangers of cyclones and storm-waves. As a result of these conditions, the density in thanas Matbaria, Amtali, Golachipa and Baranadi falls below 400, reaching the minimum of 232 in Amtali. The density gradually rises northward with variations due to local causes, till the highest figure is reached in the Sadar subdivision. Backergunge is one of the most important rice-producing tracts in Eastern Bengal and is capable of supporting a much larger population than it does at present. In Khulna the pressure on the soil gradually increases as one proceeds from east to west, Satkhira on the east being the most and Bagerhat on the west the least populous subdivision. A number of thanas merge in the Sundarbans, and four contain 500 persons or less per square mile.

32. Both the Chittagong Hill Tracts and the Hill Tippera consist largely of hills, which are unsuitable for plough cultivation. In the former only 5 per cent. of the total area is actually under cultivation, the aboriginal inhabitants living chiefly by *jhuming*. Its population has increased during the past decade by 23 per cent., but in the three circles comprising the district the density varies only from 24 to 42 persons per square mile. In Hill Tippera cultivation is more advanced, and agricultural conditions in the narrow strip of low land along the north-western and southern boundaries are similar to those in the adjoining British territory. The density varies from 25 in Kaila Sahar to 126 in the Sadar subdivision, the average in the whole State being 56 per square mile.

33. The Province of Bihar and Orissa, with 344 persons per square mile, though not so thickly populated as the British Isles (where there are on the average 30 more persons per square mile); has a denser population than Germany. In British



territory the mean density rises to 415 to the square mile, but the average for the Province is considerably reduced by the Orissa Feudatory States, which are as big as Ireland and as thinly peopled, the average density (135) being exactly the same. The most populous district is Muzaffarpur (937), which is closely followed by Darbhanga (875), while the scantiest population is found in Angul (119).

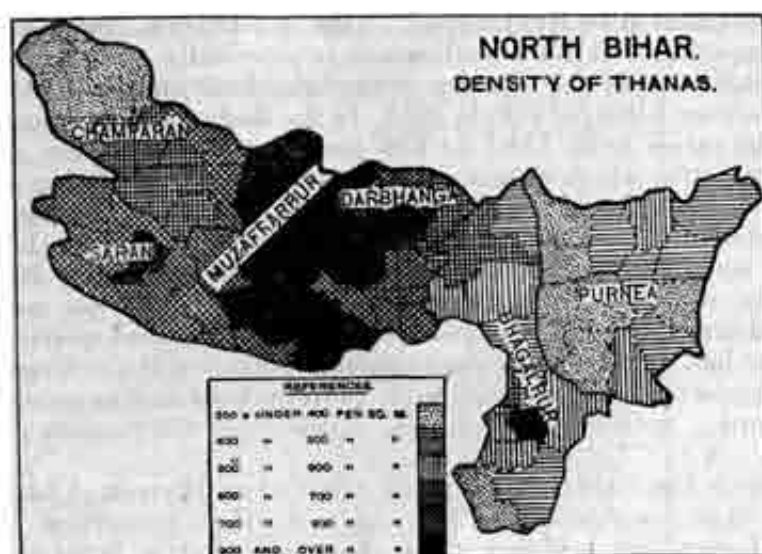
Density throughout the Province is determined by the physical nature of the country and, in particular, by hills, forest and water. Bihar is an alluvial tract, the northern portion of which is traversed by rivers debouching from the Himalayas: considerable areas are seamed by their old beds and flooded by their present channels. Immediately to the south the hilly plateau of Chota Nagpur rises above the plain. South of the latter are the highlands of Orissa, and to the extreme south-east the deltaic districts of the Orissa Division lie between them and the Bay of Bengal. Even the alluvial stretches of South Bihar and the Orissa delta have a hilly backbone, and in the whole Province there are only four districts (Saran, Darbhanga, Muzaffarpur and Purnea) in which hills are conspicuous by their absence. The hills generally are either bare rocky excrescences, or bear a thin sterile soil covered with forest.

34. North Bihar, with 646 persons to the square mile, is the most congested tract in the Province. To the extreme north there is, in some parts, a sub-montane strip, consisting mostly of prairie land and denuded forest, but

NORTH BIHAR.

the remainder is a flat alluvial plain almost entirely under cultivation. It is watered by a number of great rivers which have gradually raised their beds

by the deposition of silt and flow on ridges slightly elevated above the general level of the country. Most of them are liable to overflow their banks after heavy rainfall in the Nepal hills, and such inundations have been of increasing frequency and severity in recent years. In the west cultivation is rendered precarious by the oscillations of the Kosi.



which, frequently changing its course, spreads over the land a layer of infertile sand that destroys its productive powers. The rainfall is ordinarily ample, the normal annual quantity being 53.36 inches, but it is capricious and its distribution frequently untimely, especially in the north of the Tirhut Division, which has been described as the "blackest of black spots on the famine map." Here the cultivators are practically dependent on one crop, viz., winter rice. The population is dense, wages are low and rents high; when the rains fail, distress ensues among the landless labourers, but is mitigated by their increasing readiness to leave their homes and obtain work and wages elsewhere.

35. The pressure on the soil, especially in Saran, Muzaffarpur and Darbhanga, would be still greater were it not for the area occupied by rivers and marshes. Through the centre of Champaran extends a chain of 43 lakes, with an area of 139 square miles, which mark an old bed of the Gandak and never entirely dry up. In the other districts north of the Ganges there are numerous marshes (*chaurs*) and meres, which represent the deeper portions of old river beds or are formed by the troughlike depressions between the present river banks. They are generally full of water during the rains, when they are filled by the floods of the Ganges and its affluents, and most contain some water even in the cold weather. In those which dry soonest, the ground, which retains abundant moisture, is cultivated with winter rice; in others a precarious crop of early rice is raised before they are again flooded, or a long-stemmed variety is sown broadcast, which rises with the water and is reaped from boats. They are often of very large size, one in Saran having a length of 20 miles and attaining a breadth of 2 to 5 miles.

36. These marshes, which confine the limits of human habitation, are mostly a legacy of the rivers debouching from the Himalayas. The vagaries of the same rivers are to-day a barrier to the expansion of cultivation. The most destructive is the Kosi, which is remarkable for the rapidity of its stream, the uncertain nature of its channel and the desolation caused by its floods. Between 1850 and 1875 this river, swinging to the west, cut into and overspread some 20 miles of country, turning fertile fields into wilderness of sand and swamp. Nathpur, a great grain mart in Bhagalpur, was swept away in 1875, and two fertile *naranas* in the north-east of that district have lost a considerable portion of their cultivable area. Similar devastation has taken place along both banks of the river down to its confluence with the Ganges, and, even in tracts not affected by its inroads, the fear of its movements has driven back cultivation, the place of which has been taken by grass jungle.

37. In Muzaffarpur the greatest density is found in the Sitamarhi subdivision to the north, where every thana contains over 1,000 persons per

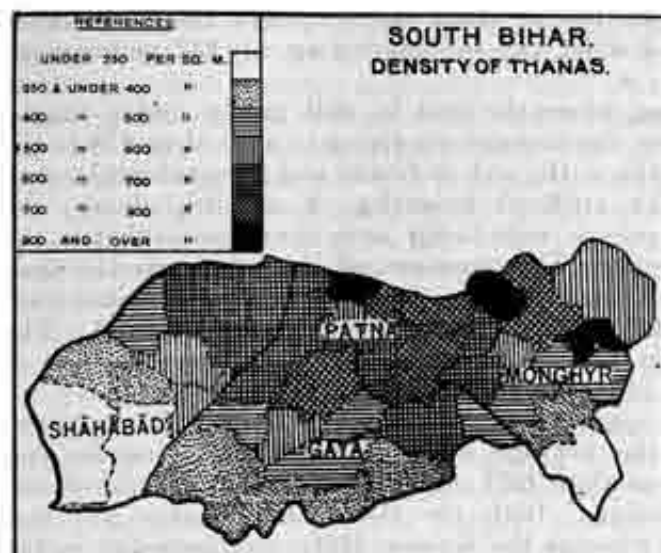
square mile. Throughout the rest of the district the pressure on the soil is uniformly heavy, all but two thanas having over 900 per square mile. The Samastipur subdivision of Darbhanga, with 938 persons to the square mile, has as dense a population as Muzaffarpur. This subdivision, moreover, contains about 40 square miles of *diara* land, which is practically uninhabited and mainly uncultivated, so that the density on the inhabited and productive area is very little less than 1,000 per square mile. In the Madhubani and Sadar subdivisions the ratio varies from 1,065 to 696 per square mile; these are mainly rice-producing tracts, which cannot support so large a population as Samastipur, where the rich uplands produce more valuable crops. The population is evenly distributed throughout Saran, only two thanas having less than 800 persons per square mile, and only one having a ratio exceeding 900. The Siwan subdivision, with 905 persons to the square mile, is now the most populous part of the district, having changed places with the head-quarters subdivision during the last decade. The most sparsely inhabited is the Gopalganj subdivision, which contains a large area of *diara* land and numerous *chairs* or rice swamps: notwithstanding this, it has over 800 persons per square mile.

38. Compared with the other districts of the Tirhut Division, Champaran has but a thin population. Not only is the proportion of uncultivable land (17 per cent.) higher than elsewhere, but a large part of the cultivable area still awaits development. Pasturage rather than cultivation has engaged the energies of its inhabitants until fairly recent times. Partly for this reason and partly because of the prevalence of malaria, which saps their energies, the people are but indifferent cultivators, and only two-thirds of the cultivable area has been brought under the plough. There is, moreover, a submontane strip in the north-west, where the Dun and Sumeswar hills cover an area of 364 square miles. These hills and the land at their base are still covered with forest, and further into the plain extend large grassy prairies, which are mainly used for pasturage. The Bettiah subdivision, in which this submontane tract lies, supports only 400 persons per square mile, or a little more than half the number found in the Sadar subdivision. Population is most dense in the eastern thanas of the latter subdivision, which adjoin the Muzaffarpur district and in which similar conditions obtain. These thanas (Adapur, Dhaka and Madhubani) are mainly under rice cultivation, and their average density is over 800. The central thanas, where there is a fair amount of waste land, have from 600 to 700 persons per square mile, while in the northern thanas the ratio is only a little over 300.

39. Bhagalpur is divided in two by the Ganges, and conditions differ considerably in the north and south. The north consists of alluvium as far as the limits of the Kosi floods, after which sandy flats appear. Till 40 years ago the country in the extreme north was covered with jungle or *sal* forest, which has now been cleared away. The land is mainly under rice cultivation and, being traversed by a number of rivers with numerous cross-channels, needs little irrigation. The highest density (641 to the square mile) is found in the Bhagalpur subdivision, which extends along both sides of the Ganges, and has a rich alluvial soil annually renewed by the fertilizing overflow of that river. Further south the surface gradually rises till a hilly tract is reached, in which artificial irrigation is necessary for the cultivation of rice. This broken country corresponds to the Banka subdivision, in which there are only 370 persons to the square mile.

In Purnea the average density of population (398) is less than in any other district in the Province outside Chota Nagpur; it exceeds 500 in only two thanas and falls below 300 in two more. This low density is due mainly to the unhealthiness of the climate and the extent of uncultivated land. The east of the district is a low-lying tract with shallow swamps, stagnant rivers and wide stretches of flooded land, which slowly dry up after the rains. The west is higher in level, and is thickly overlaid with sand deposited by the Kosi river in its gradual westward movement. The greater part is open pasture land, and crops are grown for the most part near the rivers and in irrigated plots close to the villages. Generally speaking, the northern and eastern portions of Purnea district are more thickly populated than the south and west.

40. In South Bihar the rivers do not affect the distribution of population to anything like the same extent as in North Bihar. The great rivers to the north of the Ganges are fed by the Himalayas ; with the exception of the Son those south of the Ganges



have by no means so large a drainage area, for they drain only a portion of the Chota Nagpur Plateau. They often come down in freshets after heavy rain, and occasionally sweep over the country in their vicinity, but the area covered by the flood is comparatively small, and they subside as quickly as they rise. Large demands are made on them for irrigation, and within a short time after the rains they run dry. Away from the Ganges, marshes, lakes and water-logged areas are almost

unknown. The deficiency rather than the excess of rainfall or river-borne water is the chief difficulty the people have to face. This difficulty is met partly by the Son canal system, from which the greater part of Shahabad and small portions of Patna and Gaya receive an assured supply, partly by an extensive and ingenious system of indigenous irrigation, the cultivators tapping the rivers so long as they have any flow, building artificial reservoirs (*ahars*) and channels, and taking every advantage of the slope of the country to ensure the conservation of water.

41. Hills and jungle, so rare in North Bihar, here impose the limits on human habitation. One-fifth of the total area of Shahabad is occupied by the Kaimur Hills, which form a rocky plateau, mostly covered by jungle and incapable of cultivation. Further east, in the south of Gaya and Monghyr, there are a number of ridges and spurs projecting from the plateau of Chota Nagpur, in addition to which there are semi-detached ranges, and isolated peaks which appear to form irregular links between them. Much of this southern tract consists of broken country with a fringe of brushwood jungle. The soil is poor, it has little or no irrigation, and it yields precarious crops. It is thinly peopled, and a large portion of the inhabitants are low semi-Hinduized castes, such as Bhuiyas, Rajwars and Musahars.

The northern portion is an alluvial tract highly cultivated, extensively irrigated and well populated. The difference between this alluvial tract and the southern portion may be realized from the fact that the southern thanas of the division, extending over 4,638 square miles, have an average density of only 268 per square mile, whereas in the thanas bordering on the Ganges the density is more than  $2\frac{1}{2}$  times as great, averaging 734 in an area of 2,628 square miles.

42. In Patna, with 778 persons to the square mile, the pressure on the soil is 50 per cent. greater than in other districts of South Bihar. Along the Ganges there are a number of towns and crowded villages almost as populous as towns ; even Bihar, which is the only subdivision away from the Ganges, has a density of 732 per square mile, although a considerable area is covered by the Rajgir Hills. All the other districts of South Bihar have a far scantier population, owing to the hills and jungle in the south. Monghyr is the most populous of them, but the north of the district is an integral part of North Bihar, being a fertile alluvial plain intersected by large rivers and subject to inundation. It has a mean density of 715 per square mile, the maximum of 961 being found in the Teghra thana and the minimum of 562 in Gogri, which is a low-lying tract with a large area of marsh and grass jungle.

South of the Ganges there are, on the average, only 528 persons to the square mile. Here the most thickly populated tracts are the thanas lying along the Ganges, south of which there is hilly country, bearing a growth of scrub jungle, with a rocky surface unfavourable to cultivation. The Kharagpur thana with 415 persons to the square mile begins to show a marked diminution, which reaches its lowest point in the jungle and waste lands in the extreme south of the district, the soil supporting only 231 persons per square mile in Chakai.

43. In the south of Gaya, where the land is still partly under jungle, the population is very sparse, the average not rising to more than 278 to the square mile. In the north, where the soil is fertile and a considerable area is protected from drought by artificial irrigation, it is fairly dense, the number of persons to the square mile being more than double that in the less favoured tracts to the south. The pressure of the people on the land is greatest in the Jahanabad thana to the north, a highly cultivated tract where the large number of 712 persons to the square mile is found. The minimum (271) is reached in the Barachatti thana to the south, where a considerable area consists of hills, jungle and waste land.

In Shahabad there is an equally marked variation between the northern and southern subdivisions, the average density (305) in the Sasaram and Bhabua subdivisions being less than half of what it is (641) in the headquarters and Buxar subdivisions. Both the latter subdivisions are flat, fertile and highly cultivated, whereas the Kaimur Hills are included in the two subdivisions first mentioned. The minimum is reached in the Bhabua thana, which, with 187 persons to the square mile, is the most sparsely inhabited tract in South Bihar: a large part of this thana lies on the plateau of the Kaimur Hills, where patches of cultivation are few and far between.

44. In Orissa the average density is 508 to the square mile, but it varies very considerably in different parts according to their proximity either to the sea or to the hills. All three districts have three zones, the first being an unproductive maritime strip, the second a cultivated central plain formed of rich alluvium, and the third a broken hilly region on the west. The strip along the coast is in many places impregnated with salt, and a great part of it is unfit for cultivation. It is swampy and traversed by sluggish brackish streams, and from its general nature has been described as the Sundarbans on a miniature scale. The central portion, which forms the delta proper, is an alluvial plain with a teeming population and a fertile soil. The third belt consists of a submontane undulating country, in places broken by hills, with a sterile soil which supports a



scanty semi-Hinduized population.

45. The greatest density in Cuttack is found in the thanas of Salepur, Jajpur and Kendrapara, where the average is 800 per square mile. The maximum of 963 is reached in Salepur, which lies between two large branches of the Mahanadi and has 31 per cent. of its area irrigated from the Orissa canal system. All the thanas along the sea-coast to the east and in the hilly tract to the west have under 400 to the square mile, the most thinly populated thana being Aul with 308 to the square mile. This thana contains a belt of saline soil, in places 30 miles wide, covered by sand, coarse grass or shrub. Taking the district as a whole, the density per cultivated square mile is

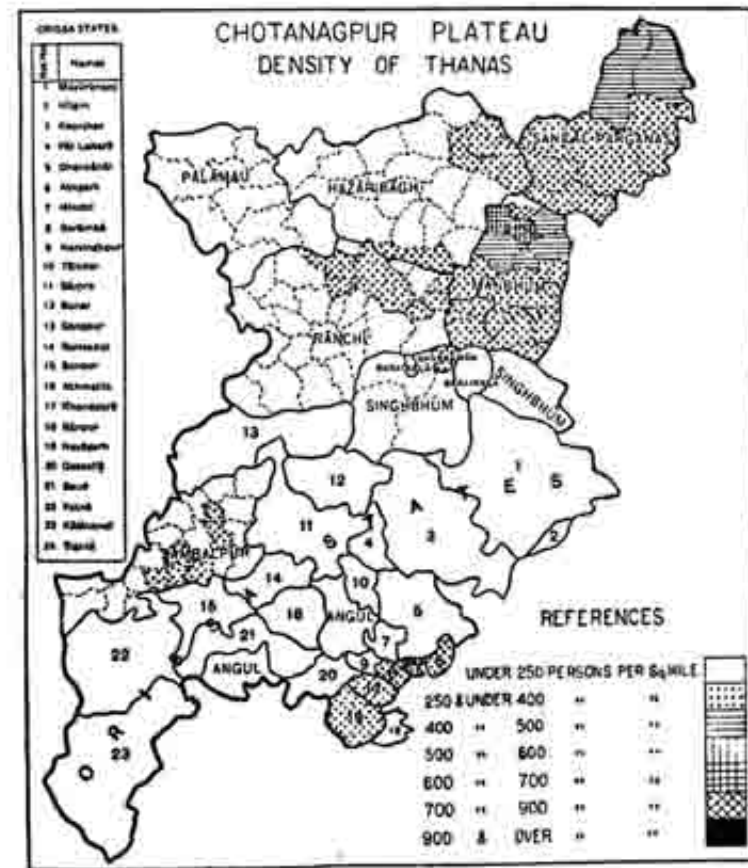
1,099, but it has been calculated that each square mile of unirrigated land would support 1,167 persons, and each square mile of irrigated land 1,515 persons.

46. Balasore at its greatest width is only 40 miles broad from east to west, and every thana contains either saline soil or uncultivated laterite. Density is as low as 288 persons to the square mile in Chandbali, a large part of which is a prairie of high grass merging on the sea-coast in a mangrove forest like that found in the Sunderbans. It is as high as 638 in thana Bhadrakh, which contains only a little hilly country and marches with the fertile central plain of Cuttack. Though it contains the head-quarters of the district, Balasore thana supports only 536 persons to the square mile, the explanation being that part of it is taken up by the maritime saline strip on the east and the undulating tract on the west. The average density (410 persons to the square mile) in Puri is far less than in any other district of Orissa, owing to the area occupied by hills, forests and water. Reserved and protected forests extend over 485 square miles, while the area of the Chilka Lake is about 450 square miles during the rains and 350 square miles for the remainder of the year : altogether 310 square miles of this lake lie in the district. Pipli (including Nimapara) in the centre of the district, which is the only thana without any hills or maritime area, contains as many as 760 persons to the square mile; the average density (349) in the rest of the district is less than half this figure. There are under 300 persons to the square mile in the Puri and Banpur thanas, of which former contains the Chilka Lake, while the latter comprises a large hilly area.

47. The Chota Nagpur Plateau is an upland tract, with a general elevation of 2,000 feet and over, forming part of the descent from the elevated high lands of Central India. It includes the inner highlands of Orissa, as well as Chota Nagpur proper, and consists of a succession of plateaux, hills and valleys. Cultivation is comparatively sparse; where not under cultivation, the plateaux and their escarpments are thinly covered with forests. The average density is 186 per square mile.

48. The most populous district is Manbhum, which has changed places

with the Sonthal Parganas during the last decade owing to the development of the Jheria coal-fields. In the two thanas of Jheria and Topchanchi, which lie in the coal-field area, the density is 667 and 644 respectively, but in the adjoining thana of Tundi, which is purely agricultural, it is only one-third as much. Further south, in Chas and Raghunathpur, where there is more level ground than elsewhere, the facilities for cultivation have attracted permanent settlers, and there are 498 and 442 persons respectively to the square mile. Nirsa,



which contains part of the Raniganj coal-field, and Para, in the centre of the



district, are the only other thanas with over 400 to the square mile. Generally speaking, density diminishes from north to south, if the northernmost thana (Tundi) is excluded.

49. The Sonthal Parganas, unlike Manbhum, sends out emigrants and has no large industries to attract labour. Only half the district is under cultivation; a remaining fourth is cultivable and awaits development, but the rate of reclamation is not commensurate with the growth of population, for year by year the Santhals pour out of the district in increasing numbers to do pioneer work elsewhere. The Rajmahal Hills and outlying ranges extend over nearly two-fifths of the district, and there is a long narrow strip of alluvial soil between them and the Ganges on the north and east. It is in this strip and in the portion of the Godda subdivision to the north-west, where the land below the hills is alluvial and fertile, that the population is most dense. In the Damini-Koh, which comprises almost the whole of the Rajmahal Hills and consists of hills, plateaux and fertile valleys between the

SUBDIVISION.	Damin.	Extra Danda.
Dumka ... ..	150	309
Godda ... ..	305	300
Deoghar ... ..	...	322
Jamtara ... ..	...	397
Pakaur ... ..	256	431
Rajmahal ... ..	332	631

ranges, there are only 284 persons to the square mile, the average for the rest of the district being 360: the marginal statement shows the density according to subdivisions. In the Rajmahal subdivision all the thanas outside the Damini lie in the alluvial belt, one containing the town of Sahebganj. In the

Pakaur subdivision the Pakaur and Maheshpur thanas lie partly in this belt and partly in the rolling uplands known as the Sonthali tract of Ambar and Sultanbad, which also contains the whole of Pakuria. In the Godda subdivision density is greatest in the Godda and Mahagama thanas, where the country is more open and mostly under cultivation. The latter thana, which is an alluvial tract, is the most populous in the district next to Sahebganj. Poreya is more hilly, and its density is only a little greater than that of the Godda Damini. In the south and south-west the hills give place to a series of ridges and undulating uplands, with a scanty population. This latter area contains the Deoghar subdivision, which consists chiefly of a high tableland, much of which is of little agricultural value, and the Jamtara subdivision, the least populous of all the subdivisions, in which there is still a good deal of uncleared jungle.

50. The average density in Ranchi and Sambalpur is exactly the same, viz., 195 to the square mile. In the former district it diminishes from the north-east to the south and south-west, the Ranchi subdivision having 256, the Khunti subdivision 226 and the Gumla subdivision only 146 persons to the square mile. In Sambalpur the unsurveyed area (*i.e.*, the Government reserved forests, the zamindari forests and the Mahanadi river) account for about a fifth of the total area: if it is left out of account, the average density is 249 to the square mile. Population is most sparse in the Bargarh subdivision; the Barapabar hills extend over 300 square miles or more than one-eighth of the subdivision, and a considerable area is covered with jungle, whereas in the Sambalpur subdivision there are large expanses of open cultivated country along the Mahanadi. Excluding the unsurveyed tracts, the former subdivision supports 260 and the latter 235 persons per square mile, the difference being due to the fact that in the Bargarh plain the land is under closer tillage than in the Sambalpur subdivision.

51. The population is unevenly distributed in Hazaribagh, the density in the Giridih subdivision, where there are coal-fields, being nearly 50 per cent. greater than in the Sadar subdivision, which is purely agricultural. A slight decrease is found in Singhbhum, owing to the protected and reserved forests, which extend over more than one-fourth of the whole district. If they are left out of account, there are 241 persons to the square mile. In Palamau the population is fairly dense in the valleys and in the north of the district, but gradually decreases to the south, which is a region of hills and jungle. The extreme southern thana, with 64 persons per square mile, is the most thinly populated tract in the whole of the Chota Nagpur Division. Angul supports a smaller population than any other district in the province, being still an undeveloped tract with scattered villages, often in the midst of dense forest. There are 142 persons to the square mile in the Angul

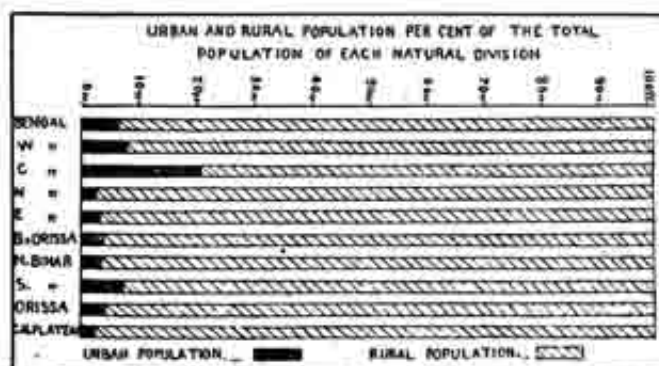
subdivision, where reserved and protected forests extend over 613 square miles, or nearly three-fourths of its area. The average is only 93 in the Khondmals, where five-eighths of the area is under forest.

52. The Orissa Feudatory States, as a whole, have a denser population than any district in the Chota Nagpur Plateau, except Manbhum and the Sonthal Parganas. Extraordinary variations, however, are found, the maximum being 505 in Tigiria, which is a fertile tract with easy means of access to Cuttack, while a minimum of 38 is found in Rairakhol, which is still mostly covered with forest. Generally speaking, the States adjoining the sea-board districts have the greatest population, eight of them having over 200 persons to the square mile. The only other State exceeding that ratio is Sonpur, which is traversed by the Mahanadi and includes a large area of alluvial land on either side of its banks.

53. At the bottom of the list is Sikkim, with only 31 persons per square mile. This is not to be wondered at, considering the physical configuration of the country. From 15,000 feet and upwards there is a mass of snow-topped peaks and ridges, treeless and uninhabited. From 12,000 to 15,000 feet the ridges are clothed with rhododendron and coniferous forests: occasional grassy plateaux with small lakes are found, to which cattle are driven for pasturage in the summer. The hill slopes from 9,000 to 12,000 feet are very steep and usually covered with virgin forest, but scattered settlements of Bhotia graziers now begin to appear. It is only at the lower levels below 7,000 feet that cultivation is possible. Here the country has been largely denuded of forest, and the slopes utilized for the growth of the staple crops, viz., maize, millets and pulses, the people living in small homesteads surrounded by patches of cultivation.

## CITIES AND TOWNS.

54. The places treated as towns consist of three classes, viz., municipalities, cantonments and other places which were treated as towns for census purposes. In deciding the places which were to be included in the last category, their importance as centres of trade, their historic associations,



the character of their population and the relative density of dwelling-houses were taken into consideration. Altogether, 22 places in Bihar and Orissa, other than municipalities or cantonments, were treated as towns, of which four had a population over 10,000, twelve contained 5,000 to 10,000 inhabitants, and the remainder had under 5,000 inhabitants. Eight, with an aggregate population of 45,031, were treated as towns for the first time. In Bengal six places were considered sufficiently urban to be treated as towns, one (Kharagpur) having a population of 18,957, another (Saidpur in Rangpur) of 8,287, and the remaining four (all in Rangpur) under 5,000 inhabitants. All but two of these were treated as towns in 1901; the two additions were Kharagpur and Dhulian, the aggregate population of which is 27,255.

55. In neither Province have the people shown any appreciable tendency to desert the villages for the towns. In Bengal the urban population has increased by 13.2 per cent. since 1901, its growth being more rapid than that of the general population, but only 64 out of every thousand persons live in towns. In Bihar and Orissa, on the other hand, an increase in the general population has been accompanied by a decrease of 2.8 per cent. in the number of persons living in towns, who now constitute only 34 per mille of the total population. This decline is, as will be shown later, due mainly to the continued presence of plague in Bihar,

which has not only caused a grievous mortality, but disorganized the industries and trade of the towns it afflicted. *Prima facie* the Bengalis appear to have a greater predilection for town life than the inhabitants of Bihar and Orissa. Bengal contains 124 towns, whereas Bihar and Orissa contains only 76, *i.e.*, less than two-thirds of the number in Bengal, though its area is one-third greater. The average town population (23,937) of Bengal is more than one-third as great as the average in Bihar and Orissa, and the proportion of townspeople to the total population is nearly double what it is in the latter Province. Calcutta, Howrah and three suburban municipalites, viz., Maniktollah, Cossipur-Chitpur and Garden Reach, contain two-fifths of the urban population. If they are left out of account, the average population of the Bengal town is reduced to 14,672, while the proportion of the urban population to the total population of the Presidency is only 38 per mille, or little more than in Bihar and Orissa.

56. In Bengal there are only three towns containing over 30,000 persons outside Calcutta and the metropolitan districts of Howrah, the 24-Parganas and Hooghly. The first two districts are the most distinctively urban, over one-fifth of their inhabitants being resident in towns, while the proportion is over one-tenth in Hooghly, where there are seven municipalities stretching along the bank of the Hooghly from Tribeni southwards. Of the other districts in the Province, Darjeeling with 93 per mille has the largest urban population, and then *longo intervallo* comes Dacca, where two towns, Dacca and Narayanganj, contain 46 per mille of the district population.

57. In Bihar and Orissa, 13 out of 21 districts have an urban population of over 25 per mille, whereas in North and East Bengal this ratio is reached in only five out of 17 districts. The most distinctively urban tract is South Bihar, where 67 per mille of the population are found in towns; then follows Orissa with 38 per mille, and North Bihar with 28 per mille. The average of the Chota Nagpur Plateau (20 per mille) is largely reduced by the Orissa States; in the Chota Nagpur Division the proportion (26 per mille) is very little less than in North Bihar, which contains an agricultural population and has few towns. Its towns are, however, of considerable size, their average population being 21,145, or very little less than in South Bihar. Even larger towns are found in Orissa their average population amounting to 26,585, a figure higher than in any division of the two Provinces except Central Bengal.

58. The two Provinces dealt with in this report contain eight towns which have at one time or other been imperial or provincial capitals, viz., Bihar, Nadia, Patna,

OLD CAPITALS.

Rajmahal, Monghyr, Cuttack, Dacca, Murshidabad and Calcutta. The oldest of these is Bihar, which gave its name to the Province, and was so called from the great Buddhist monastery (*Vihara*) it contained. It was the headquarters of the Hindu Governors of the Pala Kings, but in 1198-99 the city was sacked, the monastery burnt and the Buddhist monks slain by Bakhtiyar Khilji. A sudden raid was made next year on Nadia (Navadwip), then the Bengal capital of the last of the Sena kings. After this, it is said, the Musalmans, leaving Nadia in desolation, removed the seat of Government to Lakhnauti (Gaur). Bihar appears to have been the headquarters of the Musalman Governors of Bihar until 1541, when Sher Shah rebuilt Patna, which, says the *Tarikh-i-Daudi*, "was then a small town dependent on Bihar, which was the seat of the local Government. From that time Patna became one of the largest cities of the Province." Thenceforward the Mughal Governors of Bihar usually resided at Patna, but the western portion of that Province was under the rule of the Nawabs of Bengal. The latter made Rajmahal their capital from 1592 to 1608, when the seat of Government was transferred to Dacca for strategic reasons, Dacca being a more central position for the defence of Bengal against the raids of the Assamese, Arakanese (Maghs) and Portuguese. In 1639, Shah Shuja again made Rajmahal the capital, but this change did not last for more than 21 years, for in 1660 it was found necessary to re-establish the headquarters at Dacca owing to the continued danger of invasion and also because the Ganges had shifted its channel and receded from Rajmahal. Dacca remained the capital for less than half a century, Murshid Kuli Khan transferring his headquarters to Murshidabad

in 1704. The Arakanese had now ceased to be dangerous, and the city along the banks of the Bhagirathi, commanding the trade and military route up the Ganges, was far more central. There the Nawabs of Bengal remained till the downfall of the Mughal power, and the assumption of rule by the British, except for a short interval (1761-1763), when Kasim Ali Khan set up his court at Monghyr. In Orissa, Jajpur, now a small rural town, appears in early times to have been the capital of the north, and Bhubaneswar, now a village surrounded by temples or their ruins, the capital of the south. Cuttack, however, became the capital under the Eastern Ganga kings, and retained its position till the British conquest in 1803. The last capitals to be dethroned are Dacca, the headquarters of the short-lived Government of Eastern Bengal and Assam (1905-1912), and Calcutta, which is no longer the official capital of India owing to the removal of the Government of India to Delhi.

59. With the exception of Cuttack, Dacca and Calcutta, all these towns are decadent. Bihar is now a quiet provincial town far from the main routes of commerce. The old town of Nadia has been swept away by the Bhagirathi, and its modern successor is an unimportant rural municipality. Patna has been decimated by plague and lost much of its trade. Monghyr is a district headquarters, only the remains of its fort and palace (now a jail) attesting its former importance as a provincial capital. Rajmahal is a small country town with 5,357 inhabitants, mostly residing in mud huts, the ruins of the nobler edifices of the old city being buried in jungle. Murshidabad still contains the palace of the descendant of the Nawabs, but otherwise has few traces of its former grandeur, while its population is but a fraction of what it was. One or other of the causes which operate to bring about the decay of old towns in Bengal have, either singly or together, helped to bring about the downfall of these capitals. They are briefly the action of rivers, the removal of native courts, loss of trade, and the gradual or sudden diminution of population owing to disease.

60. Nearly all the old towns were built on the banks of rivers, a riparian site being naturally selected, both because it ensured the supply of drinking water and also because the rivers furnished the principal means of transport and communication. There were a few military routes, but otherwise roads were few and far between. Their situation has in many instances proved precarious to the old towns owing to the vagaries of the rivers. Pataliputra, the imperial capital of Asoka, lies buried deep below the modern city of Patna; Tamralipta, the ancient port of Bengal, has been covered by the silt of the Rupnarayan, while Tamruk, which was built over it, is now a riparian village 60 miles from the sea. Satgaon, once the headquarters of a Governor and a city crowded with merchants, sank into insignificance owing to the diversion of the rivers that fed its trade, and at the present day is only represented by a few huts scattered among jungle-covered mounds. Gaur, the capital of Bengal for over seven centuries, was ruined by the Ganges receding westwards, leaving long shallow marshes behind it. Fever followed and depopulated the city, the final epidemic of 1575 being so terrible that the dead could be neither buried nor burnt, after which the few survivors fled from the place. Within half a century the population of 200,000 described by Portuguese travellers\* had disappeared. The country was almost a wilderness with few villages, but many buffaloes, swine and deer, and "very many" tigers.† Rajmahal was similarly deserted on account of the Ganges changing its course; in 1640 its current washed the walls of the city, but in 1666 the channel was, according to Tavernier, a good half league away.

61. The ruin of a riparian town may be either sudden or gradual, according as the river quickly or slowly changes its course or gradually dwindles away. The former is a somewhat rare occurrence, but two cases may be mentioned. Nadia, the old capital of the Sena Kings, was swept away by a sudden change in the course of the Bhagirathi in the beginning of the nineteenth century. Its site is now partly *char* land and partly forms the bed of the stream, which passes to the north of the present town. In the

\* De Barros, *Da Asia*.

† J. H. Ryley, *Ralph Fitch* (1899).

north of the Bhagalpur district, again, the town of Nathpur was destroyed by a sudden inrush of the Kosi in 1875. [More frequently a river gradually changes its course, and an attenuated stream flows down its old channel, the towns along its banks lingering on with a gradual loss of prosperity. Such has been the case with Purnea,] which in the eighteenth century was the headquarters of a Military Governor who could put an army of 15,000 men into the field, and which only 100 years ago is said to have covered a space equal to more than half of London.\* Formerly the main stream of the Kosi flowed by it, but that river has worked westward and its former channel contains only a small sluggish stream. The town still extends over a large area, but its population is gradually diminishing and is now only 14,784.

[In the lower delta it is more common for a river to keep to its old channel, but the silting up of its intake deprives it of a supply of fresh water, and it consequently shrinks in volume and generally deteriorates. It ceases to have a flowing stream, and its bed being choked with vegetation, navigation is rendered impossible, while the drainage of the country is obstructed and malarial fever spreads over the neighbourhood. Such rivers are either dying or dead, and the towns along them have no vitality.] Their inhabitants do not desert them, but their fecundity is sapped by sickness, their industries languish, and there is nothing to induce an influx of immigrants. Jessore and Krishnagar may be regarded as typical instances of such towns. Both are headquarters of districts and are situated on the railway, factors which should make for growth, but both stand on dead or dying rivers (the Bhairab and Anjana). Both suffer from persistent endemic fever, and the population of Jessore has been stationary for the last 40 years, while that of Krishnagar is steadily diminishing.

62. [In other cases the decline of a town is due to the removal of the Court, to which it owed its prosperity. When the Court is removed, the entourage of nobles, their train of followers, and the industrial classes, which ministered to their luxuries, also leave the place. The traces of old industries may be found, but these industries serve only the demands of a few rich persons. Murshidabad is a type of such a town.] On entering it after the victory of Plassey, Clive wrote :—" This city is as extensive, populous, and rich as the city of London, with this difference that there are individuals in the first possessing infinitely greater property than in the last city." After that battle the seat of Government was removed to Calcutta, and in 1799 the civil headquarters of the district were transferred to Berhampore. With the loss of its political importance, the size and population of Murshidabad also declined. At the first census of 1872 its population was 46,182 ; now the inhabitants of Murshidabad and its suburb Azimganj (which was formed into a separate municipality in 1896), taken together, number only 24,996.

63. [A third cause tending to check the development of towns in the two Provinces is loss of trade.] This may be caused, as already stated, by the removal of a Court or by a river changing its course or silting up ; but [in modern times it is generally due to trade being rail-borne instead of river-borne.] The effect of such a diversion of trade is best illustrated by the case of Patna and Revelganj (in Saran). Patna is marked out by nature as the site of a riparian emporium, for it has a river frontage of 7 or 8 miles in the rains and of 4 miles in the dry season, while its central position near the junction of three great rivers, the Ganges, the Gandak and the Son, gives it natural advantages as a distributing centre. The trade of the city has now diminished owing to the opening out of new lines of railway in the districts north of the Ganges, and to the fact that it is cheaper to book goods direct to Calcutta than (as formerly) to rail them to Patna, and thence send them down by river. The natural advantages of Revelganj as a river-side emporium were equally marked. Commanding as it did the junction of the Gogra and Ganges, it was an important changing station, where boats from Bengal used to tranship their cargoes to boats from Fyzabad and Gorakhpur. Thirty years ago it was the second largest river mart with a Ganges-borne trade in

\* Montgomery Martin, *Eastern India*.

Bengal. The railway has now deprived it of most of its trade, and it has also suffered from the river setting towards the opposite bank and from the retreat eastwards of the point of junction of the Ganges and Gogra. Of late years moreover it has suffered from plague, and since 1891 it has lost over a third of its population. In Bengal the history of Kalna and Katwa (in the Burdwan district) is a similar record of decay due to the diversion of trade from the river to the railway.

64. [The fourth factor is endemic and epidemic disease. In some parts, notably Central Bengal, the prevalence of malaria is responsible for decline or stagnation; in Bihar plague has been a more deadly scourge.] An account of its ravages will be given in the next chapter, and here it will be sufficient to refer the reader to the marginal statement showing the deaths from plague and the total

DISTRICT.	Number of towns.	Population, 1901.	Decrease of population, 1901-11.	Deaths from plague, 1901-10.
Patan ...	5	252,791	26,617	35,309
Gaya ...	3	87,469	9,093	2,033
Shahabad ...	6	118,047	13,634	15,664
Saran ...	3	71,422	12,234	8,243
Muzaffarpur ...	3	78,517	8,210	6,552
Darbhanga ...	4	168,392	6,336	6,873
Bhagalpur ...	2	81,498	4,249	2,852
Total ...	26	793,136	80,373	77,526

decrease of population during the last decade in 26 towns.\* Not only is the number of deaths from plague considerable, but the disorganization of industry, commerce and social life has permanent effects on the prosperity of the towns. In Gaya, for instance, 30 per cent. of the population had left their work and fled from their homes when the

census was held. Normal conditions were not re-established till three months later; the result of their absence on the trade of the town even for a short time may easily be imagined. It is scarcely necessary to add that, where plague persists year after year, as has been the case elsewhere, its effects are even more paralyzing.

65. If deaths from plague are left out of account, the death-rate in towns is smaller than in rural areas, though heavier mortality is caused by epidemics of cholera and small-pox, which spread more rapidly in congested areas. The relatively greater healthiness of towns (excluding epidemics) is due to the fact that it is only there that a proper agency and other facilities exist for carrying out sanitary reforms. These reforms, carried out as far as municipal finances allow, have resulted in a gradual improvement in hygienic conditions, especially in matters connected with surface drainage

AVERAGE DEATH-RATE PER HILLE.			
		Urban.	Rural.
All causes ...	...	87.28	33.41
Fever ...	...	12.90	22.63
Plague ...	...	4.06	1.32
Cholera ...	...	3.27	3.09
Small-pox ...	...	0.85	0.25
Dysentery and diarrhoea ...	...	2.93	0.80
Respiratory diseases ...	...	1.90	0.12
Injury ...	...	0.38	0.48
Other causes ...	...	9.26	6.28

conservancy. From the marginal statement† giving the vital statistics in urban and rural areas for five years, it will be seen that in the towns the death-rate for fever is far lower, but that for dysentery, diarrhoea, and respiratory diseases is higher; this may be ascribed to more accurate reporting of the causes of death. On the other hand, the birth-rate in towns is generally lower than in rural areas

owing to the operation of one or more of the following causes:—(1) The disproportion in the sexes of the inhabitants, males being in excess of females; (2) the presence of a large floating population; and (3) the custom of sending females to be confined in their parents' homes in the villages.

66. After the somewhat dreary sketch of urban decay, stagnation or decimation by disease given in the preceding paragraphs, it is refreshing to turn to the number of towns, some old, some young and some nascent, which are fast

#### DEVELOPMENT OF MODERN TOWNS.

\* In this statement, when a second census was held in 1901 after a plague epidemic had subsided and the people had returned to their homes, the figures of the second census have been taken, as representing the normal population in that year.

† Report of the Sanitary Commissioner for Bengal for 1908.

developing owing to the expansion of trade or industrial enterprise, often introduced and directed by Europeans. The cities will be separately dealt with later, and are therefore excluded from this review of the growth of railway towns, mill towns and commercial emporia. [There are three towns in the two Provinces, to which the term railway town applies, and each shows rapid progress.] Jamalpur in Monghyr, which contains the large workshops of the East Indian Railway, had an increase of 14 per cent. between 1891-1901, and at this census, in spite of losing 2,000 persons from plague, is almost the only town in Bihar with a substantial increase (8 per cent).\* Kharagpur in Midnapore, the headquarters of the Loco., Carriage and Waggon Departments of the Bengal-Nagpur Railway, now has 18,957 inhabitants, whereas in 1901 there were only 3,526 persons resident in railway premises. The population of Saidpur in Rangpur, which is the headquarters of the northern section of the Eastern Bengal State Railway and is also a centre for the trade in jute, has risen by 42 per cent. within the last 10 years.

67. Even more phenomenal increases are recorded by the mill towns. In the 24-Parganas, for instance, Bhatpara, which was formerly famous as a centre of Sanskrit learning, where Brahman pandits studied the Sastras in quiet seclusion, is now the fifth largest town in Bengal and a busy industrial centre. Its population has increased five-fold since 1881, and has been more than doubled during the last decade, rising from 21,540 to 50,414. This increase, however, is merely commensurate with the increase of mill hands. The expansion of other mill towns along the Hooghly is equally remarkable, the aggregate population of seven in the 24-Parganas having risen by 87 per cent. since 1901. Titagarh has nearly trebled its population. Garulia has an addition of 57 per cent. and Bhadreswar on the other side of the Hooghly of 61 per cent. The whole riparian strip along the Hooghly is, in fact, becoming increasingly urban and increasingly populous, and the account given by Mr. Beverley in the Census Report of 1872 no longer holds good. He remarked—"Even in the neighbourhood of Calcutta the so-called townships are mere collections of villages—villages closely studded and densely populated, it is true, but still with small pretensions to be designated towns. The left bank of the Hooghly, like the right, is most thickly inhabited all the way up to Nadia. The villages are grouped together for municipal purposes, and are thus shown in the census tables as towns; but cattle graze, and rice is sown and reaped, in their very midst." Any one who has had occasion to pass through the mill towns will realize how conditions have changed since this account was written.

The latest addition to the list of industrial towns is Sakchi in the Singhbhum district. This is a town which has sprung up owing to its being the headquarters of the Tata Iron and Steel Company: though the latter has only recently started work, it already contains a population of 5,672 persons.

68. [The third class of modern towns showing a noticeable development consists of trade centres.] Their number is considerable, but two typical examples may be mentioned, viz. ; Chittagong, which has an increase of 30 per cent. since 1901, and Narayanganj, the centre of the jute trade, which has been growing by leaps and bounds since 1872: its population had more than doubled in 1901, and since then has increased to 27,876, or by nearly 14 per cent. This is by no means its fullest population, for it is much more crowded during the jute season than at the time of the census (in March), when trade is slack.

69. [In both Provinces there is an excess of males living in towns.]

PROPORTION OF SEXES.

The preponderance of men is much more marked in Bengal than in Bihar and Orissa; in the former Province there are only 631 females to every 1,000 males, whereas in the latter the proportion of females (932) is only slightly in defect. The reason for the relative excess of males in Bengal is partly that, in the Presidency as a whole, males outnumber females, there being 945 females to every 1,000 males. The reverse is the case in Bihar and Orissa, where there are 1,043 females to every 1,000 males. It is also partly accounted for by the fact

\* The area of this town has been very largely extended since 1901; the figure given above is for the town as now constituted.

that there are more industrial centres with a population largely composed of immigrants working in the mills and factories, who leave their wives at home. The larger the town, the greater is the excess of males over females, e.g., in the cities of Calcutta and Howrah there are only 475 and 562 females respectively to every 1,000 males. The proportion of women gradually rises as the towns diminish in size, the maximum (798) being found in towns with 5,000 to 10,000 inhabitants, which are mostly small municipal areas with few urban characteristics. Briefly, in the small towns of Bengal there are 5 males to every 4 females, whereas in the cities there are 2 males to every female.

The proportion in the mill and factory towns is much the same as in the cities. In the mill-towns of the 24-Parganas, such as Bhatpara, Garulia and Titagarh, the males outnumber females by two to one, whereas in non-manufacturing towns, such as Krishnagar, Nadia and Santipur, the sexes are equally represented, or the female element predominates. In the old city of Dacca, which contains a large permanent population—nine-tenths of the present inhabitants were born within the Dacca Division—there are 721 women to every 1,000 men, but 10 miles away in Narayanganj, a comparatively new centre of trade and industry, the proportion of females falls to 488, and in Barisal, the headquarters of the Backergunge district and an important junction of steamer routes, it is only 451.

In Bihar and Orissa the increase in the proportion of females as the towns decrease in size is even more noticeable, for, with the exception of Patna (where there are 922 females to every 1,000 males), the ratio gradually rises from 900 in towns with 50,000 to 100,000 inhabitants to 992 in towns containing under 5,000 inhabitants.

70. In Bengal 67 per cent. of the urban population consists of Hindus and 30 per cent. of Muhammadans, whereas in Bihar and Orissa the proportions are 75 and 22 per cent. respectively. Considering that in Bengal Musalmans account for over one-half of the total population, the percentage they contribute to the urban population is extremely small. In Bihar and Orissa on the other hand, Musalmans represent only one-tenth of the total population, but their ratio to the urban population is more than double that figure. The larger proportion of Hindus in Bengal may be accounted for by the fact that the population of towns is recruited very largely either from the educated classes, for whom a town opens up avenues of employment, or provides educational facilities not existing in the country, or from well-to-do people who desire the amenities of town-life, or from poor people who are drawn to the towns by the demand for labour. In the Presidency Hindus contribute to these three classes more largely than Muhammadans.

There are altogether 14 towns in Bengal in which Musalmans are in a majority, viz., Garden Reach, Murshidabad and Dhulian in Central Bengal, Pabna, Sirajganj and Nawabganj in North Bengal, and Sherpur (in Mymensingh), Kishoreganj, Netrakona, Jamalpur, Comilla, Patuakhali, Chittagong and Cox's Bazar in East Bengal. Even in Dacca city there are 55 Hindus to 44 followers of the Prophet. In Bihar and Orissa, the most distinctively Muhammadan towns are Sasaram, in which 42 per cent. of the population is Muhammadan, and Bihar, in which the percentage is 36. There are no towns in which Musalmans are in excess, and even in Patna, an old Muhammadan capital, and in modern times the nidus of Musalman religious movements, the Muhammadan inhabitants represent only 27 per cent. of the population.

71. If we consider the ratio of the members of each religion living in towns to the total number professing that religion, the preponderance of Musalmans over Hindus in Bihar and Orissa, and *vice versa* in Bengal, is equally striking. In Bengal, out of every 1,000 Hindus, 95 live in towns, but in Bihar and Orissa only 31. On the other hand, 80 out of every 1,000 Musalmans are denizens of towns in the latter Province as compared with 36 in Bengal. A similar disproportion is noticeable in the case of Christians, the ratio being 478 per mille in the Presidency and only 72 in Bihar and Orissa. In the latter most of the Christians are aboriginal villagers in Chota Nagpur who cling to their ancestral lands, whereas in Bengal a large proportion of the Christians are resident in Calcutta and other large



towns, where missionary enterprise has been active. Members of other religions are numerically insignificant, and it need merely be mentioned that, as might be expected, most of them Parsis, a foreign race of merchants and traders, are found in towns. The fact that a small proportion of them and a larger proportion of Jains, who are mainly Marwari immigrants engaged in trade, are resident outside towns, is due simply to the circumstance that both Provinces export raw materials, and a certain number have to go to the villages as brokers or set up small agencies there.

72. In Imperial Table V, and in subsidiary Table V to this Chapter, towns are grouped in six classes as shown in the margin. In Bengal there are three towns in Class I, viz., Calcutta, Howrah, and Dacca, which contribute two-fifths of the total urban population. More than half the towns are of average size, 28 being in Class III and 40 in Class IV; they account for nearly half of the urban population. The small towns (34 in Class V and 17 in Class VI) contribute only one-tenth of the total number of persons living in towns. In Bihar and Orissa there are only one town in

Class I and three in Class II, which between them account for less than one-fourth of the town population. Half the towns are of small size, there being 30 in Class V and 8 in Class VI, which contribute less than one-fifth of the urban population. The remainder are towns of average size (14 in Class III and 20 in Class IV), which contain more than half of the urban population.

Taking each class as a whole, we find that in Bengal all classes of towns have steadily developed during the last two decades. There has been a comparatively small increase in Class I during the last ten years, which is due to the tendency of the people of Calcutta to spread out to the suburban municipalities. In Bihar and Orissa, on the other hand, all but the smaller towns have declined or stood still during the last 20 years, owing, to a large extent, to plague.

73. The population of places that were treated as towns in 1872 has increased by 32 per cent. in Bengal, but by only 8 per cent. in Bihar and Orissa. Including the places subsequently treated as towns, the actual increase in the urban population is 61 per cent. in Bengal as against 21 per cent. in Bihar and Orissa. In Bengal the increase is shared in more or less by all classes of towns except those in Class II, which have a decrease of nearly 50 per cent. This decrease is, however, more apparent than real, being

mainly due to the transfer to Class I of Howrah and Dacca, which came under Class II in 1872.

Class.	NUMBER OF TOWNS.			
	Bengal.		Bihar and Orissa.	
	1911.	1872.	1911.	1872.
Under 5,000 ...	17	4	8	7
5,000 to 10,000 ...	34	27	30	14
10,000 to 20,000 ...	40	27	20	17
20,000 to 50,000 ...	28	13	14	9
50,000 to 100,000 ...	2	3	3	4
100,000 and over ...	2	1	1	1
	134	77	76	52

## CITIES.

74. There are nine cities in the two Provinces, the population of which is shown in the margin with the percentage of variation since 1901. In considering the recent growth of cities and towns, it will be most convenient to take the cities first and then to group the towns together according to natural divisions forming homogeneous areas.

Before proceeding to discuss the results of the census of cities, one characteristic feature may be referred to. There is a rise in the proportion of foreign-born (*i.e.*, those born outside the district

CITY.	Population.	Percentage of variation.
<i>Bengal.</i>		
Calcutta ...	996,067	+ 27
Howrah ...	179,008	+ 12½
Dacca ...	108,551	+ 21½
Manicktollah ...	52,767	+ 66½
Comipur-Chitpur ...	48,178	+ 18½
Garden Reach ...	61,296	+ 60½
<i>Bihar and Orissa.</i>		
Patna ...	138,153	+ 1½
Bhagalpur ...	74,349	- 1½
Gaya ...	69,951	- 30½

containing the city\*), and a fall in the proportion of females to males, in every city but Manicktollah and Cossipur-Chitpur, where the proportion of females has slightly increased. As this is the case in cities which have a loss of population, as well as in those which have an increase, it is clear that the cities are tending more and more to attract immigrants from greater distances. It will also be observed that the proportion of foreign-born in all the Bengal cities except

CITY.	PROPORTION PER MILL.			
	Females to males.		Foreign born.	
	1901.	1911.	1901.	1911.
Calcutta ... ..	307	475	657	714
Howrah ... ..	577	565	609	706
Cossipur-Chitpur ... ..	536	565	437	661
Manicktollah ... ..	692	694	649	750
Garden Reach* ... ..	657	637	428	473
Dacca ... ..	798	721	164	126
Patna ... ..	1,011	925	85	96
Gaya ... ..	986	897	79	96
Bhagalpur ... ..	907	861	156	169

Dacca is very much greater than in the Bihar cities, which have as yet not become manufacturing centres.

75. The progress of Calcutta and the three suburban municipalities of Cossipur-Chitpur, Manicktollah and Garden Reach is dealt with in a separate report, and here it will be sufficient to state that though each of them is under separate municipal government, they form an integral part of the same city. Howrah may also reasonably be treated as part of the metropolis, for it is only separated from Calcutta by the Hooghly, and, as pointed out in the last Census Report, is really as much a part of that city as Southwark is of London. If this be conceded, the population of the metropolis (1,222,313) is greater than that of any city in the British Empire except London, and among European cities is only surpassed by London, Paris, Vienna, St. Petersburg and Moscow.†

In Calcutta, the rate of increase which was 24·3 per cent. between 1891 and 1901, has now fallen to 5·7 per cent. Its population shows a centrifugal tendency, spreading out to Howrah and to all the suburban municipalities except Cossipur-Chitpur. The number of persons born in Calcutta and resident in that city is now nearly 34,000 less than it was 10 years ago: had it remained the same, an increase of 9·8 per cent. would have been registered. Owing to this exodus from Calcutta and the relatively greater number of immigrants they receive, all four municipalities have grown much more rapidly since 1901 than Calcutta. In Manicktollah and Garden Reach (in the latter of which, however, the growth is partly due to the extension of the municipal boundary) the percentage of increase is over ten times, in Cossipur-Chitpur it is treble, and in Howrah it is double what it is in the area administered by the Calcutta Corporation.

76. Howrah is a city which owes its development entirely to modern commerce. Originally, it was a small collection of villages, the names of which still survive in the quarters (*paras*) constituting the city. In the 18th century docks were opened along its banks for repairing the wooden vessels plying up the Hooghly, and it also became a kind of suburban retreat in which the wealthier citizens of Calcutta set up villas and laid out gardens. There cannot, however, have been much development in the first half of that century, for, as late as 1750, it is said to have been "a line of mud banks reeking with malaria, corpses in all stages of decomposition floating up and down the stream by the dozen, jungle lining the shore, the abode of the snake and alligator.‡" According to Bishop Heber, it was in 1823 a place "chiefly inhabited by ship-builders," while in 1848 it was referred to as "the Wapping of Calcutta inhabited chiefly by persons connected with the docks and shipping."

77. Howrah began to expand rapidly in the middle of the 19th century, especially after 1850 when it became the terminus of the East Indian Railway. Not only did the docks increase in size and number, but other large industrial concerns were started, such as engineering works, sugar factories, flour mills, cotton mills, jute mills and jute presses. The construction of the bridge over the Hooghly gave a further impetus to its

\* It being impossible to distinguish between persons born in Calcutta and Garden Reach, the term district-born in the case of the latter town is taken to include persons in Calcutta.

† A slightly larger population is estimated for Constantinople.

‡ Howrah Past and Present, pp. 18-19.

growth, which in recent years has been stimulated by the Bengal-Nagpur Railway obtaining access to it, by the opening of two light railways, which have linked up the interior of the district with the city, and by the establishment of steamer services along and across the Hooghly. The Calcutta tramway system has been extended to Howrah since 1907, and the ferry steamer service connecting the two cities has been considerably improved and accelerated; consequently, an increasing number of persons who work in the day at Calcutta have their residence in Howrah. The number of persons born in Calcutta and enumerated in the city is double what it was in 1901, while those born in Hooghly have increased from nearly 17,000 to over 29,000. During the 40 years over which the census records extend it has more than doubled its population; the rate of growth was 35 per cent. in 1891-1901 and 13·6 per cent. in the last decade. The decline in the percentage of increase is partly due to the fact that the jute mills were not in full work owing to the dull state of the market, and partly to the fact that the census was taken on a Friday. "Some of the mills," reports the Magistrate, "closed on Friday evening for the week and a considerable number of the mill hands left for their homes, Calcutta and other places."

78. Less than twenty years ago the city was lacking in many urban amenities. In 1889 it was described by the Sanitary Commissioner as being "without exception the dirtiest, most backward and badly managed municipality" he had seen. His successor in 1893 endorsed this verdict and remarked: "Generally speaking the sanitary condition of the town of Howrah is most deplorable. I have never, in fact, seen a town in such a dangerously insanitary condition, and I should be very sorry to live in it myself." Since then much has been done to improve the condition of the town, though it is no easy task on account of its low-lying situation, its rapid

Ward.	NUMBER OF PERSONS PER ACRE.	
	1911.	1901.
I	39	30
II	16	14
III	70	58
IV	54	60
V	90	62
VI	24	16
VII	78	62
VIII	41	33
IX	9	9
X	9	9

growth and past neglect in laying out building sites. Water-works were opened in 1896; a regular system of drainage has been introduced and is gradually being extended; bye-laws have been adopted for regulating the construction of new huts; overcrowded *bastis* are being gradually opened up by new roads, and their sanitation and drainage improved. Density is high, averaging 33 per acre. The outer fringe of the town is thinly peopled, being mostly occupied by fields interspersed with gardens and villas.

79. The marginal statement showing the districts which contribute over 1,000 to the population sufficiently indicates how heterogeneous the population is. More than two-thirds of the inhabitants were born outside the district, and in the last ten years the number of those born in the city or district has decreased by 10,000, or nearly 20 per cent. The latter now outnumber the immigrants from the United Provinces by less than 6,000. The city is, in fact, ceasing to be a Bengali city. Nearly half the inhabitants were born in the United Provinces or the Province of Bihar and Orissa (which contributes 38,830 to its population), and only 45 per cent. speak Bengali, while 47 per cent. speak Hindi and 3 per cent.

District, etc.	Number of persons.
Howrah ...	43,639
United Provinces ...	37,943
Hooghly ...	29,010
Calcutta ...	9,847
Shahabad ...	7,575
Saran ...	6,353
Midnapore ...	6,047
Patna ...	5,709
24-Parganas ...	4,031
Gaya ...	3,664
Cuttack ...	3,446
Monghyr ...	3,150
Muzaffarpur ...	3,035
Burdwan ...	2,247
Balasore ...	1,655
Dacca ...	1,365
Darbhanga ...	1,290

Oriya. The railways, mills, factories, docks, iron-works, etc., afford employment to a large number of labourers and artisans, who leave their wives and families at home and huddle together in crowded *bastis*. At the time of the census it was ascertained that jute mills and presses employed no less than 24,000 persons, or over one-seventh of the total population, while 15,000 more worked in other manufacturing concerns, such as cotton mills, rope works, iron foundries, machinery and engineering workshops, etc. There are now only 562 females to every 1,000 males. The proportion of females gradually decreases at each census: since 1872 the number of males has risen by nearly 150 per cent., whereas the females have increased by only

75 per cent.

80. With a population of 108,551, the city of Dacca contains 58 per cent. more inhabitants than in 1872. Its development has been most rapid during the last ten years, during which it added 21 per cent. to its numbers, while the general ratio of increase in the Dacca district was 12 per cent. Its rapid growth since 1901 is mainly due to its being made the headquarters of the Eastern Bengal and Assam Government in 1905, after which people settled in increasing numbers in the town. The construction of public buildings, moreover, necessitated the employment of a large labour force, and the population was further increased by the staff of the Secretariat and other offices. The extent to which the town owes its accretion to immigrants is shewn by the fact that while the males have increased by 26·5 per cent., the rise in the number of females is only 14 per cent. Out of every thousand persons, 198 are foreign born, their distribution by birth-place being as shewn in the margin. Nearly 4,000 immigrants are natives of Monghyr. Other districts of the United Provinces and Bihar from which immigrants come in large numbers are Muzaffarpur, Darbhanga, Muzaffarnagar, Ghazipur, Ballia, Gorakhpur and Azamgarh. These people work as constables, railway servants, boatmen,

Other districts of Eastern Bengal.	66
Assam	12
Bengal excluding Eastern Bengal	24
Bihar and Orissa	65
United Provinces	24
Other countries	7

general labourers, porters, domestic servants, scavengers, and shoe-makers. The town is far from being a busy manufacturing or industrial centre, for at the industrial census of 1911 only 14 concerns employing 20 hands or more were returned, the aggregate number of their employés being 1,195. Weaving, formerly the glory of Dacca, now supports only 1,029 persons, but shell work and jewellery, for which the city is also famous, are still in a fairly flourishing condition, the former supporting 2,193 persons and the latter 4,032 persons.

81. The density of population in each ward is shewn in the marginal statement, from which also it will be seen that all parts of the town share in the increase except Ward V, which sustained a slight loss owing to the removal of a *basti* from a plot of land acquired by Government. The city consists of three parts—(1) the town proper, which is congested, (2) the fringe area, which is more thinly populated, and (3) the new town, which is very sparsely populated. Wards V and II, which occupy the first and second place respectively in order of density, lie wholly within the town proper. The most congested

No. of ward.	Population.	DENSITY PER ACRE.	
		1901.	1911.
I	21,093	33·1	35·9
II	14,998	47·1	61·8
III	19,536	19·7	19·0
IV	19,675	17·9	24·9
V	8,769	76·0	76·0
VI	11,163	19·9	17·1
VII	12,348	21·1	24·4

area in these two wards is Sankaribazar in Ward II, where 2,456 persons were enumerated in 432 *khanas* or census houses. In this quarter the houses, mostly three stories high, are closely packed together with a small frontage along the road, and the unsavoury smell of decomposing shells (in which the Sankharis work) clings to them. Ward I, which comes next, lies partly within the town proper and partly within the fringe area. The next, in order of density, is Ward IV, which covers a portion of the old town proper and also includes a portion of the new town. Wards III and VI lie partly in the town proper and partly in the fringe area. Ward VI lies wholly in the fringe area with one rather congested road. The civil station at Ramna consists of the area acquired by Government for the construction of public buildings and is the least populous part of the city.

82. Patna, the capital designate of the new Province of Bihar and Orissa, is a decadent city, as will be seen from the figures given in the margin which show the total population recorded at each census during the last 30 years. Figures are not given for the census of 1872, as it was wanting in accuracy, and an apparent increase of over 11,000 recorded in 1881 is believed to have been due to its incompleteness. In 1901 the census was taken at a time when plague was raging and a considerable proportion of the inhabitants had fled from their homes, the result being a decrease of 18½

Year.	Number.
1881	170,654
1891	165,192
1901	134,785
1911	136,153

per cent. At a second census held in July 1901 the population was found to be 153,739, or nearly 19,000 more, but in spite of this addition, the population was 7 per cent. less than in 1891. The last census shows an increase of 1,368, as compared with the first census of 1901; but if it be compared with the second enumeration of 1901, there is a decrease of 17,586 persons, or 11·4 per cent. The causes of the decay of the city are twofold, viz., persistent unhealthiness,\* repeated epidemics of plague and the loss of trade. Formerly Patna city was an important emporium for rail and river-borne trade, but its trade is declining owing to its diversion to other centres and the disorganization caused by plague, which has been almost an annual visitation since 1900. During the last ten years there have been no less than 17,384 deaths from plague, and the loss of population (17,586) recorded at the present census very nearly corresponds with that figure. The city extends over nine square miles, and for the purposes of municipal government includes the town of Bankipore. There are on the average 23 persons per acre, and 90 per cent. of the inhabitants were born in the city or district.

83. Bhagalpur grew steadily between 1872 and 1901, adding 10,000 to its population during that period. During the last decade there has been a set back, the number of its inhabitants decreasing by 1,411, or 1·9 per cent. The decrease is mainly the effect of plague, which during the decade caused a mortality of 4,201. Like Patna, the people are nearly all local residents, 83 per cent. being born either in Bhagalpur itself or in the Bhagalpur district, while the sexes are almost equally distributed.

84. When the census of 1911 was taken, plague was raging in Gaya. A large proportion of the people had fled from the town to villages in the interior, and the total population recorded was only 49,921, or 30 per cent. less than in 1901, in which year also the town was suffering from the effects of another epidemic.† Owing to this circumstance, the census gave no idea of the normal population of the town, and a second census was therefore held in June, when the epidemic had subsided. At this second census the population returned was 70,423, or only a little less than in 1901. The comparatively large excess of males, who outnumbered the females by 7,000, may perhaps be taken as an indication that all the females who had been sent away during the plague had not yet returned to their homes, but the same disproportion of the sexes is noticeable in other towns of Bihar. There were no less than 4,780 deaths from plague in the town during the decade ending in 1910. That, in spite of this mortality, the population should be nearly equal to that recorded in 1901 (though in that year also the population had been diminished by plague) may be attributed to the fact that it is a large pilgrim centre, which every year has a considerable floating population, and that it has developed since 1901 owing to its being an important station on the Grand Chord Line.

## TOWNS.

85. Before 1872 the town of Burdwan suffered severely from the epidemic of fever which took its name from the district, and in the last 40 years has only added 3,600 to its population. Excluding the places treated as cities, however, it is the fourth largest town in the Province. It now contains 35,921 inhabitants, or 899 more than in 1901, but had it not been for an extension of the municipal boundaries, there would probably have been a decrease.

\* The *Sair-ut-Mutakhirin* gives an account of an epidemic which broke out at Patna in the early part of the 18th century and spread over Northern India:—"At the end of the year (1730-31) there arose, for forty days together, out of the ground such an abominable stench all over the city, that the poor and rich, being equally affected by it, were attacked by an epidemical fever that filled the houses with sick. The shops and markets were shut up, the streets became desert, and the city looked like a place forsaken by its inhabitants. People said that they had never seen or heard of such a calamity. The stench and sickness commenced at Patna and Allahabad, from whence it proceeded to Akbarabad and Delhi, and continued spreading over Panipat and Sirhind, until it extended to Lahore where it stopped by a favour of divine Providence."

† The coincidence of plague with the census both in 1901 and 1911 led to a belief among the people that there was some connection between the two.

The health of the town has considerably improved since the construction of water-works in 1884-85, but it is still badly drained and suffers from fever. It has, moreover, no large industries such as would attract labour from outside. The most progressive town in the district is Asansol, which is one of the chief centres of the coal industry and an important railway junction. It has developed rapidly of recent years, and has added 50 per cent. to its population during the last ten years: part of this increase must, however, be attributed to the municipal area being extended by  $1\frac{1}{2}$  square miles in 1905. The head-quarters of the subdivision were removed to Asansol in 1906, owing to its being a more central and important place than Raniganj, and it has not only supplanted but outgrown the latter town, which now shows a slight decline. Kalna has a slight increase of population, but the other towns of the district, viz., Dainhat and Katwa, are decadent. The three towns last named are situated on the Bhagirathi, and all have suffered from the silting-up or receding of that river and from the diversion of trade to the railway. The prosperity of Katwa should, however, revive on the completion of the Hooghly-Katwa line, which will give its trade an outlet.

86. Suri in Birbhum is a small town, which has recently been opened up by the Oudal-Sainthia line; its apparent growth since 1901 is probably due to the inclusion of another square mile within the municipal area. The effect of railway communication is marked in the case of the towns in Bankura, to which the Bengal-Nagpur Railway line was extended in 1902. The head-quarters station has increased by 13 per cent. and Bishnupur by 7 per cent., but Sonamukhi, which is not connected with the railway, has a slight decrease. Part of the increase in Bankura must, however, be ascribed to the addition of an area of one square mile to the municipal limits. In Midnapore the only progressive town is Kharagpur, whose rise has already been referred to. In all the other towns the population has diminished, or is practically stationary. Midnapore now has 32,740 inhabitants, or little more than in 1891: as pointed out in the last Census Report, it has no great industry or trade, and exhibits no tendency to grow. During the last decade it has suffered from fever and cholera, which have also seriously affected the towns of the Ghatal subdivision, viz., Chandrakona, Ghatal, Kharar, Khirpai and Ramjibanpur.

87. Hooghly contains no less than eight towns, of which seven are on the banks of the Hooghly. The most important is Serampore, which has been steadily progressing during the last 40 years. Owing to the proximity of Calcutta and to the industrial concerns started in the town and its neighbourhood, an increase of nearly 12 per cent. at this census has brought its population up to 49,594, or double what it was in 1872. Bhadreswar, a rising factory town, has developed at an extraordinary rate during the last decade, having an addition of 9,203, or over 60 per cent. Another flourishing town is Baidyabati, which has a considerable trade-mart at Sheoraphuli and a large jute mill at Champdani; it has added 3,342 to its population since 1901. Hooghly-Chinsura, the headquarters of the district, is slowly but steadily declining. It has no industries or trade of any importance; it is an unhealthy place, the inhabitants of which suffer from dysentery, fever and occasional epidemics of cholera; the streets or lanes are full of abandoned houses overgrown with jungle, recalling the picture of "ruin and melancholy" sketched by Mrs. Fenton in 1827. The death rate has been higher than in any other town of the district in all but two years of the decade, when it was exceeded in Bansberia. The latter town, which also suffers from defective drainage, was second on the list in the remaining eight years and has also lost population. The other towns, viz., Kotrang, Uttarpara and Arambagh, are small and unimportant. Bally, further down the river, is the only town in the Howrah district besides Howrah; it adjoins Howrah, and, as it shares in the influx of immigrants, is steadily growing.

88. In no district has there been a greater growth of urban population than in the 24-Parganas, where the average per town has risen by 38 per cent. since 1901. The whole riparian strip along the Hooghly is fast becoming urbanized: owing to their growing density of population the South Suburbs, South

CENTRAL BENGAL.

Barrackpore and Naihati municipalities have been twice subdivided since their creation and formed into nine municipalities. There are now no less than 26 towns in the district, of which five, viz., Cossipore-Chitpur, Manicktollah, Garden Reach, South Suburbs and Tollygunge, adjoin Calcutta and are suburban in character. Taken together, these five towns have added 40 per cent. to their population since 1901, while Calcutta itself has only increased by 5·7 per cent. The second class consists of industrial towns which, with the exception of Budge Budge, stretch northwards from Calcutta along the bank of the Hooghly, viz., Baranagar, the adjoining town of Kamarhati, Naihati, the two contiguous towns of Halisahar and Bhatpara, Titagarh, Budge-Budge and Garulia. The increase in these towns has been phenomenal, averaging no less than 67 per cent. There are three other towns along the Hooghly, viz., South Barrackpore, North Barrackpore and Panihati, which, however, are not industrial centres: of these, only South Barrackpore shows an advance, which is partly accounted for by the increase in the Barrackpore Cantonment. The remaining ten towns are situated inland, and are mostly rural in character: altogether, they have only increased by 6 per cent., the most substantial increases being found in South Dum-Dum, Baruipur and Basirhat. The growth of Baruipur may, however, be partly accounted for by an addition to its area.

89. Nearly all the towns of Nadia are either stationary or decadent. Their aggregate population has had an addition of only 563 since 1901, and has decreased by a little over 17,000 since 1891. The two largest towns, Krishnagar, the headquarters station, and Santipur, once an important weaving centre, have both lost ground: the former has suffered severely from fever, the latter from the decline of its industries. Nadia, the birth-place of Chaitanya and a pilgrim centre, returns 1,600 more persons than in 1901, but this is not altogether a real advance, for a religious festival was approaching, and there were a number of pilgrims present in the town. Of the subdivisional stations, Ranaghat alone, which is a considerable railway junction, has been slowly but steadily growing since 1891; in spite of the municipal area being reduced by 200 acres in 1905, its population has increased by 13 per cent. In Murshidabad, Berhampore, the district headquarters, has an increase of 7 per cent., and the two subdivisional headquarters of Kandi and Jangipur have also expanded. Murshidabad and Azimganj (a municipality in its suburbs) both show a continuous and heavy decline since 1891. There are only three towns in Jessore, of which Jessore and Maheshpur are stationary, while Kotchandpur has lost population owing to the falling off in the manufacture and sale of sugar to which it owed its former prosperity.

90. In North Bengal there are 19 towns and three cantonments, viz., Buxa, Lebong and Jalapahar, of which, however, the last two are treated as forming part of the town of Darjeeling. Of these 19 towns, only three have over 20,000 and only six over 10,000 inhabitants. The largest is still Sirajganj, a flourishing jute market on the Padma, which has grown slightly since 1901. The only towns that have decreased since that year are Natore and Sherpur (Bogra), the result of malaria and general unhealthiness. All the other towns are progressive except Old Malda, which is stationary: Jalpaiguri has increased by nearly 18 and Bogra by nearly 28 per cent. since 1901. Of the smaller towns, Saidpur, the northern head-quarters of the Eastern Bengal State Railway, has gained 42 per cent. and now contains over 8,000 inhabitants, while Kurigram and Gaibandha, two subdivisional stations in Rangpur, have doubled their population. All the towns in Cooch Behar are small and unimportant, except the capital of the same name, which is not progressive.

91. The town of Darjeeling requires special mention on account of its importance as the headquarters of Government for part of the year and also because it is, next to Simla, the most populous hill station in India. In 1872, before the construction of the railway, when the only approach to Darjeeling was by a long tedious march, the population numbered only 3,157, but during the next

nine years it increased by more than 100 per cent. It again doubled itself between 1881 and 1891, after the construction of the Darjeeling-Himalayan Railway had brought the station within a day's journey of Calcutta.

*Simla ...	...	37,895
Darjeeling ...	...	24,696
Ootacamund ...	...	18,829
Naini Tal ...	...	18,027
Mussoorie ...	...	17,402
Murree ...	...	16,934

The census of 1901 disclosed an increase of 20 per cent., the total population amounting to 16,924, but its progress during the last ten years has been less rapid owing partly to the fact that there is not much room for further expansion, and partly because its expensiveness deters people from taking up a permanent residence in it. In spite of this, the population rose to 19,005, the actual increase according to the census taken in March 1911 being 2,081, or 12 per cent.; altogether 1,576 of the inhabitants were Europeans. Darjeeling, it may be explained, includes not only the town proper, *i.e.*, the area within municipal limits, but also the cantonments of Lebong and Jalapahar including Katapahar. If these two cantonments are excluded and the figures for the town alone are taken, there was an increase of 1,360, or 9 per cent. during the decade.

92. A census taken at this time of the year only records the population of the town at the end of winter. It is far greater during the hot weather and rainy months, when it attracts a number of visitors who come to escape the heat of the plains or to recruit in its cool climate. A second census was therefore held in September 1911 in order to ascertain its population at this time of the year. The results of the two censuses are shown in the margin. The population of the whole town was only 3 per cent.

	March 1911.	September 1911.
	Total number of persons.	Total number of persons.
Darjeeling Town	17,053	21,553
Lebong ...	1,037	1,569
Jalapahar ...	915	1,574
Total ...	19,005	24,696

it is by no means the same

93. In East Bengal

#### TOWNS IN EAST BENGAL.

reference has already been made. Seven of the eight municipalities of Mymensingh are progressive; the head-quarters town has grown by 35 per cent., Sherpur by 24 per cent., Netrakona by 20 per cent. and Jamalpur by 18 per cent. The only decadent town in this district is Tangail, the population of which has been steadily falling off since 1881. The two towns of Faridpur show steady increases; Faridpur is now nearly 13 per cent. and Madaripur, a large jute centre, 9 per cent. larger than in 1901. In Tippera district, Comilla has an increase of 18 per cent. and Brahmanberia of nearly 12 per cent.

94. Excluding Dacca, which has already been dealt with, the largest town in the Division is Chittagong, the trade of which has developed very considerably since 1901. It has more than made up the apparent decrease disclosed in 1901, and the population is nearly 30 per cent. greater than that then returned. Trade has grown steadily, and is of sufficient importance for one large steamer line to visit the port. Previously navigation was impracticable owing to the low depth of water in the Karnafuli river, but the channel has been considerably improved by dredging. Jetties and warehouses have sprung up, and the town is now a growing centre of commercial and railway activity. Cox's Bazar in the same district has regained the position it had in 1891. In Backergunge there has been a loss of 15 per cent. in Pirojpur and of 13 per cent. in Nalchiti, but Barisal, the head-quarters, shows an increase of 18 per cent. The other towns are progressive, notably Jhalakati, a large centre of trade, which has increased by 14 per cent. and has more than quadrupled its population since

\* The marginal statement shows the season population, according to a special census, of each hill station except Ootacamund, of which no special season census was taken.



1881. In Khulna, the head-quarters station of the same name is advancing rapidly, adding 25 per cent. to its population during the decade. There is also an increase of 30 per cent. in Satkhira, but a large village extending over three square miles was added to it in 1903. The only other town, Debbatta, has been stationary since 1881.

95. Nearly every town in South Bihar has suffered from repeated visitations of plague, and has had to sustain a loss of population. The aggregate population of the seven towns of the Patna district has fallen by 15 per cent. Patna city, as already stated, has sustained a loss at each census since 1881, while Bihar shows an even greater relative decrease. Its population numbered 48,968 in 1881, but gradually fell to 45,063 in 1901. It now contains nearly 10,000, or 22 per cent., less than in the latter year, though it has been connected with the main system of the East Indian Railway by a light railway, and its trade should have developed, had conditions been normal. Its area has, however, been reduced by a square mile, and it has suffered severely from disease, no less than 4,082 persons dying from plague; in only two out of ten years ending in 1910 did the birth-rate exceed the death-rate. Dinapore, where there were 3,205 deaths from plague, has decreased by 2,674, and Barh and Khagaul have also sustained heavy losses. Phulwari, which is a collection of villages rather than a town, is practically stationary, and the only town in the district with a substantial increase is Mokameh. This is a rising trade centre and an important railway junction, through which the grain traffic of the north-Gangetic districts passes, and it has added 11 per cent. to its population.

96. In Gaya, the second census of the headquarters station, as already stated, disclosed a population little less than in 1901; and it is still the largest town in the Province next to Patna and Bhagalpur. All the other towns in this district are small in size, none having 10,000 inhabitants. Plague was prevalent in Jahanabad at the time of the census, and many of its inhabitants had consequently deserted their homes. The result was a diminution by 32 per cent. or 2 per cent., more than that shown by the first census of Gaya, where the more urban population has not the same intimate connection with neighbouring villages. Tekari, in which the population was reduced to nearly half in 1901 in consequence of the deaths and desertions caused by plague, is still on the downward grade, and Daudnagar also has a slight falling off. Both these towns were affected by plague when the census was held, and many had left their homes for unaffected areas. Apart, moreover, from this disturbing element, Tekari is 17 miles and Daudnagar 14 miles from the railway, to which trade flows more and more. Aurangabad and Nawada have an increase of 1,000, and Hisua has a slight increase. The last two towns are on the railway, while Aurangabad is close to it, and all three have benefited by the opening of the Grand Chord Line.

97. In the Census Report of 1901 it was remarked that with the solitary exception of Sasaram, all the towns of Shahabad seemed decadent. The result of this census is to confirm this view, for every town has lost population. The loss is insignificant in Sasaram, which has had a mortality of over 1,000 from plague, but has developed owing to the opening of the Grand Chord Line. It is very great in the case of the four northern towns of Arrah, Buxar, Dumraon and Jagdispur, where it averages 17 per cent. Arrah has been especially subject to epidemics of plague since the last census, the mortality from that cause amounting to 8,747; the actual decrease of population according to the census is 7,621. Buxar, which suffered a decrease of 10 per cent. in 1891-1901, has now another decrease of 19 per cent.

98. The town of Monghyr has now 11,033 persons more than were enumerated in March 1901; but at that time plague was raging and the population was abnormally small. A second census taken in July 1901 gave a population of 50,133, so that there has actually been a decrease of 3,220. The number of deaths from plague recorded in the ten years 1901-11 was 9,666, and had it not been for this mortality, there would probably have been a fair increase. Jamalpur was also partially deserted at the census held in March 1901, when the town contained 13,929 persons: a second enumeration taken eight

months later disclosed a population of 16,302. The number has now risen to 20,526 in spite of 2,000 deaths from plague, but this large increase is mainly due to an additional  $2\frac{1}{2}$  square miles having been included within municipal limits in 1903. In the town as now constituted the ratio of increase is 8 per cent.: it contains large railway workshops to which labourers and artisans are attracted. There are only two other towns in the district, both of which are local trade centres, viz., Khagaria, north of the Ganges, which has lost slightly, and Sheikhpura, south of the Ganges, which has added considerably to its numbers.

99. There has been a general decline of urban population in North Bihar due partly to plague, partly to the increasing volume of emigration and partly to the fact that

TOWNS IN NORTH BIHAR. the towns, as a rule, have no large industries, while their trade, except in agricultural produce, mainly supplies local wants. In Saran the decrease of 1901 has been followed by another serious loss of population, which is shared in by every town. Chapra, which in 1901 recorded a decrease of 20 per cent., has since then had 6,634 deaths from plague, and its population has fallen by 3,528, or 8 per cent. There was a particularly bad epidemic in the early part of 1911, and some of the inhabitants had deserted the town when the census was taken. The rate of decrease is even higher in Revelganj, which has suffered both from loss of trade and from plague mortality: the aggregate number of deaths from plague in the decade 1901—1910 represented 23 per cent. of the population returned in 1901. In Siwan the decrease of 21 per cent. corresponds to the actual loss caused by plague. The two towns of Champaran, Motihari and Bettiah, have been free from this disease, and both have an accretion of population. The municipal area of Bettiah was reduced by half a square mile in 1902, but on the other hand its population was artificially inflated on the day of the census, when the town was visited by the Lieutenant-Governor, and people flocked in from the neighbourhood. These two towns have progressed steadily since 1872, the former having more than doubled, and the latter nearly doubled, its population.

100. The town of Muzaffarpur, which declined by 9 per cent. between 1891 and 1901, has again lost slightly, though there was an addition of a square mile to the municipal area: it now has only 1,200 more inhabitants than it had in 1881. Sitamarhi is the only progressive town in this district; it has been free from plague and has grown steadily since 1881. Hajipur, the only other subdivisional town, is decadent, every census disclosing a further decrease: during the last 10 years plague carried away 17 per cent. of the population. The population returned for Darbhanga in 1901 was unnaturally small, owing to a number of people having left the town for weddings elsewhere; but in spite of this there has been no recovery, but a further small decline (3,616), which may be attributed to plague. Madhubani, on the other hand, was free from plague, but has lost 7 per cent., owing to nearly two square miles being excluded from municipal limits in 1901. Samastipur is stationary, and Rosera has a heavy loss. The two towns of Bhagalpur have also lost ground; the headquarters station, as already stated, has lost slightly, while the population of Colgong has been reduced to under 5,000. In the Purnea district, Katihar, a developing railway junction, is the only town with an appreciable growth. Purnea is decadent, and, though it has added a few hundreds since 1901, is less populous than in 1872. Kishenganj is a centre for the jute trade, but it lies in the fever area and its population is stationary.

101. In Orissa more than half of the urban population is contained within the two towns of Cuttack and Puri. Cuttack with 52,528 inhabitants is the fourth largest town in the Province, and has an increase of 2 per cent. since 1901. In that year it contained a detachment of a Madras regiment, but it has since ceased to be a military station, and there is consequently a slight loss of population on that account.\* The other two towns in the Cuttack district are holding their ground. The population of Puri is always an uncertain

\* The old cantonment has been absorbed by the municipality. Its population at the time of the census was 3,508.

quantity, owing to the floating population of pilgrims. In 1901 it was returned at 49,334 or nearly 21,000 more than in 1891, but 17,085 pilgrims had come into the town for one of the large annual festivals, and the permanent population was 32,259. At the present census also there was an influx of 5,293 pilgrims on account of the approaching *Dol Jatra* festival; if they are deducted, the resident population of the town numbers 34,393 or 6·3 per cent. more than in 1901. This increase is natural, for Puri has developed considerably during the last ten years, owing to its attractions as a seaside resort. Balasore has grown slightly in consequence of an extension of the municipal boundary, but Bhadrakh is stationary.

102. The Chota Nagpur Plateau contains 27 towns, but only two (Ranchi and Purulia) have over 20,000 inhabitants. In the Feudatory States there are only six small towns, with an average population of 6,200, scattered over 28,000 square miles. Most of the towns in British territory have not yet been connected by the railway with the outside world; eight, which have obtained railway communication, are making great progress, their average increase in the last ten years being 25 per cent. In the Sonthal Parganas, Sahebganj has now more than made up the loss of population it sustained by plague in 1901, when the town was partially evacuated. Compared with that year, it has nearly doubled its population, but it has only 3,000 more inhabitants than in 1891. This is a town which owes its development to the railway, local produce being received from the districts of Purnea, Malda and Bhagalpur, as well as from the Rajmahal Hills. Of recent years it has been growing in importance as a trade centre, owing to the development of the trade in *sabai* grass, which is here pressed into bales and exported to Calcutta for the manufacture of paper. Deoghar has added no less than 29 per cent. to its population since 1901, but this apparently large increase is due, to a great extent, to an addition of two square miles to its area: it is a favourite place of pilgrimage, but the pilgrims mostly come in January, February and September, and the census figures were but little affected by them. Both this town and Madhupur are attracting an increasing number of Bengali gentlemen, owing to their reputation as health resorts, but the actual growth of population in Madhupur is still very small. Dumka, the headquarters of the district, which has recently been created a municipality, has a population of only 5,629. The old capital of Rajmahal, which is a subdivisional headquarters and a local trade mart, has only a few hundreds less.

103. Hazaribagh, which was described as slightly decadent in 1901, has now increased by nearly 2,000. Access to this town has been facilitated by the opening of the Grand Chord Line, and though it is still 40 miles from the railway, it is already attracting visitors and permanent residents on account of its healthiness and the educational facilities afforded by its college. Giridih in the same district has benefited by the development of the coal-fields, and has increased by 13 per cent.; but part of the increase must be attributed to the municipal area being extended by  $1\frac{1}{2}$  square miles. The growth of Ranchi since 1891 has been even greater, for in 1901 it recorded a growth of 28 per cent. and it has now added 7,000 more or 27 per cent. to its population. The area of this town has increased by  $1\frac{1}{2}$  square miles since 1901, but it has also developed naturally. At the last census it was 70 miles away from any line of railway, but since then the Bengal-Nagpur Railway has been extended from Purulia, a narrow gauge line being opened at the end of 1907. Its importance both as a sanitarium and as an administrative and commercial centre has increased in an extraordinary degree. New buildings have sprung up, and it has attracted a number of new settlers.

104. Daltonganj, in the district of Palamau, to which the railway has also been extended since the last census, has grown by 23 per cent., while Garhwa, a trading mart, which has been connected with the railway by a good road, has advanced considerably. Purulia, in the Manbhum district, which increased by 42 per cent. between 1891 and 1901, owing to the opening of the Bengal-

Nagpur Railway and the development of the cooly-recruiting business, has registered a further increase of 21 per cent. Chaibasa, the headquarters of Singhbhum, which is still 16 miles away from a railway, has not advanced appreciably, but the opening of the Tata Iron and Steel Works at Sakchi has led to the creation of another town in the district. Sambalpur, the headquarters of the district of that name, returned a population of 14,571 in 1891, but between that year and 1901 some adjoining villages were excluded from the municipal area, and the population consequently fell to 12,870. During the past decade it has advanced very slightly.

## VILLAGES.

105. Both in the Presidency of Bengal and the Province of Bihar and Orissa the vast majority of the population live in villages, the proportion per mille of the total population being 936 in the former and 966 in the latter Province. The term village as used in the census records has very different meanings. In the Province of Bengal as constituted at the time of the census the *mauza*, or survey or settlement village, was treated as the census village, except in four districts; in the districts then included in Eastern Bengal and Assam the residential village was taken as the unit. In other words, the census village corresponded to the *mauza* in all the districts of Bihar and Orissa, except Manbhum, Palamau and Hazaribagh, while in Bengal it corresponded to the *mauza* in the Burdwan and Presidency Divisions, to the settlement village in Cooch Bihar, and elsewhere to the residential village, *i.e.*, a group of houses bearing a separate name.

106. The *mauza*, it may be explained, consists of a parcel of land, the boundaries of which were defined either by the revenue survey over half a century ago or by later cadastral surveys. It usually bears the name of the main village or collection of houses found on it when the survey was made, but it does not necessarily correspond with the latter. It may contain only that one village, or it may contain a number of separate villages, or it may be uninhabited. In some cases the portion of the *mauza* which was inhabited at the time of the survey may have disappeared owing to the village or villages being abandoned, or it may be known by a different name, or new villages or groups of houses may have been established. The area and boundaries of the *mauza*, however, remain unchanged. It cannot disappear, except by being diluviated, and it is therefore a constant unit. The adoption of this unit is an innovation in the Bengal census procedure, the residential village being hitherto the unit, except in cadastrally surveyed districts. The term 'village' was, however, elusive and difficult of definition, while its application proved a source of great divergencies. In some parts the only residential village which was locally recognized was the village which gave its name to the *mauza*; this, consequently, was the only village returned, other collections of houses being treated as hamlets (*tolas* or *aras*). Again, groups of houses at a distance from this village, each of which in the general acceptance of the term would be regarded as a separate village, were grouped together, because they bore the name of the parent village. Elsewhere, however, every collection of houses bearing a separate name was treated as a separate village. The general result in 1901 was summarized by Mr. Gait as follows:—

"There is no guarantee that the definition has been rightly or uniformly applied even now, or that a fresh enquiry would not result in many of the so-called hamlets being classed as villages and many of the villages transferred to the category of hamlets. And if it is difficult now to decide precisely what constitutes a residential village, it will be still more so ten years hence to say what was treated as a village at the present census. In the course of ten years many existing villages will have disappeared on changed their names, while new ones will have sprung up; large villages will have absorbed their smaller neighbours, and hamlets will have grown to the status of separate villages. Detailed comparison between the results of the two censuses is thus impossible where the residential village is taken as the unit."

107. The size of the *mauza* varies very greatly, and some are surprisingly large and populous. This is due to the fact that, at the time of the revenue survey, large tracts were under jungle and were consequently surveyed in large blocks. Since then the jungle has given way to cultivation, and villages have sprung up in what was waste land. Thus, in the west of Midnapore a large tract of jungle land was delimited in 19 blocks; these blocks, which are known as the Jungle Mahals, contain over 20,000 villages between them. Again, in the Gaya district, one *mauza* Kawakhol, with an area of 60 square miles, was treated as a single *mauza*; it now contains no less than 88 villages or hamlets with 14,608 inhabitants. In Muzaffarpur the average area of a *mauza* is 431 acres or about two-thirds of a square mile; but the individual *mauzas* range from a few acres to three square miles, and in the alluvial formation known as *diaras* extend to 19 square miles: in this district one *mauza*, Sarsand, has a population of 10,120 persons. In Purnea, where the population is not so dense, the average size of a *mauza* is a little under one square mile; here the smallest *mauza* has an area of only 5 acres, while the largest extends over 12,621 acres, or nearly 20 square miles. In Champaran the average is 1.14 square miles, or nearly double that of Muzaffarpur, but one *mauza* (Semra Labedaha) has the enormous area of 40 square miles and a population of 16,135 persons, while another extends over 14 square miles and has 11,540 inhabitants.

108. In Saran, a district where the pressure on the soil is very great, the average size of a *mauza* is only a little over half a square mile. Altogether 218 *mauzas* in this district are over 1,000 acres in area, and 697 between 500 and 1,000 acres; the remainder are all under 500 acres. The smallest has an area of less than  $1\frac{1}{2}$  acres; the largest (Shitab Diara) stretches over  $16\frac{1}{2}$  square miles, and contains 5,117 inhabitants. The latter is, as the name indicates, a *diara* tract, and its size is not therefore so extraordinary, but its population shows how, in course of time, *diara* lands are taken up for settled habitation and not merely for shifting cultivation. Parsa, an inland *mauza* in the same district, with an area of  $6\frac{1}{2}$  square miles and 6,479 inhabitants, is far more densely populated. In Bhagalpur, Khawaspur Milik has a population of 10,452 living in 18 villages, while in Puri the *mauza* of Pratap Sasan includes 27 villages with 5,094 inhabitants. A *miluk*, it may be mentioned, was originally a rent-free property granted either for religious and charitable purposes or as a reward for services already rendered or liable to be rendered in the future; a *sasan* was a royal grant of rent-free land to Brahmans, and in Orissa there is still a class of Brahmans designated Sasani as they depend for their subsistence on such grants. The marginal statement shows the number of inhabited *mauzas* and residential villages or hamlets in the districts of the old Province of Bengal which have come under survey and in which the *mauza*

Division.	Inhabited mauzas.	Inhabited villages.
Burdwan	26,132	29,451
Presidency	12,269	21,222
Patna	12,281	22,566
Tirhut	14,262	29,626
Bhagalpur	19,714	22,201
Orissa	15,676	27,291

was taken as the unit.

109. It would be of little use to discuss the statistics for villages in Bengal owing to the difference between the definitions adopted in those districts which were administered by the two Governments, viz., Bengal and Eastern Bengal and Assam, and to the indeterminate character of the unit adopted by the latter. Suffice it to say that the average number of inhabitants per village is 352, and that nearly four-fifths of the rural population are in villages with a population of under 2,000. The least populous villages, as distinct from *mauzas*, are found in North Bengal, and the most populous in East Bengal, the average population being 261 and 391 respectively. The population of *mauzas* varies from 326 in West Bengal to 574 in Central Bengal. As an instance of the variations which may occur in the number of villages found in a district where the residential village is the unit, it will be sufficient to point to Jalpaiguri, where there were 3,330 villages in 1891, 766 in 1901 and 2,219 at this census.

110. In Bihar and Orissa, however, the *mauza* being a permanent unit, the statistics repay examination, though, owing to the change of the

definition of the census village, it is impossible to institute a comparison with the statistics of last census. In this Province the average population is 318. The mean is, however, reduced by the small villages of the Chota Nagpur Plateau, which contain on the average less than half as many people as the villages of North and South Bihar: in the latter area the most populous villages are found in Darbhanga, where there is a dense cultivating population averaging 900 per village. In the Province as a whole nearly nine-tenths of the rural population reside in villages with under 2,000 inhabitants. Large villages with over 2,000 inhabitants are far more frequent in Bihar than in other parts of the Province, the proportion of the rural population enumerated in them being 255 per mille in North Bihar and 178 per mille in South Bihar, whereas in Orissa the ratio is only 55, and in the Chota Nagpur Plateau 25 per mille.

111. In the two Provinces dealt with in this report it is not always easy to distinguish between an overgrown village and a small town having few, if any, urban characteristics. The density and numerical strength of the population are in themselves no criteria, for a village may be a compact area with over 5,000 inhabitants, all or nearly all engaged in cultivation. The main points of difference lie in the occupations of the people, for a town is a centre of trade, or at least has shops catering for the wants of its inhabitants and of the surrounding villages, or it is a place where the majority of the residents are engaged in non-agricultural pursuits. In the villages, however, the majority are devoted to agriculture, there being comparatively few of the industrial classes: such as there are have mostly occupations subsidiary to agriculture or are engaged in handicrafts supplying the simple needs of the villagers. As a rule, the village is purely residential, and shops are few and far between, the villagers getting their supplies at the periodical weekly or bi-weekly markets (*hats*) or the fair (*mela*) to which people flock in from the neighbourhood. In this respect rural Bengal is not unlike mediæval England, where nearly all selling and buying took place at weekly markets or annual fairs. The villages are still, to a very large extent, self-contained, the people meeting their wants from their own resources, but as the tentacles of modern commerce are thrown out further and further, this isolation is gradually being broken into. One sign of the change is the creation of a new type of village, which may be most appropriately described as a railway bazar. They are simply collections of houses, godowns, etc., which spring up in the neighbourhood of railway stations and grow by gradual accretion. They are often little more than crowded *bastis*, their inhabitants consisting of traders, coolies and others dependent on the railway and not on the produce of the fields. Another new type of village consists of the cooly lines in the neighbourhood of mills and mines.

112. The character of the residential villages varies considerably in different parts of the two Provinces. In Bengal the village generally consists of small groups of houses scattered through the rice and jute fields: large compact villages, where periodical markets are held, are usually found only on the banks of the rivers. The villagers live, more or less secluded, in detached homesteads, surrounded by a belt of fruit trees or bamboo thickets: the screen of trees and jungle secures that privacy which the Bengali likes for his domestic life. The oldest villages are almost invariably found on the banks of the rivers or in their neighbourhood, where there are ridges of comparatively high land and of considerable extent. The central basins between such ridges are swampy and unhealthy, but as the population increases and the village site becomes more crowded, the people build their houses further away from the river bank on mounds artificially raised in order to keep them above flood-level. A noticeable feature of the Bengal villages as compared with villages up-country is their cleanliness. The difference between them may be illustrated by an account given by a medical officer fresh from the Punjab: "The very first thing that struck me after coming from the Punjab was the cleanliness of the villages as compared with those of that Province, and also the plentiful and comparatively pure supply of drinking-water. In the Punjab there is often but one irregular shallow pond used by man and beast for washing and drinking, the banks

of which are extremely foul with excrement, which is washed into the water by every shower, and as the dry season progresses, makes the water more and more concentrated sewage. There too in every village it is a common thing for men, women and children to go but a very few yards from their houses to defecate. In this district (Murshidabad) I found nothing approaching this state of affairs: the houses were carefully *leaped* every morning, court-yards were swept, and all the lanes were quite free from human excrement".

113. In Bihar the people are more gregarious. They live in closely packed villages standing on mounds that consist of the *debris* of former habitations; instead of dispersed homesteads we find clusters of mud-walled houses grouped round a main street with narrow side lanes. In densely populated areas, the establishment of a new village is no easy matter, and the growing population has to find accommodation by over-crowding the existing houses or adding yet another house to the congested village site. Most villages are situated in the open, surrounded by dry cultivation, but in North Bihar many are built on the edges of swampy depressions. Some villages are surrounded by groves of palm trees which furnish liquor—strangely enough, the inhabitants of such villages are often Muhammadans, to whom such indulgence should be taboo—elsewhere they stand compact in the midst of bare treeless plains. The sanitation of the Bihar village leaves much to be desired. There is little or no attempt to secure proper drainage or cleanliness. The wells from which the people get their drinking-water supply are frequently neglected and dirty. Some, moreover, are in the inner court-yards of the houses, surrounded by the house drains, the contents of which gradually soak in and find their way into the water by percolation.

114. In Orissa the villages consist of groups of houses, each with a small compound enclosed by a bamboo fence, and containing a vegetable garden. They are screened by a belt of palm, mango and fig trees; close by is the village tank, consecrated or married to a god, in the centre of which may be seen a small column or pole sacred to the deity. Most villages contain a small open shed in which the Bhagabat is recited before the assembled villagers, and in Sambalpur there is generally a rest-house for the accommodation of strangers.

115. In Chota Nagpur the villages are generally built on a ridge or near the crest of a slope, above the spot which the first settlers selected for the *bandh* or reservoir from which to irrigate their fields. They consist, as a rule, of a long straggling row of houses or of a single street with houses on each side, but occasionally contain narrow lanes striking off from the main street. When the village is first formed, the houses stand well away from one another, each with a little plot hedged in, but, as it grows, the villagers have to be content with more contracted sites and smaller enclosures. Trees, so conspicuous a feature of the Bengal village, are few in number; but there is generally a solitary *niyal*, banyan or mango tree near the house of the village head-man, alongside which an open space is usually reserved as the *akhara* or village meeting place. Immediately outside the village, however, there are usually one or more groups of trees (generally *sal* in the villages of aboriginals), or even a single tree representing the grove (*sarna* or *jahira*) sacred to the village deity.\* Many of the villages are very dirty, drinking-water being got from unprotected *kutch* wells, which receive part of the drainage, and their general condition is more like that of Bihar than Bengal. The Santal village is an exception, the Santals keeping their houses and their surroundings exemplarily clean, a fact which partly accounts for the healthiness and vigour of the race.

116. The above account may be taken to apply to most villages in Chota Nagpur, but they vary in character with the race of their occupants. They are not all so bare and treeless as the village described above. The Khond village lies embedded in a leafy grove or at the foot of finely-wooded hills, or crowns some knoll in the valleys. The houses are built in two long rows forming a street; at the back is a fence enclosing the homesteads

\* H. Coupland, Manbhum District Gazetteer.

so that the whole village looks somewhat like a stockade. Both the Ho and Munda villages are distinguished by graveyards with massive slabs, beneath which lie the bones of past generations of the villagers. A collection of these sepulchral monuments invariably marks the site of a Ho or a Munda village; in addition to the slab at the tomb, a massive stone, 5 to 15 feet high, is set up to the memory of the deceased outside the village. The Bhuiya villages in the Orissa hills on the other hand are picturesquely placed at the foot of well-wooded hills by the side of a hill stream. "The village nestles in a fine grove of jack trees, to the fruit of which the Bhuiya is particularly partial. There is one broad street with the houses on either side. The house of the head-man and the village elders is in the centre of the street: on the outskirts live the low castes of Pans and Kols, who perform all the menial tasks of the Bhuiyas. In close proximity to the head-man's house is the *darbar* or *mandap* (drum) house, where the bachelors of the village sleep, and the place in front is used as the village dancing ground. The *darbar* house is also the village guest-house: here are stored the provisions contributed by the villagers and made up into bundles ready for the immediate use of the guest."\* The Oraon villages, on the other hand, are generally huddled together without any attempt at a village street; there are no thoroughfares, but only narrow twisting paths—"a most perfect labyrinth leading to an infinite series of *cul-de-sacs*, each one or more puzzling than the last. A European who finds himself in one of these mazes would find it impossible to get out of it without a guide." †

117. The villages of the aboriginals are by no means always permanent. Should a village be attacked by some epidemic disease, the inhabitants believe that the spot is haunted by some evil spirit, demolish their house and move to some more favourable site. Another feature which deserves mention is that in Oraon, Khond, Bhuiya and Sauria Paharia villages there is generally a dormitory for unmarried boys and another for unmarried girls.

118. In Darjeeling and Sikkim there are no villages in the proper sense of the word, but only homesteads nestling on the hill sides or in the valleys. Occasionally five or six houses are grouped together, but generally each homestead stands in its own land near the patches of cleared cultivation. Clusters of houses, which can be dignified by the designation of villages, are only found in a few bazars to which the people go to obtain their weekly supplies of food. In the Tarai the social unit is not, as elsewhere in India, the village, but the *jot* or farm, *i.e.*, the homestead of a substantial farmer or *jotdar* with the houses of his relations, tenants and farm labourers clustered round it. The *jotdar* keeps the little community together and maintains a store-house, elevated on piles, in which his stock of rice is kept and from which he makes loans to his dependants or furnishes them with seed.

119. On the outskirts of many villages in the plains may be seen a small cluster of houses in which live the degraded semi-Hinduized castes, the 'untouchables' as they are called by the modern Bengali. These consist of dirty ill-thatched houses, which present a very different appearance to the neat, well-swept and tidy buildings of the better class Hindus. In Orissa these detached hamlets are occupied by such castes as the Pans and Gandas, in Bihar by Musahars and Doms, and in Bengal by the unclean Haris and Bauris.

## HOUSES.

120. In Bengal the dwelling house, or, as it may perhaps be more properly called, the homestead, is as a rule composed of four huts, built round and facing a central courtyard, with detached cattle-sheds and out-houses. Two of the huts forming

\* L. E. B. Cobden Ramsay, Orissa States Gazetteer, p. 51.

† Rev. P. Dehon, *Religion and Customs of the Orissas*, Memoirs of Asiatic Society of Bengal, Vol. I, 1906.



the house are used as living rooms—one for the male and the other for the female members of the household—another is a cookshed and the third is the *baitakkhana* or sitting room, where visitors are received and the men sit and smoke. They are usually built on raised plinths, and the walls consist of bamboos or reeds plastered with mud, or are built of earth, which, in the lateritic districts of West Bengal, hardens, with exposure to the air, almost of the consistency of stone. The earth required for the plinth and walls is taken from pits dug in the neighbourhood, which in the rains are full of water and afford congenial breeding-grounds for mosquitoes. The roofs are covered with thatch of considerable thickness, and have a curved hog-backed ridge, especially designed for withstanding the heavy rainfall of the delta. Sometimes the roofs are tiled, and those who can afford it are beginning to roof their houses with corrugated iron (in which they adhere to the same immemorial curve), as a protection against arson, which is a favourite form of crime in some parts of Bengal.

121. In Bihar the houses of the cultivators are, as a rule, mud-walled huts, built of earth dug up in the vicinity, with which broken pottery is mixed, so as to impart solidity. The roof is, as a rule, made of thatch—a frequent source of fire; only the well-to-do can afford tiled roofs. There is no provision for ventilation, but this is no great hardship to peasants who regard their houses merely as places for cooking and sleeping in. In riverain tracts, liable to flood from great rivers, the cultivators live in huts with wattled walls and thatched roofs, for the soil is often so sandy that mud for the walls cannot be obtained, while the risk of their houses being washed away makes the use of other materials a piece of useless extravagance.\* The houses are therefore erected above the level of flood water and are constructed of bamboo framework, thickly plastered over, and thatched with straw. Some of the poorer classes have only huts made of reeds which scarcely support a thatch. These, however, have the advantage of being portable. As a Bengali writer says—“A man like a snail can carry his house anywhere and raise it anew.” The richer classes only live in brick-built houses. The ordinary cultivator either cannot get or cannot afford bricks, and, besides this, there is in some places a superstitious belief that brick-built walls attract the evil eye; the well-to-do, however, know that it is harder for a burglar to break through a brick wall than a soft earthen wall. There is also a prejudice in some parts against square houses; houses should be oblong, and the two longer sides should run north and south.

122. In Chota Nagpur the average house consists of three mud-walled and thatched buildings, one of which is the sleeping apartment, one a kitchen and one a cattle-shed. They are arranged on three sides of a quadrangle; on the fourth or open side is a plot of land, on which are grown various crops and vegetables for domestic consumption. Behind one of the three huts is another plot usually enclosed by mud-walls, in which corn is threshed and fodder and manure are stored. The site has to be carefully selected from superstitious motives. A Brahman or Ojha is consulted as to whether the site is a lucky one and what is an auspicious day for commencing building. Some of the wilder tribes place 21 grains of paddy on the spot selected over-night and return in the morning to ascertain the result. If the grain has been disturbed or attacked by white-ants during the night, the spot is abandoned as unlucky; if it is untouched, the building is commenced.

123. Among some of the aboriginal races the houses are of a very primitive kind. “The huts of the Juangs,” writes Colonel Dalton, “are about the smallest that human being ever deliberately constructed as dwellings. They measure about 6 feet by 8, and are very low, with doors so small as to preclude the idea of a corpulent householder. Scanty as are the above dimensions for a family dwelling, the interior is divided into two compartments, one of which is the store-room, the other used for all domestic

\* The name of the headquarters station of the Saran district, viz., Chapra, is believed to be derived from *Chhapar*, meaning a thatched roof, and is evidence of its liability to inundation in early times.

arrangements. The paterfamilias and all his belongings of the female sex huddle together in this one stall, not much larger than a dog-kennel; for the boys there is a separate dormitory." The narrow entrance, into which the owner is obliged to creep on all fours, is characteristic of the rudest huts used by Dravidian races, and it has been suggested that it is a reminiscence of cave-life. This feature is also found in the Oraon houses, which are small and low, most of them consisting of four mud walls, 15 feet long, 7 feet high and 6 feet broad, surmounted by a thatched roof. In the middle of one of these walls there is a hole  $4\frac{1}{2}$  feet high, which serves as an entrance, the door consisting of two big planks roughly hewn out of the trunk of a tree. Above is a log which supports the wall and is aptly called the *karaphora* or forehead-breaker, whilst on both sides there is a raised verandah, under which the household pigs have their sty. Inside, there are three rooms, in the middle one of which the family live and prepare their food. On one side of it is a room in which the bullocks and the goats are kept; on the other is the granary and store-room.

124. The houses of the Khonds call for special mention, as they are made entirely of wood without a single nail being used. The Khond builds his house himself, his only tools being a hatchet and a chisel. With these he hews out thick planks from the log of a tree, and erects grooved posts to form the framework of his house. Planks are slid into the grooves and bound together by cross-stays, which are fixed by wooden pins and keys. The doors are ingeniously made to revolve in grooved blocks fixed to the frame. The roof consists of thin flat rafters with a thatch of straw, and the only repair it requires is the addition of a layer of fresh straw every year. It takes a Khond two years to build a house, and it lasts from 20 to 30 years. The interior generally consists of two small rooms partitioned off by a railing. One is used for cooking and sleeping in, the other serves as a cattle-pen. The younger members of the family and the servants sleep in a separate room, where the stock of grain is also stored. The grown-up girls sleep together in a dormitory in charge of one of the old women, and there is another dormitory for the young men.

125. An entirely different type of house is found among the hill tribes in the Chittagong Hill Tracts. They are raised about six feet above the ground, access being obtained by means of a rough step ladder. In front is a verandah, behind which come the bachelors' quarters. At the back of the latter are the rooms of the married members of the family, separated by mat walls. They are apportioned according to seniority, one being reserved for the eldest married member of the family and his wife, another for the second eldest, and so on.\*

126. In whatever part of the country they may be, the houses have one common feature, viz., the absence or rarity of windows by which the interior can be ventilated. This is not a matter of much importance in the houses of the lower classes, for the men live out in the open; and for the women there is a certain amount of ventilation through the thatched or tiled roof, or through the walls where the latter are made of reeds or bamboos; there is, moreover, generally a space between the walls and the roof which allows of the perflation of air. The flimsy nature of the walls is really sanitary, and in the hills of Darjeeling and Sikkim the comparative rarity of consumption may be put down to this account. It is a different matter for *pardah* women living in brick-built house. The rooms are jealously closed, and the windows, if any, are small in size, are near the top of the wall, and are securely latticed, so that these are of little use for ventilation. The insanitary effects of the *pardah* system are accentuated in towns. To quote from a report by Dr. H. M. Crake on the sanitary condition of the northern portion of Calcutta:—"No survey of an oriental city can possibly ignore the potent influence of the *pardah* system on its domestic architecture. Obviously, the house is directly inspired by the necessity of securing absolute privacy for the ladies of the household. To effectually seclude the inner apartments from the vulgar gaze, air and light are shut out and the rooms rendered

\* Chittagong Hill Tracts Gazetteer.

unfit for human habitation. It is very common to find the whole of the lower storey of the *zanana*, even in large and valuable houses, given up to godowns and kitchens, the inmates frankly admitting that none of the rooms are fit to live in. I must confess I am astonished at the average kitchen. It is, in a large number of houses, a gloomy, stuffy den, full of acrid smoke, and yet the ladies of the house have to spend hours in these very unpleasant surroundings. The entire absence of chimneys results in an atmosphere which is almost unbearable when cooking is going on in a particularly ill-ventilated kitchen."

### HOUSES AND FAMILIES.

127. The house for census purposes is a social and not a structural unit. As at the last census, it was defined "as consisting of the buildings, one or many, inhabited by one family, *i.e.*, by a number of persons living and eating together in one mess, with their resident dependants, such as mother, widowed sisters, younger brothers, etc., and their servants who reside in the house." In other words, the unit is the commensal family, and not the homestead or enclosure. The value of this definition is that it is easily understood and requires very little explanation: it is, in practice, the definition used in the interpretation of the *Chaukidari Act*, and is no novelty to the people. There were some exceptions to the standard definition, but they were few in number. In the case of Europeans and Anglo-Indians the whole building actually occupied by them was taken as one house. For police lines, jail, dispensaries, lunatic asylums, etc., special arrangements were made. In cooly lines each room with a separate door-way was treated as a separate house, and in the *bastis* of Howrah and Calcutta each hut was numbered as a house.

128. The average number of persons per house as thus defined is 5.3 in Bengal and 5.2 in Bihar and Orissa, which have changed places in this respect during the last decade. The variations between the different divisions are small, the maximum being 5.5 (in Central and East Bengal) and the minimum 4.6 (in West Bengal). In Central Bengal the average is slightly inflated by the figures for Calcutta, where the house was defined as the municipal premise; in West Bengal the low average is due to the immigrant population of labourers living in huts, *bastis* or cooly lines, where each room was numbered as a house. There are 105 houses per square mile in Bengal, or 38 more than in Bihar and Orissa: for this difference the area of waste, hill and jungle in the Chota Nagpur Plateau is mainly responsible. Their relative density is highest in West Bengal with its numerous towns, and then in North Bihar, which has comparatively few towns but a dense agricultural population. Of individual districts, Howrah has most (433) and the Chittagong Hill Tracts fewest (5) houses per square mile.

129. The figures for cities give very divergent results, owing to the fact that in Calcutta and the suburban municipalities of Cossipur-Chitpur Manicktollah and Garden Reach the unit was the municipal premise. In Howrah city, where the Bengal definition of house was adopted, the average number of persons enumerated in each house is only 2.9: this low figure is due to the number of *bastis* with a cooly population where each hut or room was treated as a house. The fall of the average since 1901, when it was 3.4, may be regarded as a result of the measures taken to open them out and prevent overcrowding. With this number may be compared the average of Patna city, *viz.*, 4.8. The variation is sufficient proof, if any is needed, of the difference between conditions in a progressive but congested industrial town and a decadent town with no large manufactures. Both in Patna and in Bhagalpur the average number of persons per house has risen since 1901; in the former the figure is still below that for the district generally, and in the latter it is exactly the same. In the case of Gaya no such comparison is possible, as the place was half empty at the time of the census.

130. The average number of houses per square mile has increased steadily in each Province and in each Division,

PROVINCE OR DIVISION.	NUMBER OF HOUSES PER 100 MARRIED FEMALES AGED 15 AND OVER.	
	1901.	1911.
<b>Bengal</b> ... ..	<b>104</b>	<b>101</b>
West Bengal ... ..	115	115
Central " ... ..	109	102
North " ... ..	101	100
East " ... ..	97	95
<b>Bihar and Orissa</b> ... ..	<b>85</b>	<b>90</b>
South Bihar ... ..	94	96
North " ... ..	85	87
Orissa ... ..	91	86
Chota Nagpur Plateau ... ..	96	94

except in Central Bengal, where however the apparent decrease is due to the change of definition of house in Calcutta and its suburbs. It is difficult to draw from the statistics of census houses any general conclusions as to the number of families, owing to the joint-family system. A house, as defined for census purposes, does not necessarily imply the existence of one married couple with their children: there are probably also sons and nephews with their wives, and the widows of the husband's brothers or his sons' widows, together with their children. The different conditions prevailing may however be

roughly gauged by comparing the number of married females aged 15 and over with the number of houses, as in the marginal statement. It will be seen that the relative number of houses has decreased throughout Bengal, but has increased in Bihar and Orissa except in the Chota Nagpur Plateau.

131. The increase of houses in the latter Province is partly due to the

DISRUPTION OF JOINT FAMILIES.

natural increase of families, but the growing tendency to break up the joint-family is a contributory cause. During the lifetime of the father, the Hindu family, as a rule, lives jointly, i.e., it not only lives together, but its property is also held in common under the managership of the *karta* or head of the family. All who belong to it, e.g., sons, grandsons, nephews, etc., are entitled to maintenance from its funds, and all contribute to the expenses, whether present in the house or absent from it—in the latter case, they are bound to remit their savings home. This system has all the force of a religious institution, being based both on sacred texts and immemorial custom, but there is a general consensus of opinion, that the family is now-a-days more frequently broken up when the father dies. In Bihar, it is reported, it was the general practice, within living memory, for families to remain joint for two, three, or even more generations. Now it is estimated that the number in which the joint system is maintained for any considerable time after the father's death—much less for two generations or more—is less than one-fourth. It is a common practice for brothers to set up for themselves either as soon as their father is dead, or, a little later, while their mother is still living. In most cases, when the adult brothers partition the ancestral property in this way, the younger children have to cast in their lot with one or other of them, the mother generally remaining with the youngest of her children. But, though they set up separate establishments, they often continue undivided in legal and other business affecting their property. Where this is the case among the landlord classes, no application for partition of the estate is presented to the Collector; the rent is still collected in a lump sum, but after it is realized, it is divided among the sharers.

132. Among cultivators, holdings sometimes remain joint for a considerable time after the buildings, furniture, etc., have been apportioned among the members of the family, the division of the produce taking place on the *khalihan*, or threshing floor, after it has been reaped. In the majority of cases, however, when the family ceases to live together, a partition is made of the holdings, and their accounts are entered separately in the landlord books. On the whole, the family remains joint among the peasantry for a longer time than among the non-agricultural classes, the reason being simply that the larger the labour force, the easier it is to till the land. In the case of industrial and professional pursuits, where the personal equation is far more important, the individualistic tendency is more pronounced.

133. In Orissa, as in Bihar, the family generally remains joint so long as the father or mother is alive, but is broken up after the death of the parents. The disruption takes place at once if their sons are married and have children, and, if not, later, when they have married and have children of their own. It is estimated that only one-fifth of the families are now joint. In Sambalpur, which is governed by the Mitakshara law, according to which the son has the same rights as the father in the ancestral property, the sons are more

prone to demand or enforce partition during his lifetime. In other parts of Orissa it is practically out of the question for a son to separate unless he has some independent means of livelihood, whereas in Sambalpur the sons are sure of a share in the property. In this latter district, therefore, the family is more likely to break up after one of its members marries and begins to live with his wife. In Orissa generally, however, the longer a family remains joint, the more are its members held in esteem, for the breaking up of the family, though of common occurrence, is looked upon with disapproval. Neither marriage nor the death of the father necessarily causes the sons to leave the ancestral home. On the contrary, they generally continue to live together in the same homestead, but in separate messes.

134. In cities also the tendency is for the family to continue to live under the same roof but in separate rooms. To quote again from the report by Dr. Crake on the sanitary condition of northern Calcutta :—

“The curious system of actually dividing dwelling houses amongst several co-heirs is a very potent factor in the production of insanitary property. It is quite common to come across what was originally a single dwelling split up amongst three or four relatives. Owing partly to the *pardah* system, but very largely to the bad blood engendered by the almost inevitable litigation which the partition involves, each co-sharer erects as lofty a masonry wall as he possibly can, so as to completely shut off his share from the rest. Though carried out with wonderful ingenuity, the result too frequently is that a noble mansion with spacious court-yards is converted into a number of mean little houses with totally inadequate open spaces, and most of the rooms imperfectly lighted and ventilated. Very often one unfortunate heir can only reach his portion through a long tortuous passage.”

135. The following are the chief causes to which the disintegration of joint families is ascribed.—(1) Some members of the family take advantage of their position to lead a life of idleness and become simply drones, living on the labour of their brothers. As an instance of this, may be quoted the case of an officer in Government employ, who obtained a large increase of pay but was poorer than before, because his elder brother at once threw up his own post and ceased to contribute to the family income. (2) Misappropriation or misuse of the joint property, *e.g.*, the *karta* may devote part of it to his own personal uses or employ it for purposes which do not benefit the family. (3) The family becomes so large, that there is no longer room for all under the ancestral roof. Some of the joint families are exceptionally large forming small colonies—there is a case on record of a joint family with 500 members.\* For the sake of convenience, some of them move out to make homes for themselves. This division is often followed by a partition of the property. (4) Migration. Members of the family leave the home in search of employment, and do not return. Having to live apart from their relations, and finding no chance of returning home, they naturally do not see why they should not obtain a separate share of the property. In Bihar a number of joint families have been broken up on this account, especially among Kayasths who furnish recruits to Government service. Brahmans and Rajputs, who do not so generally find employment in occupations necessitating their absence from home, have, it is reported, a larger number of joint families than the Kayasths. (5) The abolition of the Panchayat system. Formerly disputes between the members of a joint family were settled by the Panchayat quickly and cheaply. Now, they have recourse to *mukhtars* and *vakils*, the result being protracted litigation, embittered feelings, and eventually the impoverishment and dismemberment of the family. (6) Modern tendencies, such as the influence of education, the throwing off of caste-ties, especially in towns, and the consequent weakening of the family bond. These tendencies are confined to the educated classes and mostly come into operation where some members are conservative and others have advanced ideas. The disintegration of the family may be due to their neglect of caste rules or to their wanting to live in a more luxurious or laxer style than their forefathers; in one case a family divided merely because one of them decided to give an English education to his daughters.

\* S. C. Bose, *The Hindus as they are* (1883), p. 2.

136. Women are frequently instrumental in producing the dismemberment of families. This is especially the case where the husbands marry girls from some distant village and from families with which they have little or no past connection. Devoted to their husbands' interests, the wives are jealous of their earnings being used by others, particularly by those who do not contribute to the family income. More petty feelings, less disinterested motives, such as the mutual jealousy of the brothers' wives, the quarrels of their children, etc., also contribute to the breaking up of the family. More than one correspondent points out that it is significant that one of the Sanskrit words for wife, viz., *dara*, comes from a root meaning "to tear asunder."

137. Notes on customs regulating inheritance and partition among the aboriginals of the Chota Nagpur Plateau are given in the appendix at the end of this volume. There appear to be signs that these customs, which are the outcome of an earlier state of development, are gradually becoming modified in tracts where aboriginals are brought into contact with more civilized neighbours. Tribal customs are thus gradually breaking down, and this process will, in the nature of things, become more general as the aboriginals adopt the manners and customs of their more advanced neighbours and as their contact with Hindus becomes more frequent. It may be of value, however, to place on record the customs as they still exist.







SUBSIDIARY TABLE II.—DISTRIBUTION OF THE

PROVINCE AND NATURAL DIVISION.	THANAS WITH A POPULATION						
	Under 100.		100—500.		500—450.		450—
	Area.	Population (000's omitted).	Area.	Population (000's omitted).	Area.	Population (000's omitted).	Area.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
<b>BENGAL, BIHAR AND ORISSA.</b>	<b>40,515</b> 80% <sup>2</sup>	<b>3,548</b> 42	<b>40,139</b> 80% <sup>2</sup>	<b>6,608</b> 191	<b>32,871</b> 153	<b>12,079</b> 143	<b>25,862</b> 112
<b>Bengal</b> ... ..	<b>12,892</b> 163	<b>734</b> 18	<b>4,110</b> 49	<b>976</b> 21	<b>13,683</b> 163	<b>5,167</b> 171	<b>17,017</b> 802
WEST BENGAL <sup>3</sup> ... ..	...	...	<b>888</b> 64	<b>252</b> 20	<b>3,842</b> 875	<b>1,428</b> 169	<b>4,130</b> 292
Bardwan ... ..	...	...	...	...	309	129	1,167
Birbhum ... ..	...	...	...	...	532	304	1,372
Bankura ... ..	...	...	...	...	309	129	1,167
Midnapore ... ..	...	...	888	252	1,589	569	172
Hooghly ... ..	...	...	...	...	1,412	496	752
Hoerah ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	162
CENTRAL BENGAL ... ..	<b>3,256</b> 256	<b>301</b> 37	...	...	<b>619</b> 43	<b>267</b> 33	<b>3,981</b> 372
24 Parganas ... ..	3,256	301	...	...	...	...	90
Calcutta ... ..	...	...	...	...	316	135	1,998
Nadia ... ..	...	...	...	...	119	50	1,283
Murshidabad ... ..	...	...	...	...	184	82	1,082
Jessore ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
NORTH BENGAL ... ..	<b>412</b> 29	<b>49</b> 95	<b>2,085</b> 102	<b>467</b> 64	<b>5,960</b> 270	<b>2,254</b> 176	<b>5,553</b> 270
Bajshahi ... ..	...	...	...	...	524	176	1,152
Dinajpur ... ..	...	...	...	...	2,641	1,018	1,305
Jalpaiguri ... ..	...	...	1,361	278	1,286	480	272
Darjeeling ... ..	412	49	724	150	...	...	974
Rangpur ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	441
Bogra ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	321
Pobna ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	559
Madda ... ..	...	...	...	...	631	300	829
Cooch Behar ... ..	...	...	...	...	678	274	...
EAST BENGAL <sup>3</sup> ... ..	<b>9,224</b> 167	<b>384</b> 20	<b>1,137</b> 21	<b>257</b> 15	<b>3,262</b> 53	<b>1,218</b> 64	<b>3,353</b> 271
Khulna <sup>4</sup> ... ..	...	...	...	...	263	112	348
Dacca ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	618
Mymensingh ... ..	...	...	...	...	1,110	441	398
Fa'ildpur ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	190
Backergunge ... ..	...	...	634	145	1,133	376	1,328
Tippura ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Nokhal ... ..	...	...	...	...	190	75	288
Chittagong ... ..	...	...	513	112	571	212	215
Chittagong Hill Tracts ... ..	2,188	154	...	...	...	...	...
Rail Tippera ... ..	4,666	220	...	...	...	...	...
<b>Bihear and Orissa</b> ... ..	<b>27,623</b> 247	<b>2,814</b> 72	<b>36,029</b> 222	<b>7,632</b> 299	<b>19,188</b> 172	<b>6,912</b> 189	<b>8,845</b> 79
NORTH BIHAR ... ..	...	...	<b>1,276</b> 59	<b>318</b> 29	<b>5,082</b> 252	<b>1,862</b> 139	<b>3,378</b> 156
Saran ... ..	...	...	...	...	1,463	446	...
Samastipur ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Munsherpur ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Darbhanga ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Shahjapur ... ..	...	...	534	117	707	301	2,024
Purnea ... ..	...	...	744	199	2,012	1,115	1,342
SOUTH BIHAR ... ..	...	...	<b>2,885</b> 291	<b>658</b> 55	<b>3,856</b> 869	<b>1,432</b> 164	<b>3,009</b> 209
Patna ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	221
Gaya ... ..	...	...	...	...	1,363	721	853
Shahabad ... ..	...	...	1,804	331	652	228	850
Monghyr ... ..	...	...	589	136	1,721	479	975
ORISSA ... ..	...	...	<b>1,433</b> 774	<b>390</b> 23	<b>2,990</b> 353	<b>1,133</b> 271	<b>1,594</b> 194
Cuttack ... ..	...	...	...	...	1,669	598	391
Balasore ... ..	...	...	212	61	377	159	1,308
Puri ... ..	...	...	1,220	329	944	376	...
CHOTA NAGPUR PLATRAU	<b>27,623</b> 412	<b>2,814</b> 227	<b>30,433</b> 456	<b>6,268</b> 807	<b>7,260</b> 202	<b>2,485</b> 261	<b>864</b> 13
Hazaribagh ... ..	2,742	256	4,279	933	...	...	...
Banahi ... ..	2,477	206	2,463	818	774	370	...
Palamou ... ..	2,599	252	2,222	425	...	...	...
Manbhum ... ..	...	...	1,224	236	2,317	861	227
Stephonom ... ..	820	34	3,071	640	...	...	...
South Parganna ... ..	...	...	1,849	200	3,225	1,051	691
Angul ... ..	1,841	199	...	...	...	...	...
Sambalpur ... ..	847	87	2,321	449	550	199	...
Orissa Feudatory States ... ..	16,464	1,066	11,154	2,092	376	115	46
Orissa Nagpur Tributary States	...	...	602	149	...	...	...

\* The areas shown for West Bengal and Midnapore exclude 41 square miles of uninhabited river beds. The proportions per cent. which the area and population of each group bear to the total.

POPULATION CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO DENSITY.

PER SQUARE MILE OF—

800-750.		750-900.			900-1,050.		1,050 and over.	
Population (000's omitted).	Area.	Population (000's omitted).	Area.	Population (000's omitted).	Area.	Population (000's omitted).	Area.	Population (000's omitted).
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
<b>13,463</b> <i>159</i>	<b>21,263</b> <i>209</i>	<b>14,243</b> <i>108</i>	<b>16,294</b> <i>83</i>	<b>13,267</b> <i>157</i>	<b>9,427</b> <i>68</i>	<b>9,119</b> <i>108</i>	<b>6,821</b> <i>25</i>	<b>10,394</b> <i>122</i>
<b>8,833</b> <i>157</i>	<b>13,781</b> <i>164</i>	<b>9,308</b> <i>201</i>	<b>8,817</b> <i>105</i>	<b>7,228</b> <i>156</i>	<b>5,201</b> <i>62</i>	<b>4,996</b> <i>108</i>	<b>5,862</b> <i>70</i>	<b>9,064</b> <i>128</i>
<b>2,172</b> <i>257</i>	<b>2,287</b> <i>164</i>	<b>1,522</b> <i>150</i>	<b>1,375</b> <i>278</i>	<b>1,130</b> <i>133</i>	<b>551</b> <i>60</i>	<b>513</b> <i>60</i>	<b>834</b> <i>60</i>	<b>1,450</b> <i>171</i>
696	609	404	278	344	...	...	...	...
613	276	163	...	...	...	...	...	...
390	267	170	...	...	...	...	...	...
404	755	498	836	667	373	351	129	112
89	391	266	261	219	178	162	196	254
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	510	944
<b>2,057</b> <i>254</i>	<b>2,456</b> <i>193</i>	<b>3,668</b> <i>206</i>	<b>890</b> <i>70</i>	<b>736</b> <i>21</i>	<b>358</b> <i>28</i>	<b>340</b> <i>42</i>	<b>1,174</b> <i>22</i>	<b>2,713</b> <i>336</i>
27	108	74	168	190	167	142	1,062	1,741
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	32	196
828	429	280	449	275	...	...	...	...
691	490	357	...	...	...	...	...	...
511	1,434	924	365	311	301	198	30	76
<b>2,863</b> <i>267</i>	<b>2,831</b> <i>158</i>	<b>1,860</b> <i>173</i>	<b>2,735</b> <i>122</i>	<b>2,239</b> <i>209</i>	<b>559</b> <i>27</i>	<b>511</b> <i>48</i>	<b>407</b> <i>20</i>	<b>488</b> <i>65</i>
601	448	389	542	398	142	129	...	...
670	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
146	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
306	1,188	770	1,122	877	...	...	...	...
226	289	901	241	302	329	355	194	232
108	779	305	639	349	...	...	212	256
259	128	95	381	315	...	...	...	...
319	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
<b>1,741</b> <i>271</i>	<b>6,207</b> <i>168</i>	<b>4,261</b> <i>224</i>	<b>3,817</b> <i>104</i>	<b>3,123</b> <i>165</i>	<b>3,733</b> <i>107</i>	<b>3,632</b> <i>192</i>	<b>3,447</b> <i>24</i>	<b>4,413</b> <i>232</i>
168	868	387	608	499	...	...	...	...
334	370	265	210	242	318	221	1,261	1,896
213	2,296	1,649	1,190	963	429	463	675	765
113	938	622	282	216	364	316	222	248
673	709	488	466	387	394	380	...	...
...	421	312	261	466	342	341	962	1,110
120	309	194	...	...	644	631	268	281
112	308	152	440	520	496	451	61	112
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
<b>4,630</b> <i>120</i>	<b>7,462</b> <i>67</i>	<b>4,935</b> <i>128</i>	<b>7,477</b> <i>67</i>	<b>6,059</b> <i>158</i>	<b>4,226</b> <i>28</i>	<b>4,123</b> <i>107</i>	<b>959</b> <i>08</i>	<b>1,330</b> <i>23</i>
<b>1,748</b> <i>124</i>	<b>2,950</b> <i>120</i>	<b>1,939</b> <i>127</i>	<b>4,809</b> <i>250</i>	<b>3,914</b> <i>273</i>	<b>3,437</b> <i>157</i>	<b>3,357</b> <i>278</i>	<b>888</b> <i>41</i>	<b>969</b> <i>63</i>
...	1,379	836	3,420	1,969	...	...	256	301
...	...	...	689	506	...	...	...	...
...	803	377	728	674	2,106	2,060	302	312
1,070	788	466	967	785	1,130	1,112	426	400
678	...	...	...	...	181	185	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
<b>1,596</b> <i>205</i>	<b>3,742</b> <i>246</i>	<b>2,483</b> <i>220</i>	<b>1,046</b> <i>69</i>	<b>832</b> <i>207</i>	<b>486</b> <i>28</i>	<b>474</b> <i>51</i>	<b>52</b> <i>04</i>	<b>293</b> <i>22</i>
120	1,176	796	335	411	93	99	34	184
490	1,076	717	...	...	...	...	...	...
433	1,301	827	...	...	...	...	...	...
403	280	143	...	...	...	...	...	...
<b>833</b> <i>123</i>	<b>292</b> <i>55</i>	<b>187</b> <i>44</i>	<b>1,622</b> <i>107</i>	<b>1,313</b> <i>313</i>	<b>303</b> <i>27</i>	<b>292</b> <i>72</i>	<b>4</b> <i>004</i>	<b>40</b> <i>70</i>
184	...	...	1,291	1,036	303	292	...	...
849	292	187	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	331	278	...	...	...	...
<b>456</b> <i>27</i>	<b>498</b> <i>08</i>	<b>326</b> <i>26</i>	...	...	...	...	<b>15</b> <i>008</i>	<b>28</b> <i>02</i>
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
118	355	253	...	...	...	...	...	...
316	142	68	...	...	...	...	15	28
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
23	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

In Midnapore. Those for East Bengal and Khulna exclude 2,886 square miles of the Sunderbans in Khulna. Population are given in italics below the absolute figures for each Province and natural division.



SUBSIDIARY TABLE IV.—NUMBER PER MILLE OF THE TOTAL POPULATION AND OF EACH MAIN RELIGION WHO LIVE IN TOWNS.

DISTRICT AND NATURAL DIVISION.	NUMBER PER MILLE WHO LIVE IN TOWNS.					
	Total Population.	Hindu.	Muslim.	Christian.	Jain.	Par.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
<b>BENGAL, BIHAR AND ORISSA.</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>489</b>	<b>910</b>
<b>Bengal</b> ... ..	<b>64</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>478</b>	<b>572</b>	<b>925</b>
WEST BENGAL ... ..	<b>73</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>615</b>	<b>292</b>	<b>597</b>
Burdwan ... ..	61	94	72	585	402	...
Birbhum ... ..	10	10	10	85	...	...
Bankura ... ..	50	56	25	341	85	...
Midnapore ... ..	36	34	64	647	308	...
Hooghly ... ..	139	141	138	702	1,000	1,500
Howrah ... ..	213	202	243	811	1,000	878
CENTRAL BENGAL ... ..	<b>204</b>	<b>275</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>687</b>	<b>934</b>	<b>992</b>
24 Parganas ... ..	225	249	186	283	330	942
Calcutta ... ..	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Nadia ... ..	59	110	25	115	300	300
Murshidabad ... ..	61	20	34	682	426	...
Jessore ... ..	12	19	8	114	...	...
NORTH BENGAL ... ..	<b>22</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>235</b>	<b>301</b>	<b>605</b>
Rajshahi ... ..	21	53	12	192	337	...
Dinajpur ... ..	9	13	7	35	283	...
Jalpaiguri ... ..	13	12	18	20	28	1,000
Darjeeling ... ..	93	76	132	414	529	1,000
Bangpur ... ..	15	27	9	746	239	...
Bogra ... ..	13	47	7	120	142	...
Pabna ... ..	31	64	23	190	586	...
Mada ... ..	41	35	47	19	619	...
Cooch Behar ... ..	27	29	19	711	348	...
EAST BENGAL ... ..	<b>25</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>308</b>	<b>1,000</b>
Khulna ... ..	21	25	17	120	...	1,000
Dacca ... ..	46	71	32	42	600	1,000
Mymensingh ... ..	27	51	12	94	299	...
Faridpur ... ..	15	25	9	19	...	...
Backergunge ... ..	20	40	11	124	...	...
Tippura ... ..	24	45	14	605	...	...
Noakhali ... ..	5	12	3	61	...	...
Chittagong ... ..	22	34	16	676	1,000	1,000
Chittagong Hill Tracts	...	...	...	...	...	...
Hill Tippera ... ..	30	25	13	126	1,000	...
<b>Bihaar and Orissa</b> ... ..	<b>34</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>369</b>	<b>657</b>
NORTH BIHAR ... ..	<b>28</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>554</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>619</b>
Samt ... ..	31	27	60	398	653	...
Champeran ... ..	21	17	42	346	...	...
Muzaffarpur ... ..	29	25	53	721	...	1,000
Darbhanga ... ..	33	28	66	540	41	...
Bhagalpur ... ..	37	30	101	475	307	...
Purnea ... ..	16	19	12	240	245	...
SOUTH BIHAR ... ..	<b>67</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>182</b>	<b>767</b>	<b>593</b>	<b>1,000</b>
Patna ... ..	147	119	370	894	276	1,000
Gaya ... ..	41	24	100	890	746	...
Shahabad ... ..	55	42	214	467	1,000	...
Mooghyr ... ..	42	26	92	679	287	...
ORISSA ... ..	<b>38</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>201</b>	<b>547</b>	<b>495</b>	<b>...</b>
Cuttack ... ..	38	37	189	828	545	...
Balsore ... ..	35	28	245	431	...	...
Puri ... ..	39	29	7	151	...	...
CHOTA NAAGPUR PLATEAU ... ..	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>306</b>	<b>667</b>
Hasaribagh ... ..	33	29	75	278	297	...
Baschi ... ..	34	49	150	22	492	...
Paismun ... ..	17	16	44	10	...	...
Manbhun ... ..	20	21	26	166	124	...
Singhbun ... ..	21	29	227	122	...	800
Sonthal Parganas	23	27	54	59	314	...
Angul ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...
Samtampur ... ..	24	22	240	62	...	...
Orissa Feudatory States	10	11	79	2	122	...
Chota Nagpur States ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...
<b>Sikkim</b> ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...

SUBSIDIARY TABLE V.—TOWNS CLASSIFIED BY POPULATION.

CLASS OF TOWNS.	Number of towns of each class in 1911.	Proportion to total urban population.	Number of females per 1,000 in 1911.	VARIATION PER CENT. IN THE POPULATION OF TOWNS AS CLASSIFIED AT PREVIOUS CENSUS.				VARIATION PER CENT. IN URBAN POPULATION OF EACH CLASS FROM 1871 TO 1911.	
				1901-1911.	1891-1901.	1881-1891.	1871-1881.	(a) In towns as classified in 1871.	(b) In the total of each class in 1911 as compared with the corresponding total in 1871.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<b>BENGAL...</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>637</b>	<b>+ 15.7</b>	<b>+ 12.2</b>	<b>+ 9.9</b>	<b>- 2.6</b>	<b>+ 31.8</b>	<b>+ 60.6</b>
I.—100,000 and over	2	39.9	507	+ 8.9	+ 35.8	+ 11.4	- 3.8	+ 41.6	+ 87.0
II.—50,000-100,000	3	3.5	567	+ 31.0	+ 3.9	+ 31.3	+ 5.7	+ 63.2	+ 49.6
III.—20,000-50,000	21	26.8	710	+ 30.9	+ 2.0	+ 3.3	- 10.3	+ 6.7	+ 88.7
IV.—10,000-20,000	40	19.6	742	+ 17.7	+ 7.3	+ 3.0	- 4.1	+ 28.2	+ 60.0
V.—5,000-10,000	34	8.5	798	+ 6.8	+ 3.2	+ 10.1	+ 4.0	+ 16.2	+ 34.7
VI.—Under 5,000	17	1.7	774	+ 12.5	+ 10.7	+ 35.0	+ 79.9	+ 179.6	+ 244.9
<b>BIHAR AND ORISSA.</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>932</b>	<b>- 2.8</b>	<b>- 6.7</b>	<b>+ 6.6</b>	<b>+ 13.2</b>	<b>+ 2.7</b>	<b>+ 21.2</b>
I.—100,000 and over	1	10.3	922	+ 1.0	- 18.4	- 3.2	+ 7.4	- 14.3	- 14.3
II.—50,000-100,000	3	14.3	900	- 9.3	- 12.6	+ 6.3	+ 5.3	- 4.2	- 22.3
III.—20,000-50,000	14	35.7	922	- 4.4	+ 4.2	+ 6.1	+ 5.2	+ 2.0	+ 46.0
IV.—10,000-20,000	20	20.8	947	- 1.2	- 9.7	+ 6.0	+ 18.9	+ 20.2	+ 30.8
V.—5,000-10,000	30	16.3	961	+ 3.7	+ 0.4	+ 19.3	+ 29.6	+ 29.5	+ 118.4
VI.—Under 5,000	8	2.6	992	+ 16.3	+ 10.3	+ 37.4	+ 85.3	+ 151.0	+ 42.0

\* The percentage in column 5 represents the increase shown by the census of 1911, in the population of the towns included in each class at the census of 1901. The same principle is followed in the case of column 6 to 9. In column 10 the percentage shows the increase in the population of towns as classified in 1911 over the population of towns as classified in 1871, including the population of towns which have come up from a lower class during the intervening period.

SUBSIDIARY TABLE VI.—CITIES.

CITY.	Population in 1911.	Number of persons per square mile.	Number of females to 1,000 males.	Proportion of foreign-born per mille.*	PERCENTAGE OF VARIATION.				
					1901-1911.	1891-1901.	1881-1891.	1871-1881.	1871-1911.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<b>Bengal.</b>									
Calcutta	896,067	38,002	475	714	+ 5.7	+ 24.3	+ 11.4	- 3.3	+ 41.6
Howrah	179,006	20,965	562	720	+ 13.6	+ 35.2	+ 20.4	+ 8.0	+ 112.9
Coolper-Chhipur	48,178	14,224	565	661	+ 18.2	+ 29.7	+ 19.3	+ 3.0	+ 89.9
Manicktollah	52,787	12,721	694	750	+ 66.0	+ 15.0	- 41.3	- 10.9	- 0.4
Garden Reach	42,395	13,322	637	433	+ 60.8	+ 1.0	+ 194.7	+ 34.3	+ 389.3
Dacca	105,531	16,917	721	398	+ 31.0	+ 10.0	+ 4.1	+ 14.2	+ 68.3
<b>Bihar and Orissa.</b>									
Patna	136,132	15,138	922	86	+ 1.0	- 18.4	- 3.2	+ 7.4	- 14.3
Gaya	49,921	6,240	897	96	- 30.0	- 11.3	+ 5.2	+ 14.2	- 30.3
Bhagalpur	74,349	8,261	861	169	- 1.9	+ 9.0	+ 1.3	+ 4.4	+ 13.7

\* Foreign-born indicates born outside the city or the district containing the city. Calcutta for the purpose of this table is treated as a district. It being impossible to distinguish between those born in Calcutta and Garden Reach, the district-born in the case of the latter towns includes persons born in Calcutta.

SUBSIDIARY TABLE VII.—PERSONS PER HOUSE AND HOUSES PER SQUARE MILE.

DISTRICT AND NATURAL DIVISION.	AVERAGE NUMBER OF PERSONS PER HOUSE.				AVERAGE NUMBER OF HOUSES PER SQUARE MILE.			
	1911.	1901.	1891.	1881.	1911.	1901.	1891.	1881.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
<b>BENGAL, BIHAR AND ORISSA.</b>	5.2	5.2	5.3	6.2	53	78	77	61
<b>Bengal</b>	5.3	5.1	5.2	6.3	105	100	96	75
<b>WEST BENGAL</b>	4.6	4.5	4.5	5.3	133	132	122	102
Burdwan	4.3	4.2	4.2	4.9	122	125	121	107
Birbhum	4.8	4.2	4.2	4.4	117	120	107	103
Bankura	4.9	4.8	5.0	5.2	88	88	89	64
Midnapore	4.8	4.8	4.9	5.0	112	111	103	82
Hoochly	4.1	4.0	3.9	4.2	221	222	223	195
Howrah	4.3	4.5	4.9	5.8	432	373	307	239
<b>CENTRAL BENGAL</b>	5.5	5.1	5.4	6.0	116	119	107	93
24-Parganas	5.4	5.4	5.7	5.8	94	79	68	56
Calcutta*	20.3	20.3	10.1	17.7	1,284	2,021	2,110	1,079
Nadiv	4.7	4.8	5.0	5.4	122	125	119	106
Murshidabad	4.9	4.7	4.4	4.8	123	132	132	120
Jessore	5.0	4.9	5.4	7.0	121	126	120	100
<b>NORTH BENGAL</b>	5.4	5.3	5.5	6.0	97	91	83	73
Rajshahi	4.7	5.1	5.3	6.0	119	111	107	95
Dinajpur	5.6	5.4	5.8	6.8	78	73	87	61
Jalpaiguri	5.2	5.0	5.4	6.1	58	53	42	33
Darjeeling	4.1	4.1	4.9	5.2	55	53	39	34
Raipur	5.0	5.6	5.7	6.2	110	111	100	97
Bogra	5.8	5.9	5.7	7.4	124	106	99	66
Pubna	5.3	5.5	5.9	6.2	146	141	134	109
Meida	5.7	5.4	5.5	5.6	92	86	78	67
Cooch Behar	5.2	5.1	4.9	5.2	87	85	90	69
<b>EAST BENGAL</b>	5.5	5.5	5.4	7.8	94	87	88	57
Khulna	5.0	5.5	5.7	8.9	44	44	43	33
Dacca	5.4	5.6	5.5	6.9	120	129	137	110
Mymensingh	5.8	5.9	5.8	7.6	134	105	96	64
Faridpur	5.1	5.2	5.3	7.3	162	164	150	99
Backergunge	4.9	4.9	4.9	6.2	107	129	120	81
Tippura	5.0	5.5	5.7	8.5	101	144	135	72
Noakhali	5.7	5.5	5.4	9.4	140	127	114	58
Chittagong	5.0	4.9	5.0	5.4	122	111	101	83
Chittagong Hill Tracts	5.8	5.8	5.2	9.8	5	4	4	3
Hill Tippera	5.1	5.6	...	...	11	6	...	...
<b>Bihar and Orissa</b>	5.2	5.3	5.7	6.4	67	62	71	61
<b>NORTH BIHAR</b>	5.1	5.3	5.8	6.6	126	120	109	91
Baran	4.5	5.2	5.5	7.0	129	175	185	125
Champaner	5.5	5.7	6.2	6.1	94	90	84	70
Muzaffarpur	5.5	5.3	5.3	7.0	169	174	153	123
Darbhanga	4.9	5.0	6.1	7.2	179	173	137	109
Bhagalpur	5.2	5.5	5.8	6.1	96	91	83	75
Purnea	5.4	5.4	5.4	6.1	74	89	72	61
<b>SOUTH BIHAR</b>	5.2	5.3	5.8	6.6	98	97	92	78
Patna	5.2	5.2	6.1	6.2	146	150	140	124
Gaya	5.1	5.1	5.8	6.1	90	86	81	74
Shahabad	5.0	5.3	5.7	7.1	86	94	53	62
Monghyr	5.3	5.4	5.7	7.0	96	97	91	71
<b>ORISSA</b>	5.0	5.1	5.2	5.9	103	99	90	75
Cuttack	4.9	5.1	5.1	5.5	117	111	104	90
Balasore	5.0	5.0	5.4	5.9	102	88	59	78
Puri	5.0	4.8	5.2	7.0	82	90	72	62
<b>CHOTA NAGPUR PLATEAU</b>	5.2	5.3	5.7	5.9	36	37	34	30
Haaribagh	5.7	5.5	6.0	6.0	32	32	38	36
Ranchi	5.6	5.3	5.0	5.6	31	33	33	34
Palaman	5.3	5.4	5.9	5.4	26	28	31	30
Manbhum	5.1	5.3	5.3	5.9	74	59	53	42
Singbhum	5.0	5.2	5.3	5.2	36	31	37	33
Sonhal Parganas	5.7	5.8	6.1	6.4	81	77	62	45
Angul	4.7	4.8	5.0	5.8	35	34	11	20
Sambalpur	4.5	4.7	...	...	42	36	...	...
Orissa Feudatory States	5.1	5.1	...	...	27	22	...	...
Chota Nagpur States	4.9	6.0	...	...	50	30	...	...
<b>SIKKIM</b>	5.3	5.3	...	...	6	4	...	...
<b>Other—</b>								
Calcutta	20.3	20.3	10.1	17.7	1,284	2,021	2,110	1,079
Howrah	2.0	2.4	...	...	7,301	5,424	...	...
Cowpur-Chitpur	7.7	6.9	...	...	1,921	1,796	...	...
Manicktoila	6.8	5.2	Not available	Not available	1,782	1,812	Not available	Not available
Garden Reach	6.8	4.2	...	...	1,511	1,947	...	...
Dacca	5.5	5.2	...	...	2,901	2,730	...	...
Patna	4.8	4.1	...	...	2,119	2,633	...	...
Gaya	4.2	5.0	...	...	1,494	1,782	...	...
Bhagalpur	5.2	5.2	...	...	1,556	1,619	...	...

\* The variations in Calcutta are due to changes in the definition of houses. In the calculations for each Province and for each natural division, those areas for which figures are not available have been left out of account.

## CHAPTER II.

**MOVEMENT OF THE POPULATION.**

138. The present chapter deals with the variations in the population that have taken place since 1872, when the first census was taken. The changes which occurred between each census up to 1901 will be only briefly referred to, as they have already been dealt with in previous census reports, and the discussion will be mainly devoted to the variations during the last decade. Figures showing the variations in the population of each district and State are contained in Imperial Table II, and similar information for thanas is given in Provincial Table I. These statistics are further illustrated by the subsidiary tables at the end of this chapter, which deal with (1) variations in the population of districts in relation to density since 1872, (2) variations in the natural population of districts between 1901 and 1911, (3) the difference between the vital statistics for each district and the results of the census, and (4) variations by thanas classified according to density.

139. There is ample evidence of the scantiness of the population in various parts of the two provinces in the early days of British rule. This was largely the result of the terrible famine of 1770, when, according to the estimate made by Warren Hastings, "at least one-third of the inhabitants perished"; even 18 years later the Governor-General had to report to the Court of Directors that one-third of the Company's territory in Bengal "was a jungle inhabited only by wild beasts." Apart, however, from the effects of famine, the unsettled state of the country had long been instrumental in preventing the expansion of cultivation. Rennell's map shows the lower part of the delta as empty of villages, with the words "Depopulated by the Maghs" written across it. Further south, the oppression of the Marathas had reduced the rich province of Orissa to a pitiable state. Of this we have first-hand evidence by Mr. Motte, who, in order to avoid repetition in his account of the journey which he made through it in 1766, remarked: "In my journey it will be unnecessary to say that any place I came to was once considerable, since all the places which were not so are now depopulated by the Marhattas, and such alone remain as on account of their bulk are longer in decaying." Again: "I passed into the talook of Budruc (Bhadra), where I found deep marks of the Marhatta claws on the fine tract of land, formerly well peopled, where a human creature is not now to be seen, except, perhaps, a solitary herdsman, attending a large drove of buffaloes or other horned cattle."\* In many parts it took years for the British to establish the settled rule of peace. The border district of Midnapore, for instance, was liable to periodical invasions by the Marathas, while its western portion was covered with jungle and inhabited by predatory tribes. It was perpetually harassed by the inroads of the Marathas, by armed bands of *sannuasis*, who roamed through the country in many thousands strong, by the raids of aboriginal tribes (generally known as Chuars), and by the turbulence of the jungle chiefs. Even in 1800, after nearly forty years of British occupation, the Collector reported that two-thirds of Midnapore consisted of jungle, the greater part of which was uninhabited and inaccessible.

140. In the districts now included in Bihar and Orissa, the reports of the Collectors and the investigations of Buchanan Hamilton show that large areas were waste or very thinly peopled. Herds of wild elephants roamed through the north of Purnea, and some had even made their way to

\* *Narrative of a Journey to the Diamond Mines at Sumbhulpoor*, Asiatic Annual Register, 1799.

"the woods in the south." Wild buffaloes were exceedingly destructive, and in the north wolves used to carry off a number of children. "The population seems in some places to be diminishing, for the extreme timidity and listlessness of the people have in some parts prevented them from being able to repel the encroachments of wild beasts."\* Only one-fourth of Champaran was under tillage in 1794, and a great part of Darbhanga was uncultivated, partly owing to the famine of 1770, and partly because of the oppression of the farmers of revenue and freebooting zamindars. In 1783 the Collector proposed that cultivators should be recruited from the dominions of the Vizier of Oudh to reclaim "the unpeopled wastes." Thirteen years later one *pargana* was described as "the abode of dreadful beasts of prey," while another was the haunt of wild elephants. Again, Buchanan Hamilton left it on record that part of Shahabad had not recovered from the desolation caused by the wars of Kasim Ali half a century before, and that in some *parganas* a large portion of the land was either overgrown with stunted woods or had lately been deserted. Even as late as the Mutiny the country round Jagdispur was covered with dense jungle in which the mutineers found a retreat, and Government was obliged to have it cleared at a great cost. Similar accounts might be given for other districts, if the limits of space permitted.

141. In the first half of the 19th century attempts to compute the population, or actually to count it, appear to have been made from time to time. The basis of the calculations varied widely, and some of the figures appear so extraordinary in the light of our present knowledge, that it is surprising that they can have been accepted at all. For instance, a so-called census of the district of Patna was held in 1837, and the total population estimated at 845,790, but 284,132 persons, or nearly one-third of the total, were assigned to the city of Patna.† Another census showed the population of the Tirhut district as 1,660,538, the basis of the calculation being a count of houses and the assumption that each contained six persons. Twelve years later the number had fallen by 150,000, and it was naively explained that the population was "supposed to have increased enormously," but it was now calculated at the rate of  $5\frac{1}{2}$  persons a house. Elsewhere, as for instance in Chittagong, the figures were based on an estimate of the area under cultivation, coupled with an assumption that each cultivated acre supported 6 persons. As a rule, however, the estimates were based on the number of houses and the average number of persons supposed to live in each; the average, though generally taken to be 5, was sometimes 4, and in one case as low as  $2\frac{1}{2}$ . How haphazard these estimates were may be realized from the experience of Sir Henry Thuillier, then a young lieutenant, in charge of the revenue survey of a *varqana* in Sylhet from 1839 to 1842. In 1841 he reported to the Deputy Surveyor-General that he did not know that he was expected to undertake a census, and that it would be difficult to make the count so late in the day. Major Bedford, Deputy Surveyor-General, reprimanded Thuillier, though he candidly admitted that the mistake had probably resulted in economy; if the houses were counted and multiplied by a certain factor, that would suffice. Thuillier then pointed out that this gave no indication of the numbers of the sexes, but even this did not defeat Major Bedford. He seemed astonished that Thuillier's wanderings in Jaintia had not given him a tolerably accurate idea of the relative numbers of the sexes, and eventually the numbers were assigned on Thuillier's visual knowledge of that *varqana*. Afterwards, in 1851-52, Thuillier himself, who had in the meantime been appointed Deputy Surveyor-General, in an annual report to the Board of Revenue, showed the figures for Jaintia as having been obtained by a "census taken of the population."‡

EARLY ESTIMATES.

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\* Montgomery Martin, *Eastern India*. Buchanan Hamilton adds:—"This however is only a local and recent evil, and within the last forty years the population has, I am credibly informed, at least doubled." He also speaks of "the immense population by which the country is overwhelmed." These statements can scarcely be credited, for even in 1788 nearly a quarter of a *pargana* with an area of nearly 1,000 square miles lay waste for want of cultivators (*Purnea District Gazetteer*, p. 99).

† Bengal and Agra Gazetteer of 1841.

‡ I am indebted for knowledge of the above incident to a note by Captain F. C. Hirst.

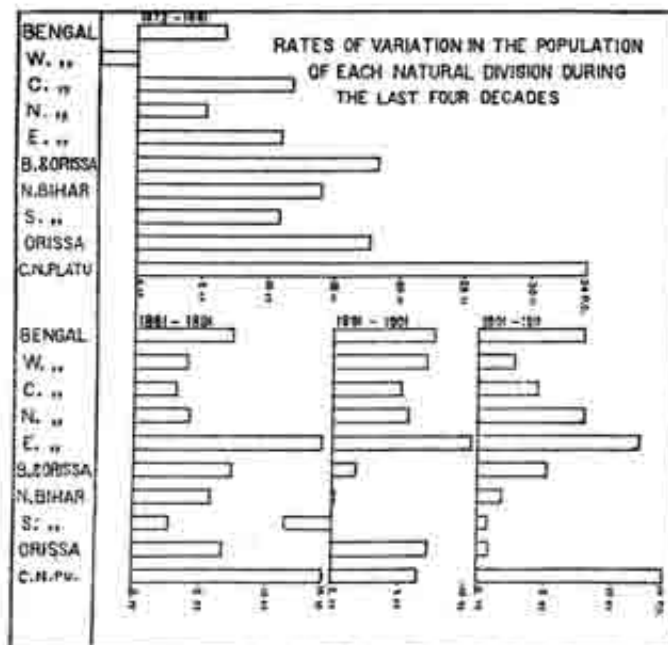


142. The marginal table shows the population recorded at each census,

VARIATIONS SINCE 1872.			Percent- age of increase since previous census.
Year of census.		Population.	
Bengal	1872 ...	34,687,292	...
	1881 ...	37,014,989	6.7
	1891 ...	39,805,942	7.5
	1901 ...	42,881,776	7.7
	1911 ...	46,305,642	8.0
Bihar and Orissa	1872 ...	28,210,382	...
	1881 ...	33,398,931	18.4
	1891 ...	35,904,575	7.5
	1901 ...	36,557,257	1.8
	1911 ...	38,435,293	5.1

more populous by 56.8 per cent. than it was in 1872. Both Central and

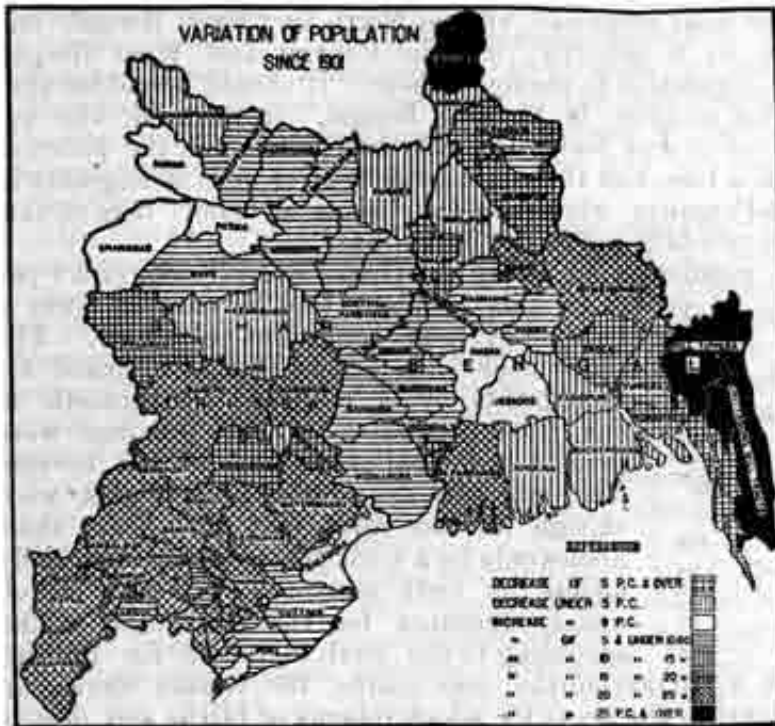
and the percentage of increase during each intercensal period. During the 39 years over which the census operations have extended, Bengal has added 11,618,350 persons or 33.5 per cent. to its population. At every census, except that of 1881, the rate of increase has been greatest in East Bengal—a rich and fertile region, which is now added to their population at every census but the rates of increase since 1872 are less than half that returned for East Bengal. West Bengal, which has grown only by 11.3 per cent., has been the least progressive, owing partly to the decline between 1872 and 1881, when it suffered from the long continued visitation of Burdwan fever, and partly to the small increase (2.8 per cent.) registered in 1911.



143. The population of Bihar and Orissa has grown by 36.2 per cent. since 1872, but part of the increase is fictitious, *i.e.*, it is the result of improved enumeration and not of natural growth. This has been especially the case in the Chota Nagpur Plateau, where the census was defective, in a major degree in 1872, and in a minor degree at each subsequent census. Even allowing for this element of error, no part of the Province has developed so rapidly as this tract, which is peopled by hardy and prolific races, mostly of aboriginal descent, and in which there is room for expansion, large areas being available for reclamation and calling for cultivators. In North and South Bihar also the census of 1872 was wanting in accuracy and completeness, the result being that an increase of over 10 per cent. was returned for both divisions in 1881. The census of 1891 showed a growth of 5.9 per cent. in North Bihar and of 2.7 per cent. in South Bihar, but since then the former has been almost stationary, while the latter has yet not made good the loss of population which it sustained between 1891 and 1901. Orissa developed rapidly up to 1881, when it was recovering from the effects of the famine of 1866, and it continued to progress until 1901. It has now received a check, its rate of increment during the last decade being under 1 per cent.

144. Up to 1905 both the Provinces dealt with in this report formed part of one Province (Bengal), and when the census of 1911 was held, they were divided between the two Provinces of Bengal and Eastern Bengal and Assam.

The general rate of growth up to the latter year in the united Province of Bengal showed a progressive decline, viz., from 12 per cent. in 1881 to 7½ per cent. in 1891 and to 5 per cent. in 1901: this was undoubtedly due in part to the higher standard of accuracy attained at each successive census. The separation of the figures for the two new Provinces shows that there has been a steady but gradual advance in Bengal, the increase in the



percentage of growth being 1·3 per cent. (from 6·7 per cent. in 1881 to 8 per cent. in 1911). In Bihar and Orissa there was a continuous decline in the ratio till 1901, after which there was a sharp rise: in this latter Province the abrupt transition from the increase of 18·4 per cent. recorded in 1881 to that of 7·5 per cent. recorded in 1891 is due to the admitted incompleteness of the first census of 1872. The greater rapidity of growth shown by the present census cannot be connected with any improvement of the census-taking except in the Chota Nagpur Plateau, especially in the Orissa States. Here, there is reason to believe, the better organization effected under the control of the Political Agent resulted in the enumeration of persons who previously escaped the census, and it must therefore be held partly responsible for the high rate of increase recorded (19·6 per cent. as against 9·5 per cent. in 1901). In the case of Sikkim there is no doubt that part of the increase of 49 per cent. recorded at this census is due to improved organization. The census of this State is always a matter of difficulty owing to the nature of the country, its scattered population and the paucity of persons able to read and write. In 1901 an excellent scheme for the census was drawn up by Mr. Gait, then Census Superintendent of Bengal, but, for reasons which need not be discussed here, it was not given effect to. Except in a few bazars, houses were not numbered, and eventually two clerks had to be deputed to conduct the census of the entire population—a task which lasted ten weeks. At the present census, a scheme following the lines laid down in 1901, with some modifications suggested by further experience, was carried out successfully by the Political Officer.

145. The actual increase of population in Bengal since 1901 has been 3,423,866 or 6·7 per cent. Every natural division contributes to the increase, but in unequal shares, as shown in the margin. Immigration is partly responsible for the accretion. The immigrants from outside provinces outnumber the emigrants who have gone to other parts of India by a little over 1½ millions, the excess having increased considerably during the last decade. The main factor, however, is natural growth, and in different parts of the province this largely depends on the strength of Musalmans, who, as is well known, are more prolific than Hindus.

VARIATIONS SINCE 1901—BENGAL

DIVISION.	Increase per cent.	Excess (+) or deficiency (-) of births over deaths per mille.	Percentage of Musalmans.
<b>Bengal</b> ...	<b>6·7</b>	<b>+ 4·8</b>	<b>52·3</b>
West Bengal ...	2·8	+ 1·1	13·4
Central " ...	4·5	- 0·5	49·1
North " ...	8·0	+ 3·0	59·5
East " ...	12·1	+ 9·5	67·2

The immigrants from outside provinces outnumber the emigrants who have gone to other parts of India by a little over 1½ millions, the excess having increased considerably during the last decade. The main factor, however, is natural growth, and in different parts of the province this largely depends on the strength of Musalmans, who, as is well known, are more prolific than Hindus.

The marginal table sufficiently shows how largely their preponderance affects the proportional growth of the population in each division. The increase is greatest where they are most numerous, viz., in North and East Bengal, and least where they are in a minority, viz., in Central and West Bengal, though the immigrant population is strongest there. It should be added that conditions are somewhat peculiar in Central Bengal. It contains the unhealthy districts of Jessore and Nadia, the only two districts in the province which have sustained a loss, and there is a large body of male immigrants in Calcutta and the 24-Parganas who leave their wives at home: it is on this account that the birth-rate falls below the death-rate.

The addition of population in Bihar and Orissa is 1,878,036, or 5.1 per cent. In this province the Musalmans form a small minority, and emigration is active. The number of emigrants to other provinces is in excess of that returned for immigrants by 1½ millions: one-thirtieth of the total population of the province were present in Bengal at the time of the census. The emigrants are mostly adult males, and, though for the most part they leave their homes only for a time, their absence materially affects the birth returns. It is this which mainly accounts for the fact that, while, according to the vital statistics for 1901-10

DIVISION.	Increase per cent.	Excess of births over deaths per mille.
<b>Bihar and Orissa</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>5.2</b>
North Bihar ... ..	1.9	2.1
South .. .. .	0.7	1.5
Orissa ... .. .	0.9	2.6
Chota Nagpur Plateau ...	14.0	9.1

there was an excess of 1,910,000 births over deaths, the census shows an increase of only 1,240,000 in the areas for which returns of births and deaths were compiled. There has been a substantial increase only in the Chota Nagpur Plateau, where it is due to natural growth among prolific aboriginals. In North Bihar there has been a slight advance, but South Bihar and Orissa are practically stationary. The slow rate of growth in these areas is the combined result of emigration, scarcity and epidemics of disease, notably plague, which has caused a mortality of half a million in Bihar. The conditions prevailing in each district and natural division will be discussed later, and here it may be stated that four districts have sustained a loss of population, viz., Saran, Patna, Shahabad and Monghyr.

146. In Bengal, where there had been a succession of somewhat unhealthy years at the end of the previous decade, there was an improvement in the general condition of the people up to 1904. The east of the Province was visited by heavy floods in 1905 and by widespread epidemics of cholera in the next two years. Crops were also short, and their partial failure accentuated the tendency to high prices. After 1907, however, there was again a series of healthy years. In Bihar and Orissa the first four years of the decade witnessed a period of fair agricultural prosperity: the number of births increased, while mortality gradually fell. The three years 1905 to 1908, however, were years of distress. The harvests were short and the price of food-grains ruled high: the decline of the birth-rate and the rise of mortality are symptomatic of the unfavourable conditions prevailing. In 1909, however, the outturn of the crops was excellent, prices fell and a marked improvement in the general health was apparent.

It is almost superfluous to add that conditions even in the same year are exceptionally diverse in different parts of the enormous area covered by the two Provinces. The same year may witness drought and excessive rainfall, a failure of the crops on one side and a full harvest on the other, a rapid extension of cultivation in one direction and the lapsing of well cultivated land into jungle in another. These features will be dealt with later in the sections given to each district.

147. The most prominent feature of the economic history of the last decade is the rise in prices which took place in 1906 and continued during the two succeeding years. While the average price of food varied little from the normal during the first half of the decade (1901 to 1905), it suddenly rose in 1906 in a marked degree, this rise becoming accentuated in 1907, till in August of that year the average price of rice was 58 per cent., and the maize 70 per cent. above the previous normal. The crops of 1907-08 being also

#### RISE OF PRICES.

short, there was no appreciable reduction next year in the price of these cereals, the first of which is the great food-staple of Bengal, while the latter is consumed largely in Bihar. The rise of prices was not confined to these two Provinces, but was more or less general throughout India, and was due to common causes. It is not proposed to trespass into the region of economics by discussing these causes, but some of the contributory factors operating in Bengal, Bihar and Orissa may be mentioned, as illustrating the change of economic conditions in this part of India and the manner in which it has affected the people.

148. In the first place, there was a poor outturn of food-crops, and of rice in particular, for four successive years (1904-07), accompanied by a rapid advance in the price of jute. The area under jute expanded enormously, rice fields being given up to the cultivation of jute in many districts: it has been estimated that 40 crores of rupees were paid for the jute crop of one year (1906), and that of this sum  $15\frac{1}{2}$  crores were clear profit. The shortage of the stocks of rice, combined with an increase in the buying powers of a large proportion of the cultivators, led to an unprecedented demand for the grain; and the high prices naturally induced those who had stores of rice to sell what they could, keeping only the minimum required to carry them on till the next harvest.

The enhancement of prices and the high level at which they stayed were partly also due to the action of dealers and merchants, who, with increased facilities for inter-communication, are now able to control the grain trade to an extent previously unknown. Much of the trade which used to be carried on locally between the actual cultivators and grain-dealers in local bazars, has now come under the control of large firms at the chief commercial centres. Their agents penetrate into rural tracts where they were unheard of 15 or 20 years ago, and buy up surplus stocks of grain before even dealers in the nearest towns can make a bid. Their operations are well described in the following extract:—

“In India the initial stage of ‘cornering’ is not ordinarily the result of the action of individuals, but of the elements, as represented by a deficient rainfall. This reduces the supply, and prices automatically rise, but the indications are that the prices to which food-stuffs have risen in certain years have not been raised entirely by the natural action of insufficient rain, or even by an inflation of the currency, but have been artificially raised, and this could only have been done by the action of dealers in food-grains. These men do not actually form a ring for cornering purposes, but they belong to the same caste in each of the different parts of the country, and act together apparently by instinct, and hold back their stocks, for the purpose of artificially raising prices, on the smallest encouragement, *i.e.* the smallest shortage of grain. When normal conditions return, after having reaped a rich harvest, if money is at the same time plentiful, they can afford to hold back their stocks, partly with the object of maintaining high prices, and partly for speculative reasons, gambling for another year of scarcity, and they have been encouraged in this manœuvre by the many years of apparent slight scarcity during the past fourteen years. If successive years of plenty follow, they are forced to sell, and prices fall, but only slowly.”\*

149. Generally speaking, the cultivators, who form the vast majority of the population, benefited by the high range of prices, but it must be remembered that with them an increased income does not always mean increased resources, but rather greater opportunities for unproductive expenditure, *e.g.*, on marriages and other social or religious ceremonies. The savings of years may in this way be spent in a single week. This is especially the case among the less highly developed races, such as the aboriginals of Chota Nagpur, who are improvident and thriftless. Living only for the present, they love to spend all that they get and never trouble to save. In Singhbhum, for instance, the Hos devote their surplus stores of rice to making rice-beer and consume them in drink: it is estimated that in the Kolhan a quarter of the rice crop is converted into liquor. In the Sonthal Parganas, again, the scarcity of 1908 coincided with an abnormal increase in the consumption of country spirit, the cultivators having obtained high prices for their lac.

The high range of prices had a very different effect on the non-agricultural sections of the community, and especially those members of

\*F. J. Atkinson, *Rupee Prices in India, 1870 to 1908*, *Journal of the Royal Statistical Society*, September 1909.

the middle classes who are dependent not on agriculture, commerce and industries, but on the fixed salaries which they obtain in clerical and professional employment. To them high prices meant straitened circumstances, if not actual privation. So much was this the case, that the Government instituted a system of "grain compensation allowances" in view of the diminution of their assets which the high prices of food entailed.

150 The landless labourers, formerly the most destitute of all, were not much affected. Those who were ready to travel could find ample employment in the coal-mines, mills, factories, etc., where wages have risen and are far higher than in rural areas. In the case of the coal-mines, for instance, it has been estimated that in the ten years ending in 1903 the wages of all classes of workers had been increased by about 50 per cent. "In the year 1894," writes the Chief Inspector of Mines, "the manager of a large colliery said that he took care that any miner who was willing to do a fair day's work should get not less than 4 annas per day, and that most of his work-people got one hot meal every day, as if these workers were exceptionally well off as compared with other miners. I believe that 4 annas a day was almost above the average wage at that time, but now it is not at all uncommon to be told that the miners earn 5 annas, 7 annas, and more than these amounts per day, that a miner and his wife earn Re. 1 per day between them, and so on. And the wages of other labourers have, consequently, risen accordingly."<sup>\*</sup>

In districts where the wages of field-labour have not risen appreciably during the last ten years, the labourers should *a priori* have suffered from the pinch of high prices. In such districts, however, they are paid not in cash but in kind; and while the quantity of produce they receive remains unchanged, its value has increased. In other parts agricultural labour is paid in cash, but the labourers' wages have risen. In several Bengal districts, indeed, local labour has to be supplemented by the influx of immigrants from Bihar and Orissa, and the demand being in excess of the supply, wages are regulated thereby.

151. There appears to be no doubt that there has been a general rise in the standard of living of the present generation. Many things which were formerly regarded as luxuries are now articles of ordinary use. Not the least significant change is the way in which rice is displacing coarser grains as a daily article of food, *e.g.* the lowest classes in parts of Bihar and Chota Nagpur, who seldom had a meal of rice, are now able to indulge in it. There has at the same time been an undoubted improvement in the staying powers both of the small cultivators and the landless labourers, especially in North Bihar. In giving an account of the famine of 1873-74, which was most intense in the district of Tirhut (*i.e.*, the present districts of Darbhanga and Muzaffarpur), Sir A. P. (now Lord) Macdonnell stated that the raiyats were so impoverished, and so unable to bear up against the failure of a single season's crop, that one-third of the population was at one period in receipt of relief from the Government. In 1896-97, when the distress was at its highest, more than three-fifths of the persons in the Patna Division who were in receipt of relief belonged to the districts of Muzaffarpur and Darbhanga, but, instead of forming one-third of the population of those districts, they formed less than 3½ per cent. of it. The lapse of ten years has shewn a further improvement, for in the Darbhanga famine of 1906-07 the percentage of persons relieved to the population of the distressed area was only one-third of what it was in the previous famine, while the proportion was still smaller in the famine of 1908-09.

The change which has taken place must be mainly attributed to the greater mobility of labour, which again is the result of the extension of railway communications. When scarcity is felt, a larger proportion of the people leave the district and obtain labour elsewhere, remitting their savings home. The volume of emigration, in fact, corresponds to the state of the crops. If they are good, it diminishes; if there is a failure, it is larger and lasts longer. The one section of the community, which appears to be stationary, consists of the professional middle classes (*bhadralok*) of Bengal who do not engage in commerce or industries. They do not reduce their expenditure on the social and religious ceremonies

<sup>\*</sup> Report of Chief Inspector of Mines for 1903.

incidental to their position, though the expense of maintaining that position has increased. At the same time their ranks are swelled, and competition is rendered keener year after year, by the growing number of recruits from schools and universities.

152. There was, as already stated, a large extension of the area under jute during the first part of the decade, and fears were at one time expressed that the area under food-crops was being reduced below the limit of safety. There appear to be no valid grounds for such fears, for the subsequent lowering of the price of jute resulted in the shrinkage of jute cultivation, and rice has partially regained the area which it lost. Even in the jute-growing districts of Dacca, Mymensingh, Faridpur and Tippera the area under jute is still less than a third of that under rice. It has been proved, moreover, that rice and jute can be raised from the same land, provided that it is fertile enough; but it must be admitted that the ordinary cultivator is averse to such double cropping, as it involves continuous and somewhat exhausting labour.

There is no doubt as to the extension of rice cultivation to tracts where it was formerly unknown. In 1877 Sir William Hunter wrote in the Statistical Account of Bhagalpur:—“Throughout the south of Bihar, all along the hills from Rajmahal to where the Son river enters at the south-west corner of Shahabad district, the people are poor, and the country is barren and only just reclaimed from jungle. Rice has been comparatively recently introduced, and is still too scarce and dear to be the staple food of a people who had long been accustomed to support life on more hardy grains and on jungle produce, such as the fruit of the *mahua* tree.” In this area rice is now grown wherever irrigation is possible, and much has been done to extend irrigation. In Monghyr the Kharagpur reservoir alone has so greatly extended the area under cultivation that the rent-roll of the estate benefited by it has risen by 300 per cent. in 30 years.

Formerly the cultivator distributed his capital and labour far more squally between rice and other crops, such as oil-seeds, pulses, etc. Now, the good prices commanded by rice, and the facilities for export afforded by the railway, have led him to concentrate on rice. This is not an unmixed benefit, for rice is often grown on uplands imperfectly irrigated and unsuitable for its growth. Areas which used to produce millets and maize, on which the people subsisted, have been turned into rice-lands of which the outturn is often uncertain and precarious. Such cultivation is, in fact, speculative, the peasants abandoning the grains which form their daily food for the sake of the larger profits which rice yields.

153. Three districts were affected by famine during the decade, viz., Darbhanga, Ranchi and Puri. A number of other districts suffered from scarcity, which in places almost approached famine, but the cultivators, with improved resources, were able to tide over their difficulties with the aid of loans, and it was not necessary to declare famine. Such scarcity was most acute in Bankura, Nadia, Muzaffarpur, Sonthal Parganas, Bhagalpur, Cuttack, Balasore and Angul.

154. In Darbhanga the famine of 1906-07 affected an area of about 1,690 square miles, or one-half of the district, with a population of nearly 1½ million. The famine was primarily due, not as usual to drought, but to floods. In July 1906 the rivers debouching from the Himalayas overflowed their banks, causing considerable damage to the crops. The first flood had scarcely subsided, when it was followed by another of unprecedented height and duration. Almost the whole affected area was submerged for about a fortnight, the *bhadoi* crop being destroyed and the paddy seedlings swept away. By the time the water had subsided, it was too late to plant out fresh seedlings, except in the Madhubani subdivision, where, however, the crop suffered greatly from subsequent drought. In the end the *bhadoi* crop yielded only 12, and the winter rice 27 per cent. of the normal. *Rabi* crops were sown over a larger area than usual, but the prolonged drought which followed the floods, and heavy rainfall at harvest time, reduced their yield to barely half the average. The total outturn of crops for the year is estimated to have been barely one-third of the normal. The harvests of 1905-06, moreover, had been poor, the yield being only two-thirds of the normal. The result was widespread scarcity.

but it was acute enough to necessitate the declaration of famine only in five of the ten thanas of the district, viz., the Darbhanga, Bahera and Rosera thanas in the Sadar subdivision, the Warisnagar thana in the Samastipur subdivision and the Benipati thana in the Madhubani subdivision. Of these, the Rosera and Bahera thanas (in the south-east of the district, where the famine was especially severe) suffered most. The famine continued till August 1907, when a bumper *bhadoi* crop brought it to a close. Except during the first stage of the distress, i.e., immediately after the floods, the percentage of persons relieved to the population of the distressed area was only 2·66 per cent., their average daily number being 38,945.

155. The affected area had not fully recovered from the effects of this famine before it was visited by another, which was brought about by drought. Owing to the failure of the monsoon rains in 1908, the *bhadoi* crop had a very poor yield, and the winter rice crop, which is the mainstay of the people, was an almost total failure. There was scarcity, more or less acute, throughout the district, except in the Dalsinghsarai and Samastipur thanas. The failure of crops was most severe in the Sadar and Madhubani subdivisions, where famine was declared and relief operations had to be undertaken. In the Samastipur subdivision the only area where scarcity existed was the Warisnagar thana. This subdivision is a rich, fertile tract, with uplands suited to the cultivation of *bhadoi* and *rabi* crops, and is not dependent on winter rice like other parts of the district.

Distress was acute from February 1909 up to the end of May 1909, when it was mitigated by the commencement of the rains and the consequent resumption of agricultural operations. During these four months agricultural employment was almost entirely non-existent, except for a short time during the *rabi* harvest. This harvest, however, had little effect in relieving distress, as the crop was very poor for want of moisture. The most severely affected parts were the east portion of the Bahera thana, the Singhia outpost of Rosera, and portions of the Darbhanga, Phulparas and Benipati thanas. The average daily number of persons relieved (53,609) was greater than in 1906-07, but their proportion to the total population of the affected area was less and amounted only to 2·22 per cent.

156. In 1908 there was famine in Ranchi for the first time since 1900. After that year the crops were more or less normal until 1906-07, when there was a bumper crop, the bulk of which was exported owing to the enhanced demand caused by the failure of crops elsewhere. The famine was due to the early cessation of rain in 1907, and was intensified by the very large exports. The total rainfall was in excess of the normal, but it was very badly distributed. August was abnormally wet; the rainfall in September was quite up to the average in quantity, but the whole of it fell in the first few days, and, except for one or two slight local showers, there was no rain in the district after 9th September. The result was that the early rice suffered from damp, while the winter rice dried up owing to insufficient moisture. The oil-seed crops withered, and the *rabi* was a total failure.

The area in which famine had to be declared consisted of thanas Kurdeg, Kochedega, Chainpur, Bishenpur, Ghagra and Gumla (all in the Gumla subdivision), with an area of 2,261 square miles and a population of 237,238. Relief was also required in Sisai thana and a part of Sonahatu thana, while test-works were opened in Burmu and part of Tamar. The whole affected tract was 3,402 square miles with a population of 447,461. The distress varied from scarcity in Burmu to actual famine in Bishenpur, but in the area in which famine was declared the ratio of persons on relief works to the population affected was only 1·59 per cent. It would undoubtedly have been greater but for the exodus of able-bodied labourers. Instead of the emigration season closing as usual in April, it continued right through the hot weather and even into the rains, when, as a rule, cultivators are very unwilling to leave their fields. The mortality reached a high figure (46·5 per mille) owing mainly to severe epidemics of small-pox, fever and cholera, which were rife throughout the district. There were no deaths directly traceable to starvation or privation, but in consequence of high prices and general distress the people succumbed to disease more readily than would have been the case in an ordinary year.

157. In Puri there was famine, in 1908, in two separate tracts, of which the former consists of the islands and sea-face of the Chilka Lake in the south-west of the district, while the latter, which also borders on the sea, lies at the extreme north-east of the district. The former, which may be described as the Chilka tract, has an area of 143 square miles with a population of 25,038; the latter, which is known as the Marichpur tract, extends over 178 square miles with a population of 74,345. The Chilka tract, which has a sandy, salt-impregnated soil, is not subject to floods to any considerable extent, but it cannot withstand the effects of drought. It has only one crop viz., winter rice, which is very largely dependent on an adequate rainfall in September and October; and in 1907 there was almost an entire failure of this later rain. In the Marichpur tract conditions are somewhat similar, winter rice being the chief, and in some parts the only, crop, but unlike the Chilka tract, it is subject to inundation from the Devi and other rivers running through it. Here floods did great damage to the standing rice crop, and the failure of the September and October rains destroyed much of what the people were able to retransplant.

158. Fever is such an important factor in Bengal, Bihar and Orissa, whether considered from a statistical, sociological or economic point of view, that a brief description of its distribution is required, especially as no comprehensive account of the liability of different parts of the two Provinces to fever has hitherto been published. Year by year it is silently and relentlessly at work. Plague slays its thousands, but fever its ten thousands. Not only does it diminish the population by death, but it reduces the vitality of the survivors, saps their vigour and fecundity, and either interrupts the even tenor, or hinders the development, of commerce and industry. "A leading cause of poverty—and of many other disagreeables in a great part of Bengal—is the prevalence of malaria. For a physical explanation of the Bengali lack of energy, malaria would count high."\* The present account is brief and sketchy considering the complexity and intrinsic importance of the subject, but, owing to the necessary limitations imposed on a census report, more cannot be attempted.

159. The vast majority of deaths are returned under the generic head of fever, owing to the predilection of chaukidars for fever as the cause of death in any case not palpably due to cholera, small-pox or plague. Inquiries made by competent observers show, however, that the mortality actually due to malarial fever is very much smaller than would appear from the returns. A special investigation (referred to at greater length below), which was conducted for three years in a rural area of Burdwan, where over 70 per cent. of the deaths were ascribed to fever, proved that nearly half were due to other causes, chiefly respiratory diseases. Even worse results were obtained by an investigation into the actual causes of so-called fever deaths in a small Bengal town, where the standard of intelligence and efficiency should *a priori* be higher. In this town a Deputy Sanitary Commissioner went from house to house to verify the recorded deaths, and found that, out of twenty deaths, ascribed to fever, three only were due to malaria, and even these were doubtful. The diagnosis of the cause of death was, in the majority of cases, extraordinary. Three deaths were due to old age, dropsy or bronchitis. One was a case of convulsions, and another of septicoemia. Two deaths could not be traced, and in two other cases living persons were reported as dead.

160. The medical officers deputed to assist the Bengal Drainage Committee, during the special inquiry held in 1906-07, also made investigations into the actual causes of the deaths reported as due to fever. In Nadia they found that 40 per cent. of the cases investigated were due to malaria, acute or chronic, and the remaining 60 per cent. to bronchitis, pneumonia, phthisis, dysentery, diarrhoea, typhoid, Leishman-Donovan infection, and other causes. In Jessore they found that 35 per cent. were due to malaria, while phthisis was responsible for 9 per cent., and dysentery and diarrhoea for 11 per cent. A similar inquiry was held in the Dinajpur district in 1904, when it was found that less than one-third of the deaths classified as due to fever were actually caused by malaria. The general result of these different inquiries is to

\* R. E. Vernele *An Ignorant in India*, 1911.



show that approximately one-third of the deaths imputed to fever are the direct result of malaria.

161. In many localities where malaria has long been prevalent and become endemic, it does not cause any exceptional mortality. In parts of the Tarai, in particular, the incidence of malaria is high, but the inhabitants, such as Tharus, Meches and Rajbansis, seem inured to it. Major A. B. Fry, I.M.S., Deputy Sanitary Commissioner, Bengal, writes that, on visiting malarious districts for the first time, he was struck by the well-developed and prosperous appearance of the inhabitants, even in the malarious villages. "Although with spleens large enough to reach the umbilicus, and with malarial parasites in their blood, and having attacks of fever frequently, the children as a whole looked quite fat and healthy, not particularly anæmic, and seemed little affected by the malaria and were playing about and seemed to enjoy life." In fact, though malaria prevents any large increase of population, it is not inconsistent with a small or moderate increase provided that other conditions are favourable.

It must, however, be remembered that malaria is the indirect cause of a large proportion of deaths owing to enfeeblement caused by its repeated attacks. Malaria, and the lowered vitality resulting from it, is a predisposing cause in both phthisis and dysentery, so that it is responsible, in part, for the prevalence of these diseases and for the mortality ascribed to them. There can, in any case, be little doubt as to the prejudicial effect of malaria on the birth-rate, both by causing abortion and still-birth, and also by diminishing the reproductive powers of persons whose systems are weakened by continual attacks. Further, as stated by a statistical authority, "from an economical point of view common sickness is more important than deaths, for it is the amount and duration of sickness rather than the mortality that tell on the prosperity of a community (Dr. Dickson)."<sup>\*</sup>

162. It is only recently that the various types of fever and their prevalence in different localities have been scientifically investigated. It has been shown conclusively that Central Bengal is subject to a bad type of malarial fever, where its prevalence is due to, or is facilitated by, two causes, viz., the water-logged state of the country and the insanitary condition of the villages. The general situation may be summed up in the words used by Captain Stewart and Lieutenant Proctor in their description of one typical district: "The excessive prevalence of malaria as a whole can be attributed directly to the great facilities afforded to the breeding of mosquitoes, chiefly by the presence in and around the villages of jungle, dirty tanks, ditches, marshes and casual water in every direction, and, to a lesser degree, to the *bils* and dead rivers acting in the same way in some cases. In its turn, the presence of so much water in the villages is due, in part, to the carelessness and ignorance of the inhabitants, and in part to the want of natural drainage in the country, owing to its position in a deltaic tract, where the process of land-building is still going on. The rivers are gradually heightening their banks and beds, until the drainage is away from instead of towards them. The subsoil water is unable to drain away rapidly, remains long at high level after the wet season, and prevents the soaking in of rain-water resulting in casual collections of water remaining for long periods in every hollow, natural and artificial. It is the combination of these two factors, the high subsoil water and the jungly and insanitary condition of the villages, that results in so high a malaria rate. The pits, hollows and jungle in the villages† would in themselves be insufficient to account for so great a prevalence of the disease, were they not combined with the lack of natural drainage, which allows the surface collections of water to remain for so long a time; and on the other hand, so far as our present knowledge goes, the high subsoil water has no connection with the disease except in so far as it is a cause of these surface collections of water. The silting up of the rivers is merely one sign of the

<sup>\*</sup> A. Newsholme, *Vital Statistics* (1899), p. 38.

† Major A. B. Fry, I.M.S., to whom I am indebted for assistance in preparing this account of the localities affected by fever, writes:—"Tanks containing enough water to remain full all the year, contain enough fish to destroy all larvæ, provided the latter are unprotected by excess of weeds. Clean tanks are larvæ-free..... The effect of jungle is variable, but I am convinced that the undoubted fact that jungly villages are more malarious is explained by the fact that jungle is a measure of the age of a village; the jungly villages are old villages with broken surfaces and foul soil. It is quite conceivable that a village situated within a solid unbroken circle of bamboo growth, with only a narrow exit and with tanks and water outside the ring, might be adequately guarded against mosquitoes and fever."

lack of natural drainage, and apart from that is not in itself a cause of malaria to any large extent."\*

163. Conditions similar to those described above also exist in North Bengal and the alluvial tract of West Bengal, in both of which malaria is prevalent. In West Bengal it occurs not only in water-logged localities, but also on the dry uplands. The geological formation of the latter is favourable to the retention of water in places where the surface is uneven, for the soil has an impermeable stratum which prevents percolation. Here stagnant pools remain until a dry season comes in. The number of infected mosquitoes goes on increasing, and, *pari passu*, the number of infected people, the one reacting the other. The river districts of East Bengal, such as Dacca, Backergunge and Tippera, are the least malarious. "In these districts the rivers are open, tidal, and clean-banked. When the rivers silt up at the mouth, the district is at once changed in character, and will be found to be amongst the worst in the Province. Dinajpur, Jessore, part of the 24-Parganas, Faridpur and Nadia are examples of this class. In Faridpur these two conditions are seen within thirty miles of each other. The Bhushna thana is as malarious as any part of Bengal, while Palang and the *char* thanas are free from the scourge. Were it not for Bhushna and some of the western thanas, the death-rate from fever in Faridpur would be comparatively low. Jessore and Dinajpur are full of old water courses that have gradually silted up; the natural drainage of the district is upset, the subsoil water is phenomenally high, and the whole place is water-logged."† On the other hand, cholera is nearly always more prevalent in river districts than in drier areas. In the latter, epidemics rage sometimes with extraordinary virulence, but in the river districts cholera is almost an annual visitation. The explanation seems to be the practice of defecation on the banks of *khals* or rivers and the consequent pollution of the water. The severity of the disease depends on the rainfall and the quantity of water flowing in the rivers. When rainfall is short, the current slow, and the volume of water small, the disease is rife. When rainfall is heavy and there is a good flood, it is rare.

164. In Bihar the condition of most villages is probably more insanitary than in Central and North Bengal. They are mostly free from jungle, but they are congested and badly drained; the drinking-water supply is often neglected, measures being rarely taken to protect the wells and preserve their purity. The earth required for building the houses is dug up in their immediate vicinity, the excavations forming dirty pits, where water remains stagnant for a long time. Moreover, the cowsheds, as in Bengal, are close to the houses, and in them the mosquito finds a resting place undisturbed by smoke.‡ Most villages are surrounded by rice cultivation, this wet crop being grown almost up to the doors of the houses. In North Bihar many villages stand on the edge of large marshes. Extensive areas are swampy and liable to inundation from the rivers, which leave water lying over the country till November. The drainage, as in North Bengal, is obstructed by deserted or silted-up river channels.§ Conditions, however, vary even in the same district. The south of Champaran, a dry area, is practically free from malaria, but in the submontane swampy area to the north the people are fever-sodden. In the north of Bhagalpur malaria is rife; on the south bank of the Ganges in this district, and also in Patna and Monghyr, it is absent.

165. In the upland plateau of Chota Nagpur, where there is good natural drainage, where the soil is dry and porous, and where wet crops are not grown to such an extent as in Bengal and Bihar, malaria is far less common, but it is distinctly prevalent in the valleys. "In some of the shut-in valleys in this part of the Province it is possible to find places that are perfect death-traps. These are usually valleys with rich marshy soil and a slow stream wandering through them. Malarial infection is so rapid and so deadly, that inhabitants of the districts usually avoid these spots choosing

\* Report of the Drainage Committee, Bengal, 1909.

† Report of the Sanitary Commissioner, Bengal, for 1904.

‡ The proximity of cowsheds to houses is an important factor in the propagation of malaria.

§ In Saran the country is so closely cultivated, that in some places the natural drainage channels have been brought under tillage.

the more healthy parts for locating their villages."\* The villages at the foot of the *ghats* below the plateau or on the escarpments, and those actually on the edge of plateau, are also very malarious.

166. In Orissa most of the big villages have a main street, with houses in a row, which is kept clear of trees and jungle, but behind the houses, and on the outskirts of the village, conditions are similar to those obtaining in a typical Bengal village. The country is deltaic, rice cultivation is seen everywhere, and Cuttack is largely under irrigation from the canals. "One can," remarks Major A. B. Fry, I.M.S., "only suppose that the reason why the irrigated portions of this district are not heavily malarious is that the amount of existing infection has not reached a numerical value high enough to cause widespread epidemics. The supply of anophelines has certainly in many places reached the numerical value, and I shall not be surprised to find a heavy epidemic occurring in the near future."

167. Plague first appeared in Bengal in 1898, when there were two outbreaks, one in Calcutta and the other in Backergunge.† In the early part of 1899 it again visited Calcutta, and there were also outbreaks in ten rural districts. In the cold weather of 1900-01 the disease spread over a larger area. Since the last census it has established itself firmly in Bihar, coming and going with the seasons with wonderful regularity. It is most prevalent in the winter, practically disappears or remains dormant throughout the hot and rainy seasons, and reerudescs with the advent of the cold weather, attaining its greatest virulence in the first three months of the year. At first, the epidemic was confined to those parts where easy communication and grain markets existed, e.g., in Patna from 1900 to 1904 the tract along the East Indian Railway and the surroundings of Bihar were attacked every year, while the south-west of the district remained immune. The disease thrives in congested areas, and the people have recognized this by evacuating their houses and encamping in the open. This so far is practically the only measure they take to avoid attack, and inoculation has found little favour. The only district in which it has been resorted to on any extensive scale is Gaya, where 23,000 persons were inoculated by their own free will during the epidemic of 1900-1901. The success of inoculation in this district was due to the popularity of the Collector and the Civil Surgeon and to the confidence they inspired: in no other district has the same result been obtained.

1901	...	...	70,388
1902	...	...	25,369
1903	...	...	56,972
1904	...	...	70,450
1905	...	...	116,769
1906	...	...	56,708
1907	...	...	79,867
1908	...	...	14,105
1909	...	...	9,613
1910	...	...	45,309
Total	...	...	545,450

168. The marginal table shows the actual number of deaths recorded as due to plague during the ten years in the Province of Bihar and Orissa. The vast majority occurred in Bihar, for Chota Nagpur and Orissa have been almost immune from this scourge. The districts of Patna, Saran and Shahabad have suffered particularly severely, the ratio of plague deaths during the decade to the population of 1901 being 90, 80 and 30 per mille respectively.

The trading classes appear to have lost most heavily from plague. "It is not the trade itself but its environment that is responsible for the increased death-rate or for the immunity of those who engage in it. All shop-keepers, especially grain-dealers and Halwais or sweetmeat vendors, show a very great mortality from plague. It is almost always the village shop-keepers who are first attacked with plague: they usually introduce the disease, and they always suffer the most. These men have dark, rat-infested store-godowns. In Calcutta, Barh and many other towns it is the bania's quarter from which most deaths are

\* Report of the Sanitary Commissioner, Bengal, for 1904.

† As the people of Bengal, Bihar and Orissa seem to think that plague is a new visitation, and that its causes are mysterious, I may be permitted to mention that a Muhammadan historian (Mu'tamad Khan) gives an account of an outbreak of plague in the Deccan in 1619, which clearly indicates the presence of the plague rat and also that the evacuation of houses was then, as now, the chief means of escape from attacks. "When it was about to break out, a mouse would rush out of its hole, and, striking itself against the door and the walls of the house, would expire. If, immediately after this signal, the occupants left the house and went away to the jungle, their lives were saved; if otherwise, the inhabitants of the whole village would be swept away by the hand of death. If any person touched the dead, or even the clothes of a dead man, he also could not survive the fatal contact."

returned. Unfortunately the raiyat's house is his grain-store as well as his abode ; hence in the agricultural villages the conditions under which he and his family live are not very different from those of the city bania. Consequently, though not a shop-keeper, his family usually suffers severely. The men who have no such houses, such as Nats (gipsies) fishermen, herdsmen, almost entirely escape. Further, in rural areas, the death-rate is much greater amongst women and children than amongst men, the reason being that they are more at home.\*

169. Epidemics of plague have been conspicuous by their absence in nearly all parts of Bengal, Calcutta being the only place in which there has been any considerable mortality. The immunity of Bengal is remarkable, because there is a constant influx of labourers coming from infected areas to seek employment in the fields, or on the railways, or in the mills and factories. The causes of this immunity were first pointed to, in 1906, by Major Clemesha, I.M.S., who remarked :—“A house so constructed as not to be suitable for rats to live in, and not containing any food to attract rodents, would probably remain non-infected unless a case of pneumonic plague was placed in it. There is the greatest difference between the Bihar and purely Bengali villages. In Bihar the mud houses are closely packed together, so as to utilise every available inch of ground. There are no streets, narrow passages between the walls only remaining. The village is compact ; it may consist of several *tolas* or hamlets separated by a considerable distance, but each such *tola* is a compact, overcrowded unit. In Bengal exactly the opposite tendency prevails. Villages are long straggling lines of houses built on the highest part of the land to be above flood level. Usually each house is buried in a thicket of bamboos and rank vegetation, having its own compound, and the individual houses being often some distance apart. Undoubtedly, the Bihar village is the ideal type for plague to flourish in. It is certainly infested with rats. Conversely, it would appear that the Bengali village is not a suitable location for the virus. Plague has fairly frequently been introduced into such a village, but it has not spread to more than the members of the household. To-day, practically all Eastern Bengal is free from the disease. I am not able to say definitely as to whether this type of village contains less rats than the Bihar variety, but I am inclined to think that this is the case. It is, however, certain that there is comparatively little overcrowding : the houses are much better ventilated and lighted, and are made of a material which allows rapid exchange of air. I am inclined to the view that these conditions and the possible scarcity of rodents have a considerable influence in rendering these districts unsuitable as a habitat for the plague virus. With most of these districts there is considerable communication with Calcutta, and yet it is only in Bihar and in cities that plague has obtained a foothold.†”

170. Further inquiries have established the fact that the immunity of Bengal, and particularly of Eastern Bengal, is due to the scarcity of plague rats, which again is a consequence of the structure of the houses and the habits of the people. The results of these inquiries are summarized as follows :—

(1) Eastern Bengal has suffered very little from bubonic plague ; a few epidemics only of pneumonic plague have occurred. (2) The physical features of the country protect it, to some extent, from the importation of infection and would tend to limit the opportunities for spreading the disease if it once broke out. (3) The freedom from plague can chiefly be attributed to the scarcity of rats in the houses as compared with other parts of India. (4) *Mus rattus* is comparatively rare in Bengali houses, because of the habits of the people, in respect of their greater regard for neatness and tidiness, both in and around their dwellings, which diminishes the food supply of the rodents. (5) The structure and design of the Bengali home, whether it be of the solid masonry type on the one hand or of the flimsy matting or grass type on the other, afford little shelter for rats. (6) The presence of natural enemies of *Mus rattus*, such as the musk rat, may assist in maintaining a low rat infestation of the houses.‡

Commenting on these conclusions, the Editor of the *Indian Medical Gazette* remarks :—“The writer gives a very favourable account of the neatness

\* Major W. W. Clemesha, I.M.S., *An Account of Plague in Bengal*, Indian Medical Gazette, Volume XLI, 1906.

† *The Journal of Hygiene*, Plague Supplement I, p. 192 (Dec. 1911).

‡ *An Account of Plague in Bengal*, Indian Medical Gazette, Volume XLI, 1905.

and tidiness of the houses of Eastern Bengalis as compared with those of the inhabitants of other parts of India, and while these habits of tidiness help to keep away the rats, the construction of the houses does even more. When the houses are *mucka*, i.e., built of brick and mortar, the walls naturally afford little harbourage for rats, and the *kutchas* houses of thin bamboo matting or wattle, with a roof of corrugated iron, split bamboo or thin thatch, gives even less shelter to these rodents. The country-tiled roofs, which are so infested with rats up-country, are not seen in Eastern Bengal. In fact, the rat is a domestic animal in the thick mud-walled houses necessary to protect against heat and cold in Upper India, while in Eastern Bengal he finds but few places to live in and, in fact, is not a domestic animal.\*

171. The principal irrigation works in the two Provinces are the Son, Orissa and Midnapore canals. The average area (in square miles) irrigated in each of the decades ending in 1890, 1900 and 1910 was as shown in the margin. During the last decade the Dhaka canal, a small work in the Champaran district, was completed, being first used for irrigation in 1905. The Tribeni canal in the same district is under construction and has been partially completed. The Son Canals irrigate the greater part of the district of Shahabad and small portions of Gaya and Patna.

After their introduction in Shahabad a large area of waste land was brought under the plough, and the cultivation both of rice and sugarcane rapidly increased: the area under rice is now 50 per cent. more than it was before the construction of the canals. In Gaya the canals, which irrigate the two thanas of Daudnagar and Arwal, have turned neglected waste into fertile fields. Speaking of Daudnagar in 1812, Buchanan Hamilton remarked:—"Some of the best land even is neglected, and is chiefly occupied by poor-looking woods of the *valas* (*Butea frondosa*)." His description of the country round Arwal is equally depressing, for he observed:—"A great portion is neglected, and, where the soil is poor, is chiefly over-grown with thorns of the stunted *niub*. Where the waste land is rich, it is over-grown with harsh long grass." The appearance of this tract is now very different, as it includes some of the best rice-growing land in the district. Since 1872, Daudnagar has added nearly 45 per cent. and Arwal 33 per cent. to its numbers.

172. In Shahabad also there was a large increase of population in the irrigated areas up to 1891, but the census statistics of the last 20 years do not show any general correlation between growth of population and the benefits of canal irrigation. In fact, throughout the northern thanas

THANA.	Percentage of area under irrigation in 1910.	DENSITY PER SQUARE MILE.			
		1911.	1901.	1891.	1881.
(1) Shahpur ...	22	825	730	790	777
(2) Iiro ...	37	824	601	643	541
(3) Buxar ...	29	473	407	504	529
(4) Dumraon ...	29	661	735	769	749
(5) Bikramganj ...	34	525	504	497	490
(6) Dehri ...	31	546	537	496	466
(7) Karganar ...	14	376	365	391	393

(numbered 1—4 in the marginal statement) there has been a serious decline since 1891, whereas in the central thanas (numbered 5—7) the pressure on the soil has been increasing. There is a general belief locally that since the construction of the canals malarial fever has spread and increased in intensity. That this belief is well founded may be gathered from the finding of the Committee appointed to enquire into the administration of the Son Canals. "It is," they remarked, "a matter of notoriety that Shahabad was formerly one of the healthiest districts in Bengal. It was not free from fever by any means, but it was less malarious than other districts. There can be no doubt that it does not now enjoy this comparative exemption from malaria. Fever now appears to be more common in all the Bihar districts than it formerly was, but nowhere is the increase greater and more marked than in Shahabad. This change is attributed partly to the dampness of the subsoil occasioned by irrigation, and partly to the obstruction of drainage occasioned by the canal embankments. It is an obvious conclusion to connect increased malaria with increased dampness. The change, moreover, cannot be attributed to any other cause with any show of reason.

\* An Account of Plague in Bengal, Indian Medical Gazette, Volume XLI, 1906.

We think that, in the districts irrigated by the Son, the complaints of injury to health are well founded, and that the tracts so irrigated suffer now more severely than other tracts which are not commanded by canal water.\*

On the other hand, the census returns for the last twenty years show that, of the three thanas where most land is under canal irrigation, Bikramganj and Dehri have a substantial increase, while in the third (Piro) the decrease is very small. The explanation of the results of these twenty years must be sought elsewhere. It appears to be simply that the thanas in which there has been the greatest loss (all of which lie along the banks of the Ganges and are traversed by the railway) have suffered severely from plague and that this scourge has not affected those further inland and away from the railway.

173. In Cuttack, which is served by the Orissa canal system, the inquiries made during the settlement show that the increase of cultivation in irrigated lands is no greater than in non-irrigated lands. "All the inquiries made have failed to elicit any evidence of a substantial extension of cultivation to lands which but for the canal water were not likely to have been reclaimed."† The canals have, however, given a large area immunity both from famine and flood. The canal embankments protect nearly 550,000 acres, where every year the inhabitants used to be kept on the alert, for two or three days at a time, waiting for a signal to fly to the highest ground available, and were obliged to see their houses washed down on all sides without having any power to save them. As regards famine, it will be sufficient to

refer to the terrible famine of 1866, when the mortality was estimated at one-fifth to one-fourth of the population, and to quote the conclusion of the Indian Irrigation Commission that now few parts of India are more secure from such visitations. The marginal statement shows the increase in density since

THANA.	Percentage of area under Irriga 100 in 1910.	DENSITY PER SQUARE MILE.			
		1911.	1901.	1891.	1881.
Jagatsingpur ...	21	770	764	725	685
Tirtol ...	9	470	461	432	426
Balepur ...	31	963	899	802	674
Kendrapara ...	18	832	771	714	650

1881 in the thanas where over 5 per cent. of the area is under canal irrigation.

174. Three large schemes, designed for the drainage and consequent reclamation of swampy areas, have been carried out in Bengal. Two of these schemes, viz., the

**DRAINAGE SCHEMES.**

Howrah and Rajapur schemes, which drain an area of 50 and 270 square miles respectively, benefit the district of Howrah; the former was completed in 1885 and the latter in 1894-95. The third, which was brought into operation in 1873, consists of the Dankuni drainage works in the Hooghly district. These schemes have proved very successful in reclaiming useless swamps and improving other lands. In years of heavy rainfall the surplus water is drained away by means of channels and sluices; in years of drought water from the Hooghly is let in for the purposes of irrigation. The people are thus assured of good harvests both in years of drought and in years of heavy rainfall. Two thanas have been especially benefited by these schemes, viz., Dumjor, where the population has increased 33 per cent. since 1891, and Jagatballabhpur, where the increase amounts to 17 per cent. In Amta, where there is waterlogging similar to that which used to prevail in these two thanas, the increase has been only 9 per cent., though it has been opened up by the Howrah-Amta Light Railway.

175. The most important drainage scheme in progress during the decade was the Magra Hat scheme, which is designed for the drainage of a marshy tract extending over 290 square miles in the south of the 24-Parganas. The conditions which formerly existed in this tract may be realized from a description written 30 years ago. Fever was constantly present in every village; other diseases found a congenial home; the productiveness of the land was only a fraction of what it should be. The inhabitants, it was said, might be regarded as "inured to a semi-amphibious life by a long course of preparation resulting in the survival of the fittest." This state of affairs is becoming a thing of the past, even though the scheme has not yet been fully

\* Report, 1888, pp. 27-28.

† S. L. Maddox, Orissa Settlement Report

completed. Its effect is already shewn in the census returns for villages situated in the affected tract. The population of these villages was 272,734 in 1901, but has now risen to 352,702, the rate of increase being 29 per cent., which is far in advance of the general rate of growth for the district, in spite of the fact that this tract contains an agricultural population, whereas others are industrial centres. In the same district the construction of a sluice in the neighbourhood of Diamond Harbour has already had remarkable effects, though it was only completed in 1909. Prior to its construction there were 100 square miles of swampy or waste land; now this area is covered with rice cultivation, the annual value of which is nearly 38½ lakhs of rupees, while the value to the tenantry of one year's crops only is estimated as approximately twice the actual cost of the scheme.

176. There have been large extensions of railway communications in both Provinces during the decade. The Eastern Bengal State Railway has completed a line from Kaunia to Dhubri and Gauhati, and thus brought the Assam Valley within easy reach of Calcutta and Bihar. The extension of the Bengal and North-Western Railway from Hajipur to Katihar and the linking up of Katihar with Godagari by the Eastern Bengal State Railway have furnished a through route across the North Gangetic districts, stimulating emigration from Bihar to Bengal and Assam. The Assam-Bengal Railway has completed communication through the hill section of the line between Chandpur and Dibrugarh, thus opening up a new route to the tea-gardens of the Assam and Surma Valleys, which is much quicker and easier than the old river routes. Lines have also been made to Noakhali and Ashuganj on the Meghna, and from Kaunia to Bogra on the Eastern Bengal State Railway. The increase in the mileage of railways in this part of Bengal has not resulted in a decrease in steamer traffic; on the contrary, the facilities afforded by the steamers have been increased considerably, and they now penetrate the recesses of the delta more extensively than they used to do. In West Bengal the East Indian Railway has constructed a line from Ondal to Sainthia, which passes through the centre of Birbhum and connects the Sadar station (Suri) with the Chord Line at Ondal on one side and with the Loop Line at Sainthia on the other. In Central Bengal the Murshidabad-Ranaghat branch has been added to the Eastern Bengal State Railway system: it takes off from the main line at Ranaghat in Nadia and runs through that district to Lalgola Ghat on the Ganges in the extreme north of Murshidabad.

177. In Bihar and Orissa the Grand Chord line, traversing the districts of Manbhum, Hazaribagh, Gaya and Shahabad, was opened in 1906, and the Purulia-Ranchi line, a light railway connecting Ranchi with Purulia on the Bengal-Nagpur Railway, in 1907. In the latter year also, the Midnapore-Bhojudih-Gomoh section of the Bengal-Nagpur Railway in the districts of Manbhum, Bankura and Midnapore was opened to traffic. This line completed the through connection, east and west, of the Manbhum colliery area, and also opened up the district of Bankura, which till then was not served by a railway. Further west the Barun-Daltonganj branch of the East Indian Railway has given Palamau connection with the main line and afforded its coalfields access to the north-west. North of the Ganges the most important new line is the Hajipur-Katihar extension of the Bengal and North-Western Railway along the left bank of the Ganges. Its value to North Bihar can hardly be exaggerated, as it traverses the districts of Purnea, Bhagalpur, Monghyr, Darbhanga and Saran, and has branches to the Ganges opposite Bhagalpur and Monghyr. Another extension of the same railway is the Mansi-Bhaptiahi line, which runs from Mansi near the Ganges to Bhaptiahi near the Nepal frontier. This line connects Bhagalpur city with the Supaul and Madhipura subdivisions, and in Monghyr provides direct communication across a tract seamed with rivers and channels, where traffic by road used to be most difficult.

Three light railways have also been opened. In Patna a light railway was built from Bakhtiyarpur to Bihar, which was extended to Silao in 1909. In 1905 a line from Barasat to Basirhat in the 24-Parganas was opened, and in the same year the Mayurbhanj light railway, which connects Baripada, the headquarters of the Mayurbhanj State, with Rupsa on the Bengal-Nagpur Railway.

178. The value of new lines of railway to the tracts which they traverse, in affording an outlet for their produce and also to their surplus labour, needs no explanation; but, as pointed out in the Census Report of 1901—"It does not follow that this benefit will be reflected by an immediate growth of the population. Very frequently the tendency is the other way. The cultivator benefits by the rise in prices, but there is no waste land available for new settlers, while on the other hand the landless labourer is enabled to move more easily and for shorter periods to places where there is a greater demand for his services." These remarks are very fully confirmed by the results of this census, which show that the effect of a new line of railway is to relieve congestion in populous districts rather than to attract permanent settlers to undeveloped tracts. In the densely populated district of Cuttack, in which railway facilities have recently been introduced, the number of immigrants has not increased, whereas the number of emigrants has increased by over 50 per cent. In Ranchi, again, where the railway is only a few years old, the number of emigrants has already so far increased that they represent 20 per cent. of the number born in the district.

179. Sometimes the construction of railways appears to be, actually or potentially, prejudicial to the health of the people, owing to the facilities which they afford for the introduction or dissemination of disease. Their function is that of carriers, and they carry disease as well as goods. This seems to be especially the case with plague, a contributory cause, no doubt, being that grain godowns, infested by plague rats, are naturally most common in the towns or stations situated along the railway. In twelve towns, for instance, situated on the railway in Bihar (which are also along or within a few miles of the Ganges), we find that since 1901 there have been 60,000 deaths from plague, representing one-eighth of the population of that year.\* On the other hand, the districts of Orissa and West Bengal (such as Bankura and Midnapore) have benefited by the railway taking pilgrims, who previously plodded wearily on foot to and from the shrine of Jagannath at Puri, and spread cholera in all directions along their line of march. There is also a potential source of danger in the form of 'borrow pits,' from which earth is excavated for railway embankments. They are not continuous but separated from each other by intervening banks of earth. In the rains they form stagnant ponds, from which water cannot drain away and in which the fever mosquito breeds and multiplies.† So far there is ground for the common, though vague, belief of the people that fever is connected with the railway, but, on the other hand, where such embankments exist, fever is as prevalent in tracts far removed from the railway as it is near the line.

180. Railway embankments may also obstruct the drainage of the country. The Indian Railway Act (section 11) requires railway administrations to provide waterways sufficient to enable the water to drain off the land near or affected by the railway as rapidly as before its construction, but it is open to question whether it is physically possible to do so, and there is no doubt that in areas liable to inundation, the embankment does frequently alter the drainage of the country. On one side the floods are deeper and last longer than before, and the soil becomes waterlogged; on

\* Cf. the following remarks in the Journal of the Royal Statistical Society for February 1912 (page 348)—"Two further Reports by Mr. M. Greenwood, Jun., on the Statistical Investigation of Plague in the Punjab, are published in a supplementary number of the *Journal of Hygiene* (December, 1911). The first deals with the relation between the proximity of villages to railways and the relative frequency of epidemics. Comparing villages in the whole of the Amritsar district with those within two miles of the railways, it was evident that the latter were the more frequently infected. But villages near the railway are, on the whole, the larger villages, and a large village is, *ipso facto*, the more likely to be infected. Correction being made for size, it appears that proximity to the railway still remains as an effective factor, leading to an increase of plague owing to the increased personal communication between villages and centres of constant infection."

† The following remarks recorded by the Sanitary Commissioner in his Annual Report for 1904 apply *mutatis mutandis* to railway embankments. "The question of constructing roads is in certain districts a matter of the greatest importance and one that is constantly neglected. In districts, like Backergunge, where all roads have to be raised, the greatest possible care should be taken in obtaining earth for this purpose. All borrow-pits should be made in the form of a ditch and should open into a *chal*. All earth should be taken from one side of the road only. If this were done, the result would be a channel useful as a waterway for small boats. It would be scoured out at each tide, and thus could not possibly be a breeding place of mosquitoes, while it would be very beneficial to the drainage of the country. A series of stagnant pools covered with weeds, as one only too frequently sees, is a standing danger to health."



the other, the land does not receive the same amount of moisture or the same fertilizing deposit of silt. The resultant advantages and disadvantages may, however, counterbalance one another. In the former area the cultivators may merely lose 'catch crops'; in the latter they may be benefited by protection from floods.\*

181. Since the last decade there has been a revival of the small industries of Bengal owing to the Swadeshi movement, *i.e.*, a movement aiming at the resuscitation of dead or dying indigenous industries, the development of such as have maintained their vitality, and the initiation of new forms of industrial enterprise, directed and managed by Indians and employing Indian labour. Its effect has been principally to enable weavers to regain some of the ground which they had lost owing to the produce of their looms being driven out of the market by cheaper machine-made goods. Interest in the movement has fallen off lately, but for some years it had a stimulating effect, as may be realized from the remarks recorded in 1907 by the Magistrate of Hooghly: "It appears that while formerly the weavers had to take advances from the middlemen and were always more or less indebted to the latter, they are now very much better off, and if anything, the middlemen are sometimes indebted to them. I was told the other day by the President of the Dwarhatta Union that a young widow of the weaver caste, who would formerly have in all possibility suffered great privation, was now earning Rs. 16 or 17 a month and maintaining herself and her younger brother and sister in some comfort. In Dhaniakhali I was told that a weaver earns about Rs. 20 a month, and the Subdivisional Officer of Serampore reported that a weaver there earns Rs. 25 a month. A large dealer in Dhaniakhali was complaining that he was doing less business now than before, because now dealers from Chandernagore and elsewhere are coming to the villages, whereas formerly he and a few others had a sort of monopoly." The Swadeshi movement has also been instrumental in the starting of a number of small factories in the metropolitan districts for the manufacture of such articles as soap, ink, pencils, tin boxes, steel trunks, combs, buttons etc., but it has not made much headway as regards large manufactures employing mechanical power. Joint-stock companies have been started, but few have had any real vitality, and nearly all the important industrial concerns are still chiefly under European supervision and supported by European capital. There is one notable exception in the case of the Tata Iron and Steel Works, recently established at Sakchi in Singhbhum, which owe their creation to the enterprise of Messrs. Tata, but in this case also the management consists of Europeans and Americans.

182. The decade has witnessed a most remarkable development of coal mining, as may be realized from the marginal statement. Coal mining in Bengal is now nearly a century old, but in spite of the natural advantages conferred by the geographical position of the coal-fields and easy mining conditions, its true development has only taken place during the last 20 years, progress being most rapid in the last ten. The output of coal in 1910

YEAR.	NUMBER OF—		Output in 1000.
	Mines.	Workers.	
1901	292	79,632	3,702,878
1910	418	98,264	10,777,306

was 95 per cent. of the total production of India, and nearly all of it was raised from the Raniganj coal-field in the districts of Burdwan and Manbhum and the Jheria coal-field in Manbhum. The latter has developed most rapidly and produces more coal than any other field; the labour force in Manbhum has grown accordingly, for whereas there were 157 mines with 32,194 workers in 1901, the number of the former rose in 1910 to 232 and of the latter to 56,179. The only other coal-fields of any importance are the Giridih field in Hazaribagh, with 10 collieries and an output of 674,000 tons (in 1910), and the Daltonganj coal-field in Palamau with one mine from which 85,000 tons were raised. The history of the industry during the decade was somewhat chequered owing to a boom and a subsequent slump. The boom culminated in 1908, when the output was over 11½ million tons, the maximum ever reached; next year the trade received a decided set-back, the demand being no longer equal to the supply. The value

\* See Monghyr District Gazetteer, pages 116, 117, 119-121. Bhagalpur District Gazetteer, page 132, 133, and Purnea District Gazetteer, page 105.

of coal properties shrunk enormously, but the Chief Inspector of Mines pointed out—"In spite of the slump in values, the industry to-day is probably in a healthier condition than it was two years ago; the fever has departed; many weak members, which should never have been allowed to grow, have been excised, and, with normal conditions, a steady and profitable future is bound to supervene."\* At present the mining is easy, for most of the coal is raised from inclines driven into the outcrops of the seams, and the majority of the mines are at depths varying from a few feet to 350 feet.

183. Mica mining has also developed, though not so rapidly, the number of mines rising from 18 in 1901 to 168 in 1910 and the number of workers from 6,254 to 10,581.

OTHER MINES.

Slate is quarried on a small scale in Monghyr, and copper is raised in Singhbhum. There are also iron workings in the latter district, from which 17,646 tons were raised in 1910.

184. The development of other large industries, which was so marked a feature of the economic history of the last decade, has continued. The marginal table will

MANUFACTURES.

sufficiently illustrate the expansion of jute manufacture, and it need

Year.	No. of mills.	Average daily number of operatives.
1880-1	19	33,994
1890-1	25	61,563
1900-1	34	110,057
1910-1	58	199,670

merely be added that the capital invested in the mills is £13,000,000, that the wages paid to the 200,000 employes are 4 crores per annum and the annual value of the products is 25 to 30 crores. The number of cotton mills has risen in the decade from 10

to 15, and the average number of operatives from 8,000 to over 11,500, while in 1910-11 the number of other factories in Bengal as then constituted was 184, with an average daily labour force of 84,657.† Of the latter 21,914 persons were employed in 10 railway workshops, 9,850 in 36 jute presses, 8,288 in 9 dock-yards, 7,232 in 4 arms and ammunition factories, and 5,310 in engineering workshops.

185. Nowhere has there been a greater outburst of manufacturing and industrial activity than in the 24-Parganas, where the number of factories rose from 74 to 124 between 1901 and 1911 and the number of operatives from 94,186 to 169,310.

TOWNS.	INCREASE OF POPULATION, 1901-1911.		INCREASE OF OPERATIVES, 1901-1910.	
	Actual.	Per cent.	Actual.	Per cent.
Bhatpara	...	...	...	...
Nalhati	...	...	...	...
Haldia	...	...	...	...
Titagarh	...	...	...	...
	26,762	81	30,530	215
	29,100	181	21,649	162

The mill towns along the banks of the Hooghly show a most extraordinary growth of population, which is accounted for by the influx of labourers, as illustrated in the marginal table. The character of the population has changed so greatly owing to this influx, that some mill towns are now practically foreign towns planted in the midst of Bengal.

In Bhatpara four persons speak Hindi to each person speaking Bengali: in Titagarh 75 per cent speak Hindi, 8 per cent. Telugu, and 4 per cent Oriya, while 11 per cent. only speak Bengali.‡

186. The present system of reporting births and deaths and compiling vital statistics from the returns is of recent origin, having been introduced in 1892. Births and

VITAL STATISTICS.

deaths in towns had, it is true, been registered since 1873, but in rural areas deaths alone were registered. Under the present system, compulsory registration is in force in the towns, *i.e.* parents, guardians or the persons directly concerned are required to report births and deaths to the town police. In rural areas each *chaukidar* or village watchman is provided with a pocket

\* Report of Chief Inspector of Mines in India for 1909.

† There was 1 cotton mill in Eastern Bengal and Assam with 285 operatives, and 115 other factories employing, on the average, 11,875 operatives daily.

‡ The existence of a large new colony of Madrasis in Titagarh came to light in a curious way in the course of compilation. In the tickets for Table XIII for that town there were over 3,000 entries of Dounguli, *i.e.* two-fingered. This seemed at first inexplicable, but one of the tickets gave a clue, as Madras was entered after Dounguli. The tickets for Tables X and XI were then compared. The former contained over 3,000 entries of Telugu and the latter a corresponding number of entries of Ganjam and Vizagapatam as the birthplace. Investigation showed that the caste was Devangula or Devanga, a common Madras weaving caste. It may be added that in 1901 the number of persons born in Madras and enumerated in the whole district (24-Parganas) was only 618, and the number of Telugu speakers 294.

book, in which he is required to have all births and deaths that may occur within his jurisdiction recorded by himself or the village *panchayat*; these are reported on parade days at the police stations and outposts, which are the registering centres. The statistics thus obtained are compiled by the police, and submitted monthly to the Civil Surgeon, who prepares returns for the whole district for inclusion in the annual report of the Sanitary Commissioner. The statistics are checked from time to time by Inspectors and Sub-Inspectors of Vaccination, and the *chaukidars* punished, if necessary, for neglecting to report properly. In the towns, the higher level of intelligence and the fear of legal penalties tend to make registration and the classification of diseases more accurate than in the rural tracts. In the latter the reporting *chaukidar* is generally illiterate, and vital registration is less correct, the chief defects being the registration of still births and the omission of actual births in outlying villages and among the lower castes.

187. In addition to the periodical checks above mentioned, a special inquiry was held between August 1906 and July 1909 in order to ascertain, by way of test experiment, how far births and deaths in rural areas are correctly registered. The area selected was a portion of thana Galsi in the district of Burdwan, containing a population of about 53,000 persons. This area was divided into three sections, each of which was under the charge of a medical officer. The reports of births and deaths as registered by the *chaukidars* were obtained every week. Inquiries were then made in the villages to verify their reports, and also to ascertain locally if any births and deaths remained unregistered. A special local inquiry was also made in each case of death, either recorded or unrecorded in the thana register, to determine its probable cause. At the commencement of each year's operation a rough census of the population under observation was taken with the object of checking the work done. During the three years over which the enquiry extended, the number of births and deaths that actually occurred was 4,670 and 6,910, respectively, as against 4,690 and 6,917 entered in the thana register. There was thus an excess of 20 births, which was due to the inclusion in the birth returns of 2 cases of abortion and 26 cases of still-births, to the double registration of 3 births, and to failure to report 11 actual births. In the case of deaths there was an excess of 7 only, due to the erroneous inclusion of 3 cases of abortion, 23 cases of still-birth and one death that occurred before the enquiry began, and to the omission of 20 deaths that actually occurred.

188. This enquiry shows that the vital statistics as at present collected and compiled are vitiated mainly by errors regarding still-births and, in a minor degree, by the omission of births and deaths, but that the net difference between the number of vital occurrences and the number registered is very small: the latter is in excess by 4 per mille in the case of births and one per mille in the case of deaths. The number of births that escaped registration was only 2 per mille of the total number, the corresponding ratio for deaths being 3 per mille. There was considerable variation in the manner of registering still-born infants. Altogether, 53 cases of still-birth were reported, of which 23 were recorded as deaths and 26 as births, while the remaining four were correctly recorded as still-births. The medical officers, however, found that there were 34 cases of still-births which were not recorded at all, 22 being males and 12 females. The effect of still-born infants being erroneously included in the birth returns is to produce an infinitesimal excess of males, for the proportion of males among still-births is always high:—it varies according to the figures given by Darwin from 135 to 150 males per 100 females\* and in the 34 cases reported by the medical officers the ratio per 100 females was as high as 183. The proportion of still-births actually registered as births to the total number of births that occurred was, however, under 6 per mille, and it is doubtful therefore whether the excess of males due to this error is more than 4 per mille.

189. If the results of this enquiry could be regarded as typical, the vital statistics could be accepted with some confidence, but it may be taken for granted that, while the inquiry lasted, the *chaukidars* felt that they were on their trial and took trouble to report every birth or death of which they

\* Descent of Man, 2nd edition, p. 243.

had cognizance. Further, the testing conducted annually by the Inspectors and Sub-Inspectors of Vaccination shows that the reporting is still incomplete in some districts. The maximum in the case of deaths (21 per cent.) was recorded by Shahabad\* in 1904 and in the case of births (12) by Rajshahi

YEAR.	PERCENTAGE OF OMISSIONS.	
	Births.	Deaths.
1901	1.72	0.99
1902	0.95	0.66
1903	0.90	0.82
1904	0.91	0.81
1905	0.87	0.78
1906	0.86	0.81
1907	0.85	0.87
1908	0.82	0.80
1909	0.74	0.80
1910	0.45	0.79

in 1903; the worst district record in a single year for births and deaths was 9 per cent. Such bad results, however, are exceptional. The returns (given in the margin) showing the percentage of unreported births and deaths in Bengal that were detected by the vaccination staff (out of several millions inquired into) are proof that there has been a gradual improvement in accuracy, especially since 1905, after which the Eastern Bengal districts are excluded as they were transferred in that year to the newly formed province of Eastern Bengal and Assam. In these districts the same

standard of efficiency has not been reached as elsewhere, and it is noticeable that the census results do not correspond with those afforded by the vital statistics so closely as in Bihar and Orissa and other districts of Bengal.

On the whole, the number of omissions is comparatively small, and the general conclusion seems to be (1) that though the vital statistics of the whole Province approximate to the truth (in a major degree for Bihar and Orissa and in a minor degree for Bengal), those for individual districts, especially in Eastern Bengal, are not always reliable; and (2) that the tendency to omission is greater in the case of births than deaths.

190. The returns of deaths under different heads are notoriously inaccurate. The reported number of deaths from fever is invariably in excess of the actual number

CAUSES OF DEATH.

owing to the fact that the *chaukidars*, who are primarily responsible for their registration, group under this head nearly all the deaths which are not due to the well known diseases of plague, cholera or small-pox. Even deaths from cholera are often returned as deaths from fever: a year in which there is a cholera epidemic in a district will usually show a large rise in fever mortality, because the *chaukidar* goes on returning cholera deaths as due to fever until the epidemic is so bad that he is forced to recognize it. Detailed investigation of the returns yields the most extraordinary results. In one district, for instance, out of a total of 83 deaths registered as due to dysentery or diarrhoea, only 32 were actually found to be due to those diseases. Fever accounted for 23, cholera for 18, teething for 2; one was really a case of still-birth and another of death during labour; the remainder were caused by old age, obstruction of the spleen, phthisis, want of milk and actually snake-bite. Other instances of the extraordinary nature of the diagnosis have already been given. The explanation is that the *chaukidar* is ignorant and careless, that he rarely sees the corpse, and that in any case he nearly always takes the word of the relatives as to the cause of death: the latter are generally equally ignorant, and sometimes they deliberately conceal the actual cause.

191. Taking the figures given in the marginal table above as typical of each Province, and making necessary allowance for omissions, we get the results given in Subsidiary Table III A. In this table the

VITAL STATISTICS AND ESTIMATES OF BIRTH AND DEATH RATES.

effects of migration have had to be ignored, as there are no statistics to show how many were immigrants and how many were emigrants in each year. They do not, however, affect the results very materially, for in Bengal, Bihar and Orissa, as a whole, the emigrants exceeded the immigrants by only 1 per mille in 1901 and by 3 per mille in 1911: in Bengal the excess of immigrants over emigrants is now 6 per mille more than in 1901, while in Bihar and Orissa the excess of emigrants over immigrants is greater by 13 per mille. From this subsidiary table it will be seen that the average annual birth rate and death rate during 1901-10 are 37.9 and 32.9 in Bengal, 42.1 and 36.1 in Bihar and Orissa, and 39.7 and 34.3 respectively in Bengal,

\* The actual number was 104 out of 484 deaths.

Bihar and Orissa as a whole. Mr. G. F. Hardy, F.I.A., F.S.S., the Actuary who was retained by the Census Commissioners of 1881, 1891 and 1901 to deal with the age statistics of those years, estimated the birth and death rates for 1891-1901 in Bengal, Bihar and Orissa as a whole at a little over 43·9 and 38·9 per mille, respectively.

192. As regards the net increase due to vital occurrences, the subsidiary table shows the actual annual excess of births over deaths to be 5·3 per mille in Bengal, Bihar and Orissa as a whole, and this may be taken as a fair approximation, for as shown above, the net excess of emigrants over immigrants in the two Provinces taken together was very small. There is, however, a considerable difference if the two Provinces are considered separately. The balance of migration is against Bihar and Orissa, the emigrants from which add to the death roll of other countries and thus lower the death rate of their own Province: they outnumbered the immigrants by 36 per mille in 1901 and by 49 per mille in 1911. In Bengal, on the other hand, there is a gain from migration, for the number of immigrants is far greater than that of emigrants. It contains a large floating population from Bihar and the United Provinces, who add to its mortality returns, but very little to the number of births, as the immigrants live mostly without their families. These immigrants outnumbered the emigrants by 26 per mille in 1901 and by 32 per mille in 1911. Thus, as compared with the birth rate, the real death rate is lower in Bengal, but higher in Bihar and Orissa, than would appear from the returns of vital occurrences. The average rate of increase, therefore, may be taken as a little above 5 per mille in Bengal and a little below 6 per mille in Bihar and Orissa. The rate for the two Provinces together (5·4 per mille) corresponds closely with Mr. Hardy's estimate of 5 per mille as the actual rate during the previous decade.

193. It also appears on a detailed examination of the vital statistics that each Province would have shown a higher rate (about 7 per mille) as the average annual rate of increase, had there been no lean years like 1905-08, when the rates of increase were abnormally low. Mr. Hardy's estimate of 7 per mille as the normal rate of increase in Bengal, Bihar and Orissa as a whole (deduced from the estimated actual rates of 8·0, 7·7 and 5·0 per mille in 1872-81, 1881-91 and 1891-1901, respectively) is therefore corroborated by the vital statistics for 1901-10, during which

	1891-1901.			1901-1911.		
	Births.	Deaths.	Increase.	Births.	Deaths.	Increase.
Rates according to Mr. Hardy's estimate for the previous decade ...	41·8	44·8	7·0	42·9	38·9	5·0
Rates according to vital statistics ...	35·8	31·8	4·0	39·7	34·3	5·4
Difference	-16·0	-13·0	-3·0	-4·2	-4·6	-4

the registration of vital occurrence appears to have reached a higher standard of accuracy. The table in the margin shows how much more closely the rates according to the vital statistics now correspond to the estimated rates of births and deaths, the difference being reduced from 16 and 13 per mille in 1901 to only 4·2 and 4·6 per mille in 1911.

### WEST BENGAL.

194. The district of Burdwan consists of two distinct portions, the eastern half being a low-lying alluvial tract subject to inundations from the Damodar, Ajay, Khari, Kunur and Bhagirathi rivers. The effects of floods are accentuated by the obstruction of drainage caused by dams and weirs erected across rivers and creeks for the purposes of irrigation. Large tracts are consequently water-logged for a considerable portion of the year, especially in the south-east of the Sadar subdivision. The western portion of the district, which corresponds to the Asansol subdivision, consists of rolling uplands, with a dry laterite soil, and is far healthier. Between 1872 and 1891 the population of the district decreased by 94,535, or nearly 6½ per cent. This diminution

was due to a virulent type of fever known as

BURDWAN.	Population, 1911.	PERCENTAGE OF VARIATION.	
		1901-1911.	
<b>DISTRICT TOTAL</b> ... ..	<b>1,538,371</b>	<b>+ 0.37</b>	
<b>Sadar Subdivision</b> ... ..	<b>663,103</b>	<b>- 2.81</b>	
Burdwan ... ..	66,572	-	4.99
Bahiganj ... ..	92,964	+	1.32
Khandaghoob ... ..	40,392	-	2.74
Kaiba ... ..	101,891	-	2.26
Satgachia ... ..	105,115	-	2.30
Jamulpur ... ..	49,823	-	4.24
Gaib ... ..	90,371	-	2.18
Angram ... ..	55,162	-	2.74
<b>Ansoni Subdivision</b> ... ..	<b>388,582</b>	<b>+ 4.74</b>	
Ansoni ... ..	177,312	+	5.91
Baiganj ... ..	175,782	+	5.95
Kaksa ... ..	35,487	-	4.36
<b>Katwa Subdivision</b> ... ..	<b>261,463</b>	<b>+ 3.32</b>	
Koogson ... ..	99,672	+	5.74
Katwa ... ..	94,952	+	2.42
Mangalkot ... ..	76,839	+	2.32
<b>Kalna Subdivision</b> ... ..	<b>225,225</b>	<b>- 0.53</b>	
Kalna ... ..	89,411	-	0.91
Purbasthal ... ..	73,350	-	2.15
Maneswar ... ..	62,464	+	2.29

virulent and accounting for over 20,000 deaths, while malaria continued to levy its annual toll. Some scarcity was felt in 1904, and, in the Katwa subdivision, in 1908; but owing to the demand for labour in the coal fields, mills, factories, etc., the poorer classes are able to get ample employment and are not so much affected by the failure of crops and the pinch of high prices as in purely agricultural districts. The cultivators have benefited by the higher price which they get for their crops, and labourers by the rise in wages: the rate of interest, it is reported, was formerly 30 to 75 per cent. but has fallen to 12 per cent. Sons of middle-class cultivators now think it beneath their dignity to work in the fields like their fathers. The supply of agricultural labourers is unequal to the demand in the sowing and harvesting seasons, and wages have consequently gone up.

196. The population has only increased by 5,655 or less than one-half

BURDWAN.	1911.		1901.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
Actual population ... ..	770,324	768,047	761,545	767,874
Immigrants ... ..	92,200	87,200	84,208	74,129
Emigrants ... ..	27,978	68,362	42,537	30,877
Natural population ... ..	735,312	749,299	724,171	744,612

per cent., and there would have been a decrease, had it not been for the influx of labourers attracted by the good wages obtainable in the coal-fields. The causes of this check to development are the ravages of disease and the greater exodus of persons born in the district, whose absence materially affected the returns. Their number has risen by 32,000 since 1901, but is still only about two-thirds of that returned for immigrants, who have increased by 21,000. The increase would have been greater had it not been for the dull state of the coal market, which resulted in the number of workers in coal mines falling from 39,383 in 1901 to 37,665 at the time of the census. Owing

\* As I shall have frequently occasion to refer to "the epidemic of Burdwan fever," it may be explained that this was an endemic fever which became generally epidemic, and that the name by no means implies that it was peculiar to Burdwan. It appears first to have attracted notice in the Jessore district about 1825, and began to affect the Nadia district about 1832; it came across the Bhagirathi or Hooghly river into the Hooghly district in 1857-59 and it affected other districts of the Burdwan Division at a later period. During the period of its greatest virulence, a number of medical officers made inquiries into its origin and character and into the condition of the affected tracts. The general consensus of opinion was that the disease was a malarial fever of an intensely aggravated type, attended by an unprecedented mortality. The causes most generally assigned were over-population and obstruction of drainage caused by the silting up of rivers; but it cannot be said that any completely satisfactory reason has been put forward, which accounts for the outbreak of the fever, its gradual spread from east to west, and its disappearance. The fever was called by the natives *jwar bokar* (literally, fever without sense) i.e., fever with delirium, a term which in recent years has also been applied to cases of plague. [See Hooghly District Gazetteer, pp. 127-128.]

mainly to this cause, the Asansol subdivision, which grew by nearly 20 per cent. between 1891 and 1901, has now added only 4·7 per cent. to its population. Immigrants represent over one-fifth of the total population of the subdivision and nearly one-half of the total number of immigrants in the whole district. All the thanas in the subdivision have added to their population except Kaksa, which is an agricultural tract that suffers from endemic fever. The only other subdivision in which there has been any growth of population is Katwa, where it is independent of immigration. In the Sadar and Kalna subdivisions the loss is shared in by every thana except Mantesar and Sahebganj.

197. Like Burdwan, the district of Birbhum was decadent until 1891 owing to the ravages of fever. The population decreased by 7 per cent. between 1872 and 1881, and in the succeeding decade increased by less than 1 per cent. In

BIRBHUM.	Population, 1911.	PERCENTAGE OF VARIATION.	
		1901—1911.	1891—1901.
<b>DISTRICT TOTAL</b>	<b>935,473</b>	<b>+ 3·68</b>	<b>+ 13·03</b>
<b>Sadar Subdivision</b>	<b>544,472</b>	<b>+ 1·59</b>	<b>+ 13·97</b>
Suri	126,806	- 0·87	+ 10·90
Dubrajpur	123,511	- 1·92	+ 10·23
Bolpur	119,176	+ 2·01	+ 17·23
Sakulpur	82,516	+ 6·14	+ 18·08
Labpur	88,465	+ 8·90	+ 11·35
<b>Rampur Hat Subdivision</b>	<b>391,001</b>	<b>+ 6·73</b>	<b>+ 11·68</b>
Rampur Hat	110,889	+ 7·45	+ 10·02
Mayureshwar	97,307	+ 3·48	+ 5·97
Nalhati	90,124	+ 7·94	+ 11·93
Murrai	92,571	+ 8·23	+ 17·18

the latter year there was a falling off of nearly 4 per cent. in the Sadar subdivision, which suffered severely from fever, but an accretion of 10 per cent. in the Rampur Hat subdivision to the north. In the next 10 years conditions were generally favourable, and the district added 13 per cent. to its population, the two subdivisions sharing nearly equally in the increase.

198. Birbhum is almost entirely dependent on agriculture. The crops had a fair outturn up to 1905, but from

1906 to 1908 they were short, and there was some scarcity in 1908-09. The poorer middle classes, small cultivators and landless labourers were embarrassed by the high range of prices. The Santals and other semi-aboriginal tribes, who could not get sufficient employment locally, went further afield, but the good crops and revived prosperity of the next two years brought them back to their homes. A serious flood occurred in 1902, when heavy rain caused the Brahmani in thana Murrai, the Bansloi in Nalhati and the Mor in thana Suri to overflow their banks and inundate the surrounding country. Great loss was caused to cultivators in the four thanas of the Rampur Hat subdivision, and more especially Nalhati and Murrai. The health of the district was generally good, except in 1906-1908, when it suffered from a wave of fever and epidemics of cholera; in these three years deaths exceeded births by 41,000.

199. In the decade as a whole, there was an excess of 18,689 births,

BIRBHUM	1911.		1901.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
Actual population	463,828	471,635	444,599	457,391
Immigrants	29,897	35,122	27,194	32,412
Emigrants	21,881	30,521	20,870	26,485
Natural population	456,622	464,974	436,521	406,904

and the census shows an increase of 33,193 or 3·68 per cent. The number of immigrants has risen very little and is nearly counterbalanced by the exodus of the native-born. The growth of population is shared in by all thanas except Suri and Dubrajpur in the west of the Sadar subdivision. Here the soil is not so fertile as it is to the east, and heavy mortality was caused by cholera and small-pox in 1908.

Owing to the loss in these two thanas, the average increase in the Sadar subdivision is only 1·59 per cent., whereas it is 6·73 per cent. in the Rampur Hat subdivision. The latter is one of the most progressive tracts in West Bengal, and is now more populous by 29 per cent. than it was in 1881, whereas the population of

the Sadar subdivision has increased by only 11 per cent. As in 1901, the Murarai thana in the extreme north, which benefits from the immigration of Santals, has grown most rapidly, but it is closely followed by Rampur Hat and Nalhati, which are prosperous agricultural areas traversed by the railway.

200. The district of Bankura has had a sustained growth of population since the first census was taken in 1872. The census of 1881 showed an increase of 7.6 per cent. and, in spite of the prevalence of disease in the east of the district, there was a

BANKURA.	Population, 1911.	PERCENTAGE OF VARIATION.	
		1801-1881.	1891-1901.
<b>DISTRICT TOTAL</b>	1,138,670	+ 1.99	+ 4.37
<b>Sadar Subdivision</b>	746,964	+ 4.90	+ 2.85
Bankura	158,372	+ 6.59	+ 9.88
Onda	190,591	- 1.89	+ 0.44
Ganga-jaghati	189,440	+ 2.17	+ 4.96
Khatra	129,998	+ 12.73	+ 3.00
Raipur	110,972	+ 8.52	- 0.79
Simpai	30,488	+ 0.99	+ 2.27
<b>Vishnupur Subdivision</b>	391,706	- 3.13	+ 7.17
Vishnupur	159,725	- 2.20	+ 2.07
Sonamukhi	82,042	- 0.24	+ 2.27
Kochar	91,989	- 4.52	+ 2.91
Jadar	77,940	- 5.33	+ 10.29

further advance of 2.7 per cent. in 1891. The succeeding decade was, on the whole, a healthy one, the endemic or epidemic fever known as Burdwan fever having died out. The census of 1901 showed a total population of 1,116,411, representing an increase of 4.37 per cent.

201. On the whole, conditions between 1901 and 1910 were favourable to a further expansion. The railway was introduced in the early part of the

decade, and the public health was good during the first 7 years, the number of births exceeding the registered deaths by 41,000. At the close of 1907, however, the crops failed over a large area, the parts most affected being thanas Raipur, Onda and Khatra. Distress was felt from January till September 1908, and relief was given to an aggregate of 414,798 persons. The effect of the scarcity is seen in the vital statistics. In 1908 the births fell by nearly 8,000 and deaths increased by 4,000, but in the next 2 years there was a rapid rise in the birth rate, which culminated in 1910, when the number of births exceeded that recorded in 1908 by 46 per cent.

202. In the whole decade the excess of births over deaths was 58,178,

BANKURA.	1911.		1901.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
Actual population	562,565	575,995	549,494	565,927
Immigrants	12,191	32,991	11,740	17,794
Emigrants	95,737	79,627	75,269	71,549
Natural population	548,141	527,721	518,015	520,313

while the increase of population now brought to light is only 22,259 or 2 per cent. The difference is due, almost entirely, to the increasing volume of emigration, to which the construction of the railway has given an impetus. It has long been

the practice for the aboriginal tribes or semi-Hinduized castes of aboriginal descent, such as Santals, Bauris and Bagdis, to emigrate to other districts in the cold weather when their harvests are reaped, and to return at the beginning of the hot weather or later. Many, moreover, work in the coal mines in the Burdwan and Manbhum districts, as well as in the mills along the river Hooghly. This exodus has been facilitated by the railway, and since 1901 the number of those who have left their homes for employment elsewhere has increased by 20 per cent., the actual number of male emigrants rising by 20,000.

203. While the Sadar subdivision has added 4.9 per cent. to its population, the Vishnupur subdivision has suffered a loss of 3.13 per cent. At first sight, this result appears somewhat surprising, for the headquarters subdivision is an undulating tract of rocky, often barren soil, whereas the Vishnupur subdivision is a fertile alluvial plain. On the other hand, the undulating uplands are well-drained and the people suffer little from malaria, which is prevalent in the lowlands of the Vishnupur subdivision. The difference in climatic conditions has resulted in a very different rate of progress, for between 1872 and 1891 the population of the headquarters subdivision



increased by 24 per cent., while that of the Vishnupur subdivision declined by more than 8 per cent. Only once, viz., in 1901, has the latter had any increase of population since the census operations began. The inhabitants of the headquarters subdivision are, moreover, to a large extent aboriginals or semi-aboriginals, who do not suffer from disease as much as the better castes of Hindus, owing probably to the healthier lives they live, to their residence in the dry uplands, and to their more nourishing diet. They are prolific races, in whose villages swarms of children may be seen. Had it not been for the fact that they supply most of the emigrants from the district, the increase of population would have been even greater. In spite of emigration, the Khatra and Raipur thanas, where they are most numerous, have developed most rapidly.

204. The population of Midnapore declined by 1 per cent. between 1872 and 1881 owing to the ravages of Burdwan fever, which first appeared in 1871 and raged till 1877, causing an estimated mortality of a quarter of a million. During the

MIDNAPORE	Population, 1911.	PERCENTAGE OF VARIATION.	
		1901-1911.	1891-1901.
<b>DISTRICT TOTAL</b>	<b>2,821,201</b>	<b>+ 1'15</b>	<b>+ 5'99</b>
<b>Sadar Subdivision</b>	<b>1,300,080</b>	<b>+ 1'75</b>	<b>—</b>
Midnapore	54,171	- 0'19	+ 9'07
Khatra	132,875	+ 1'93	+ 10'31
Jhargam	90,351	+ 5'59	+ 7'10
Birpur	112,270	+ 4'34	+ 2'41
Saibani	59,574	+ 2'09	+ 9'70
Debra	54,792	- 1'54	- 1'26
Sabang	147,590	- 4'04	—
Naryangach	123,324	+ 4'13	+ 0'93
Garhbeta	126,353	+ 5'05	+ 5'39
Kew'pur	63,351	+ 3'72	+ 3'23
Dantan	126,236	+ 2'15	+ 2'28
Gopibalsapur	168,172	+ 0'01	+ 7'36
<b>Ghatal Subdivision</b>	<b>301,396</b>	<b>- 7'26</b>	<b>- 0'90</b>
Ghatal	83,341	- 5'40	- 0'36
Dawar	130,157	- 3'75	- 2'37
Chandrakona	87,898	- 7'19	+ 0'94
<b>Tamluk Subdivision</b>	<b>601,502</b>	<b>+ 3'13</b>	<b>—</b>
Tamluk	151,472	+ 2'87	—
Masulapur	102,225	+ 3'63	+ 6'27
Satahata	74,246	+ 3'10	+ 11'50
Panchura	143,991	+ 0'44	+ 4'07
Nandigram	129,570	+ 2'90	+ 12'57
<b>Contal Subdivision</b>	<b>618,223</b>	<b>+ 2'50</b>	<b>+ 10'59</b>
Wajli	57,366	- 0'35	+ 14'74
Contal	177,708	+ 2'90	—
Bansagar	76,007	+ 1'32	—
Bhagawanpur	126,731	+ 4'97	+ 6'59
Sgra	78,339	+ 0'57	+ 5'49
Patanpur	102,082	+ 2'81	+ 6'16

next twenty years there was a steady growth, representing 4'6 per cent. in 1891 and 5'99 per cent. in 1901. The increase was rapid along the sea-coast and the estuary of the Hooghly. There was a fair natural development in the healthy, but barren and sparsely inhabited uplands in the west of the district. Stagnation or decline prevailed in the ill-drained depression that intervenes between these two extremes.

205. Conditions during the decade 1901-1910 were not favourable to a further advance. In 5 years only did the death rate exceed the birth rate, the only really healthy years being 1903, 1904 and 1908-10. This was the result mainly of epidemics of cholera, which were particularly widespread in 1901, 1902, 1906 and 1907; in 1902 there was also an epidemic of smallpox, which was responsible for 17,000 deaths. Fever, the most important factor in the health of the district, was rife in the water-logged areas, and the outturn of the crops was poor for several years.

206. The census discloses an increase of 32,087 or 1'15 per cent. The volume both of emigration and immigration has increased owing to the extension of the railway, the main line of the Bengal-Nagpur Railway being opened in 1901 and the Jherria extension in 1903. The emigrants, however, outnumber the immigrants by 96,000. All the subdivisions have a growth of population except Ghatal, which was also the only subdivision that sustained a loss in 1901. The reasons for its decadence are not far to seek. It is an alluvial tract with a fertile soil, but it is liable to floods, and the people suffer from constant malaria and periodical epidemics of cholera. The inundations affect the public health in two ways. On the one hand, the flood water scours out holes and ditches, and carries off surface filth and rotting vegetation, depositing a protective layer of silt. On the other hand, the stagnant water, slowly drying up, affords a congenial breeding ground for malaria-bearing mosquitoes. There are thus two divergent effects. At first, the flood water cleanses the country and cholera disappears. After the floods are over,

there are large collections of stagnant water, and fever becomes rife. In bad seasons, moreover, the people migrate freely to Calcutta and the Sundarbans, and such a bad season occurred in 1909, when no less than 548 villages were flooded and the crops over 85,000 *bighas* destroyed by unusually high floods.

207. The Contai and Tamluk subdivisions, which lie along the sea-coast and the estuary of the Hooghly, are comparatively free from malaria, and both have increased at about the same rate. Little progress has been made in the Midnapore subdivision, where six thanas have added to their population but as many more have to record a loss. In one thana, viz., Kharagpur, the advance is very nearly 20 per cent., but this is almost entirely due to the expansion of Kharagpur town, an important railway centre containing the workshops of the Bengal-Nagpur Railway. In other thanas the growth of population must be ascribed to their natural advantages. They all lie to the west where the lateritic uplands descend to meet the plains. The climate is dry, there is a good system of natural drainage, and a large proportion of the population consists of hardy aboriginals. The thanas with a decrease consist of two blocks, viz., (1) an upland block to the north consisting of the Garbheta, Salbani and Keshpur thanas, all lying to the north of the Kasai, and (2) an alluvial block to the south-east consisting of Midnapore, which lies mainly to the south of the Kasai, and Debra and Sabang, which are entirely to the south of that river. In the former of these areas cholera and fever have been prevalent and the harvests poor; the latter block is a low-lying depression mostly under canal irrigation, where the country is fertile, but swampy and malarious.

208. Hooghly, like other districts of the Burdwan Division, suffered severely from the ravages of Burdwan fever between 1857 and 1877. Though the fever persisted for 20 years, it must not be supposed that it afflicted all parts

of the district throughout that period. It spread from place to place, its average duration in any one locality being from three to seven years. The mortality was enormous, being estimated by various observers at from one-third of the population up to nine-tenths in certain very severely affected places. In 1881 the Census Superintendent estimated the loss of population due to it at no less than 650,000; for apart from actual mortality, the fever reduced the vitality of the survivors, thus diminishing the birth-rate, and also forced a number of the inhabitants to leave the district for healthier areas. "It is true," he remarked, "that this terrible epidemic did not

HOOGHLY.	Population, 1911.	PERCENTAGE OF VARIATION.
		1901-1911.
<b>DISTRICT TOTAL</b> ... ..	<b>1,090,097</b>	<b>+ 3.91</b>
<b>Sadar Subdivision</b> ... ..	<b>312,042</b>	<b>+ 1.16</b>
Balagarh ... ..	45,233	+ 2.96
Pandua ... ..	71,040	+ 3.47
Dumakhal ... ..	97,296	+ 1.71
Purba ... ..	43,451	- 0.03
Hooghly ... ..	54,772	- 2.80
<b>Serampore Subdivision</b> ... ..	<b>461,296</b>	<b>+ 11.65</b>
Haripal ... ..	103,704	+ 7.01
Jangipara ... ..	58,561	+ 1.90
Serampore ... ..	113,154	+ 19.82
Singur ... ..	73,083	+ 14.00
Chaudhola ... ..	111,794	+ 12.43
<b>Arambagh Subdivision</b> ... ..	<b>316,759</b>	<b>- 3.23</b>
Arambagh ... ..	119,405	- 1.00
Goshat ... ..	96,170	- 8.07
Khamakui ... ..	99,184	- 0.07

claim so many victims in the decade which has elapsed since the census of 1872 as in that which preceded it, but the ravages of the disease have not yet been repaired, the ruined villages have not yet been rebuilt, jungle still flourishes where populous hamlets once stood, and while many of those who fled before the fever have not returned, the impaired powers of the survivors have not sufficed to fill the smiling land with a new population." The census of 1881 showed a decline of 13 per cent., but the disappearance of the fever was followed by a recovery, the result being an increase of 6 per cent. in 1891. In the next decade there was but little advance owing to the drain caused by deaths from fever; the increase of 1.4 per cent. recorded in 1901 was mainly due to a rise in the number of immigrants.

209. Since 1901, there has been a gain of 41,056 or 3·91 per cent., part of which is due to the influx of immigrants rather than to natural growth. There was an excess of recorded deaths over births during the decade amounting to nearly 36,000, and the birth-rate surpassed the death-rate in only 3 years, viz., 1904, 1909 and 1910. Fever is rife and is a natural consequence of the natural configuration of the country. It is for the greater part a semi-aquatic rice plain traversed by large and small rivers, with low-lying depressions between them; many of the rivers have more or less silted up, and no longer drain the land, which remains swampy and water-logged. Malarial fever," writes Lieut. Col. D. G. Crawford, I. M. S., formerly Civil Surgeon of Hooghly, "is still the prevailing disease of the Hooghly district, though fortunately it is no longer the scourge that it was 50 to 30 years ago. Something has been done since that time to alleviate its ravages, particularly the flushing of some of the 'dead' rivers of the district since the construction of the Dankuni drainage channel in 1873 and the opening of the Eden canal in 1881. Still, however, the physical conditions of the district remain much as they were half a century ago; and thus they must always remain, for no human agency can alter them. The district is little above sea-level, it has a heavy rainfall, it is traversed by numerous 'dead' or silting up rivers, and it is chiefly devoted to the growth of rice, a crop which requires the ground to be a swamp during several months of the year for its cultivation. These conditions necessarily lead to its being water-logged in the rains. Practically, every house built in the district necessitates the excavation of a small tank or pit (*doba*) to get the earth, which forms a plinth, to raise the house above flood-level. Efficient drainage is an impossibility, as there is not sufficient fall. The tanks which abound in the towns—in the Hooghly-Chinsura Municipality alone there are 700—the drains, with their inefficient fall, forming chains of stagnant pools instead of running streams, and the vast expanses of rice cultivation, all supply ample breeding grounds for the mosquito by which malarial fever is spread."

The population is still nearly 30,000 less than it was in 1872, and if, as observed by Mr. Gait in the Census Report of 1901, it is very doubtful whether the district will ever fully recover its losses until the drainage problem is solved, that consummation appears a very remote contingency.

210. Emigration is fostered not merely by the industrial, but also

HOOGHLY.	1911.		1901.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
Actual population ...	555,925	531,374	529,179	520,062
Immigrants ...	108,097	75,222	81,423	57,891
Emigrants ...	88,423	61,065	70,590	52,551
Natural population ...	536,199	517,137	516,646	513,922

by the agricultural demands of the district. The mills, factories and brick-fields along the Hooghly create a constant, and the needs of cultivation a periodic, demand for labour, which is supplied by outside districts, mainly the districts of Orissa, Chota Nagpur

and Bihar. The larger industries have developed steadily—the average daily number of operatives in registered factories rose by 10,000 between 1901 and 1911—and the increasing wealth of the cultivators enables them to employ outside labour instead of tilling their fields themselves. Agricultural labourers from the Sonthal Parganas and Chota Nagpur have consequently settled in the villages, and some have become cultivators on their own account. The number of persons from outside districts who were enumerated in Hooghly is now 46,000 more than in 1901. Part of the increase is due to an extra number of coolies being at work on the construction of the Hooghly-Katwa Railway at the time of the census, but even so the number exceeds that returned in 1891 by 86 per cent. On the other hand, the number of those born in the district who were enumerated elsewhere has increased by 27,000 since 1901—the number in Howrah alone has risen by 13,000. So much, however, of the migration, whether inwards or outwards, is of a temporary character, that its effect on the population cannot be gauged with any precision. A large proportion of the immigrants only come for the agricultural season, or work in the mills and brickfields during the cold weather, after which they return to their homes. The emigrants, again, consist, to a large extent, of clerks and others who have to work in Calcutta

and elsewhere, but keep up homes in this district, to which they return at intervals. They number 37,000 less than the immigrants enumerated in the district, but the figure returned for them is still 7,000 less than in 1891.

211. The only progressive part of the district is the Serampore subdivision, where the increase (48,000) exceeds the total gain of the district. This subdivision has grown steadily since 1881, and owes its prosperity to its marshes having been reclaimed by the Dankuni and Rajapur drainage schemes, to the establishment of jute mills along the river bank, to its connection with the main system of the East Indian Railway by a branch from Tarakeswar to Seoraphuli, and to the opening of the Howrah-Shiakhal Railway in 1897, which has linked it up with Howrah. The population of the headquarters subdivision is stationary. The two inland thanas of Pandua and Dhaniakhali have a small increase, which is ascribed to the influx of agricultural labourers: the other three thanas have been declining since 1891. The Arambagh subdivision has sustained a loss of population in every thana, the decrease being greatest in Goghat, a tract difficult of access, which lost population between 1891 and 1901. It has suffered from malaria, which is also common in the other two thanas, where the land is swept by the annual floods of the Damodar and Dwarakeswar. Their drainage is defective and the flood water remains stagnant in depressions choked with weeds, which foster the propagation of fever-bearing mosquitoes.

212. The history of the last 40 years in Howrah has been one of continued progress. It suffered severely from Burdwan fever, which, it was estimated, had caused 50,000 deaths by 1881, but the census of that year brought to

HOWRAH.	Population, 1911.	PERCENTAGE OF VARIATION.	
		1901-1911.	1881-1901.
<b>DISTRICT TOTAL</b> ... ..	<b>943,501</b>	<b>+ 10.93</b>	<b>+ 11.38</b>
<b>Sadar Subdivision</b> ... ..	<b>492,225</b>	<b>+ 14.14</b>	<b>+ 17.73</b>
Bally ... ..	23,391	+ 90.98	...
Littonah ... ..	22,635	+ 4.11	...
Howrah, Sitpur and Golabari ...	179,349	+ 12.92	+ 27.10
Damjor ... ..	16,085	+ 10.79	...
Jagatbalabagar ... ..	99,724	+ 7.72	+ 8.80
<b>Uluberia Subdivision</b> ... ..	<b>451,277</b>	<b>+ 7.64</b>	<b>+ 5.52</b>
Ainta ... ..	177,199	+ 6.15	+ 2.39
Bagnan ... ..	57,609	+ 7.12	+ 3.24
Uluberia ... ..	107,971	+ 13.97	+ 8.78
Syampur ... ..	86,519	+ 7.70	+ 8.66

213. Agricultural conditions were, on the whole, favourable, and the number of births exceeded the deaths by a little under 17,000. These criteria, however, are not of such importance as in other districts. No district in West Bengal is so little dependent on the outturn of its crops—the special industrial census shows that one-seventh of the total male population is at work in manufacturing or industrial concerns employing 20 persons or more. The ratio of births is, moreover, unusually small, because a large proportion of the people consist of male immigrants and of persons living in the towns of Howrah and Bally. The former leave their wives at home and those townspeople who have wives with them, send them home to their villages before confinement: in many cases these villages lie in other districts, and the births are consequently excluded from the returns for Howrah. Immigration has been stimulated during the past decade by the development of commerce and manufactures. The dull state of the jute trade led to a partial stoppage of work in some jute mills, but at the time of the census they had a labour force of over 44,000. The list of other concerns is a long one, e.g., cotton mills, jute presses, iron foundries, machinery and engineering works, brick-fields, railway workshops, oil mills, flour mills, etc. The extension of the tramway from Calcutta and the improvement of the service of ferry steamers between the two cities have further induced persons who formerly resided in Calcutta to cross to this side of the river: the number of persons born in Calcutta but enumerated in Howrah has increased by over 7,000 since 1901. The result of these combined influences is an increase in the number of immigrants by 45,000. This, however, only accounts for less than a half of the total gain, and there is a loss of 17,000

by emigration to be set off against it. A considerable part of the increase must therefore be attributed to natural growth. The immigrants congregate in the

HOWRAH.	1911.		1901.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
Actual population	498,641	544,861	439,339	410,989
Immigrants	125,515	84,769	98,641	45,979
Emigrants	25,425	16,957	14,894	8,512
Natural population	398,661	397,049	355,798	373,322

neighbourhood of the mills along the river bank from Bally on the north to Uluberia on the south. The inland area in the north of the district has been opened up by the Howrah-Amta and Howrah-Shiakhala Light Railways, while the execution of the Howrah, Barajol and Rajapur drainage schemes has done much to reduce water-logged and uncultivable areas in thanas Dumjor and Jagatballabpur. The south of the Uluberia subdivision is not so water-logged and is generally healthier. The city of Howrah accounts for nearly one-fourth of the total increase, but all parts of the district are progressive. The rate of growth is twice as rapid in the Sadar subdivision, which is the centre of industrial activity, as in the Uluberia subdivision, where the population is mainly agricultural. Of the rural thanas, Uluberia has the highest ratio of increase (13·9 per cent.), while the percentage is least in Amta, where much of the land is water-logged and fever is prevalent.

### CENTRAL BENGAL.

214. Though the 24-Parganas, as a whole, has steadily added to its population since 1872, the growth has not been uniform. In 1881 there was a net increase of 7 per cent., but the Barrackpore subdivision declined by 9 per cent. owing

24-PARGANAS.	Population, 1911.	PERCENTAGE OF VARIATION.	
		1901-1911	1891-1901.
<b>DISTRICT TOTAL</b>	<b>2,434,104</b>	<b>+ 17·12</b>	<b>+ 9·89</b>
<b>Sadar Subdivision</b>	<b>756,348</b>	<b>+ 12·67</b>	<b>+ 11·63</b>
Barrackpore	100,309	+ 10·99	+ 4·63
Malda	92,637	+ 13·49	+ 41·27
Jaysongar	123,566	+ 14·72	+ 18·82
Shanagar	87,470	+ 14·36	+ 12·38
Behala	50,482	+ 0·92	—
Tollygunge	86,487	+ 19·42	—
Sonarpur	47,325	+ 2·17	—
Vidya-sagar	91,704	+ 9·26	+ 6·71
Badga Budge	95,974	+ 16·34	+ 18·92
<b>Diamond Harbour Sub-division.</b>	<b>515,725</b>	<b>+ 11·93</b>	<b>+ 14·36</b>
Magra Hat	140,019	+ 7·36	+ 4·90
Palta	27,301	+ 9·25	+ 3·20
Diamond Harbour	79,535	+ 11·71	+ 11·44
Kulpi	132,524	+ 12·66	+ 26·90
Mallanagar	87,646	+ 21·90	+ 23·02
<b>Barrackpore Subdivision</b>	<b>292,624</b>	<b>+ 41·69</b>	—
Birsingha	43,910	+ 18·62	+ 12·75
Barrackpore	72,259	+ 102·80	+ 28·12
Nosnara	25,236	+ 46·19	+ 7·88
Khardaha	22,463	+ 13·06	+ 7·9
Dum-Dum	26,987	+ 13·06	—
Nalhati	101,767	+ 55·78	—
<b>Barasat Subdivision</b>	<b>292,791</b>	<b>+ 10·84</b>	—
Habra	74,820	+ 5·71	+ 0·90
Deganga	62,532	+ 12·72	+ 1·03
Barasat	156,839	+ 12·96	—
<b>Basirhat Subdivision</b>	<b>429,476</b>	<b>+ 15·39</b>	<b>+ 7·22</b>
Basirhat	141,940	+ 7·94	+ 4·58
Harna	94,720	+ 12·57	+ 10·66
Harna	69,433	+ 11·18	+ 1·96
Harnabad	126,983	+ 31·01	+ 16·79
<b>Suburbs of Calcutta</b>	<b>147,240</b>	<b>+ 45·28</b>	<b>+ 15·62</b>
Cossipore—Caltpur	44,178	+ 18·23	+ 29·64
Manicktollah	53,767	+ 66·01	+ 13·01
Garden Reach	49,295	+ 60·56	+ 1·02

rainfall next year was deficient and the outturn was again poor. Consequently, in 1907 there was distress, to meet which agricultural loans and

to the prevalence of malaria. At the next census a proportional growth of 11·9 per cent. was registered, and this was followed by another increase of 9·9 per cent. In the last of these decades (1891-1901) the riparian population grew by 12 per cent. owing to the development of the industrial towns along the Hooghly, but the rate of growth was twice as fast in the southern thanas, where the progress of reclamation in the Sundarbans attracted numerous settlers. On the other hand, the central and northern thanas remained stationary or lost population.

215. Conditions between 1901 and 1911 were in favour of a further growth of population. The public health was good, the births exceeding the deaths by 100,000. The outturn of the crops was well up to the average during the first half of the decade. In 1905 they were short owing to heavy but unevenly distributed rainfall, while the

other relief measures were necessary. On the other hand, there was a continued and increasing activity in manufacturing and industrial centres, which led to an addition of 50 registered factories (*i.e.*, factories employing 50 hands or more) and of 75,000 employes. Considerable progress was also made in the reclamation of the Sundarbans, where agricultural colonies are growing rapidly in spite of the absence of facilities of communication. The north of the district has no such drawbacks, for areas which were without railway communication are now served by the Barasat-Basirhat Light Railway, which was opened to traffic in 1905 and extended to Hasnabad in 1909; another line from Beliaghata Bridge to Patipukur was opened in 1910. The suburban traffic between Calcutta and stations in this district has also developed rapidly: in 1910 the number of season tickets issued to and from Sealdah was 31,766. The extension of the Calcutta Electric Tramway to Alipore, Tollygunge and Behala has assisted in the development of those places, while the Port Commissioners' steamer service has popularized the riverain municipalities in the Barrackpore subdivision. The result is that a growing number of clerks employed in Calcutta offices live outside the city and are daily passengers on the trains, trams or ferry steamers.

216. The total increase of population since 1901 is 355,745 or 17 per cent., nearly half of which

24-PARGANAS.	1911.		1901.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
Actual population	1,305,700	1,125,404	1,022,916	885,445
Immigrants	274,479	125,144	154,362	70,414
Emigrants	72,097	67,145	83,017	55,942
Natural population	1,102,318	1,069,408	1,000,596	970,972

may be ascribed to the increased number of immigrants, most of whom are attracted by the good wages offered in the mills along the Hooghly or for agricultural labour in the interior. Their number has

risen by 176,000 since 1901, and they now constitute one-sixth of the total population. On the other hand, there has been a loss of 20,000 by emigration, and more than half of the increment of population must be attributed to natural growth. The Barrackpore subdivision has a phenomenal increase, representing 42 per cent., which is nearly entirely due to the influx of mill-hands—the proportion of males to females in the whole subdivision is 5 to 3. In none of the other subdivisions, whether industrial or agricultural, is the rate of growth under 10 per cent. There is no sign of a drain of the population to Calcutta; on the contrary, the development of suburban railways and river steamer services points to the fact that an increasing proportion of the workers in Calcutta prefer to have their homes outside the city.

217. A special inquiry, made by the Bengal Drainage Committee in 1906-07, showed that the district, as a whole, is not abnormally unhealthy nor specially malarious, though some portions of it return high rates of mortality. The noticeably malarious thanas were proved to be those of Dum-Dum, Khardaha, Barrackpore, Noapara, Naihati, Deganga and Habra; the least malarious areas are Bhangar, Matla, Diamond Harbour and Budge Budge. In the healthy thanas the rate of increase has varied from 11 to 17 per cent.; in the unhealthy thanas the natural loss of population by death or lowered vitality is counterbalanced by immigration. Five of the seven unhealthy thanas lie along the Hooghly in the Barrackpore subdivision, where mill-towns cluster closely together, and the effect of malaria is obscured by the shifting of population to industrial centres. Habra has an increase of only 5 per cent., a rate a little below that in the adjoining thana of Baduria. The two thanas last mentioned lie in the extreme north-east of the district, and have advanced at a relatively slow pace compared with the thanas immediately to the south of them, *viz.*, Barasat, Deganga and Basirhat, which have all benefited by the opening of the light railway and have grown at a uniform rate of 13 per cent. There has been even more rapid progress in the Sundarbans thanas to the south and south-east, where cultivation is rapidly spreading. Hasnabad, which has also been opened up by the railway, has a gain of 32 per cent., and Mathurapur of 21 per cent.

218. The census of Calcutta forms the subject of a separate report, and

CALCUTTA.

has also already been referred to; its results will therefore be only briefly mentioned here.

The increase in the population of the city since 1901 (48,271 or 5.69 per cent.)

CALCUTTA.		Population, 1911.	PERCENTAGE OF VARIATION.	
			1901-1911.	1891-1901.
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>896,067</b>	<b>+ 5.69</b>	<b>+ 24.25</b>
Champakur	Ward No. 1	43,036	+ 13.14	+ 28.74
Kumartoli	" 2	33,073	+ 9.08	+ 12.30
Bartala	" 3	24,610	+ 6.70	+ 37.84
Sukon's Street	" 4	48,112	+ 14.96	+ 20.67
Jorabagan	" 5	32,114	+ 9.71	+ 20.24
Jorambato	" 6	20,541	+ 13.37	+ 37.20
Barabazar	" 7	30,495	+ 7.42	+ 42.93
Kalutola	" 8	27,094	+ 9.02	+ 24.39
Moolipara	" 9	63,362	+ 1.17	+ 22.60
Howbazar	" 10	35,014	+ 7.58	+ 12.34
Paddipukur	" 11	29,966	+ 6.79	+ 27.16
Waterloo Street	" 12	6,284	+ 0.38	+ 6.74
Freemans Bazar	" 13	28,436	+ 3.08	+ 10.02
Taloto	" 14	22,112	+ 0.36	+ 10.37
Oodluga	" 15	11,382	+ 22.12	+ 38.33
Park Street	" 16	2,294	+ 13.22	+ 27.22
Bom n Butee (Victoria Terrace)	" 17	2,122	+ 42.70	+ 18.62
Hastings	" 18	1,850	+ 0.23	+ 22.20
Rusuly	" 19	45,072	+ 16.92	+ 12.07
Boalipukur	" 20	27,861	+ 24.32	+ 22.71
Ballygunge-Tollygunge	" 21	29,337	+ 46.84	+ 19.17
Bowbaniapore	" 22	24,562	+ 9.23	+ 16.55
Alipore	" 23	19,749	+ 11.46	+ 18.28
Exbapore	" 24	21,869	+ 12.21	+ 40.65
Watganj	" 25	43,506	+ 13.33	+ 41.31
Fort William	" 26	1,411	+ 32.48	+ 7.90
Port	" 27	25,290	+ 9.07	+ 11.25
Canals	" 28	2,282	+ 26.38	+ 111.06

is entirely due to immigration, the excess of deaths over births in the decade being no less than 145,534. The large excess of deaths is due to the relative deficiency of females in the population, to the practice of married women being sent away to their native villages for their confinement, which results in births being entered in the returns for outside districts, to the considerable proportion of prostitutes among the female population, and last, but not least, to high infantile mortality. The number of those born in Calcutta represents only 29 per cent. of the total population, and the males outnumber the females by more than two to one. The number of immigrants has risen by 82,000 since 1901, but there has also been an increasing exodus of the native born, particularly to the suburban municipalities and to Howrah.

the males outnumber the females by more than

POPULATION.	1911.		1901.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
Actual population	607,874	388,393	562,406	285,200
Immigrants	471,120	168,223	401,602	150,537
Emigrants	47,944	40,204	17,922	18,898
Native population	188,493	180,374	178,916	148,061

219. The records of the district of Nadia for the last 50 years are a depressing chronicle of disease, either endemic or epidemic. Between 1857 and 1864 it was swept by the fever which was later known as Burdwan fever, but which at first was given the designation of Nadia fever. An inquiry into its causes and prevalence was made in 1862 by a special officer, Mr. J. Elliot, who described the disease as differing only in its intensity from the ordinary form of malarious fever, and attributed its virulence to villages being undrained, tanks uncleaned and overgrown with noxious weeds, and houses unventilated and surrounded by a tangled growth of jungle and rank vegetation. The mortality from this epidemic in some villages amounted to 60 per cent. of the population, and those who had escaped lingered on in a state of apathy and despair. The causes of the epidemic were further inquired into by a committee, usually referred to as the Epidemic Commission. The

NADIA.		Population, 1911.	PERCENTAGE OF VARIATION.	
			1901-1911.	1891-1901.
<b>DISTRICT TOTAL</b>		<b>1,517,846</b>	<b>- 2.44</b>	<b>...</b>
<b>Sadar Subdivision</b>		<b>366,614</b>	<b>+ 2.01</b>	<b>+ 3.53</b>
Kaliganj		23,122	+ 0.83	+ 12.70
Chupra		70,440	+ 7.29	+ 2.14
Nokulpura		54,182	+ 0.36	+ 0.79
Kisoregunge		35,752	+ 3.12	+ 12.28
Kalshagar		198,196	+ 2.15	+ 5.69
Hanskhali		44,941	+ 2.06	+ 14.99
<b>Kushlia Subdivision</b>		<b>456,885</b>	<b>- 4.25</b>	<b>...</b>
Kushlia		100,304	+ 3.69	+ 7.19
Mirpur		125,653	+ 3.66	+ 2.17
Dundapur		81,740	+ 2.73	+ 0.12
Kumarkhali		127,188	+ 6.27	...
<b>Meherpur Subdivision</b>		<b>329,563</b>	<b>- 5.33</b>	<b>+ 3.39</b>
Karimpur		94,250	+ 0.53	+ 5.53
Gangaul		69,361	+ 12.72	+ 8.62
Meherpur		75,392	+ 0.39	+ 6.26
Tehatta		92,570	+ 1.66	+ 7.72
<b>Chudanga Subdivision</b>		<b>242,032</b>	<b>- 4.93</b>	<b>+ 3.74</b>
Chudanga		61,965	+ 9.25	+ 1.84
Damodhuda		69,042	+ 0.66	+ 9.63
Alandanga		87,012	+ 4.62	+ 1.75
Jhansagar		34,113	+ 1.06	+ 1.54
<b>Ranaghat Subdivision</b>		<b>220,752</b>	<b>+ 1.69</b>	<b>...</b>
Santipur		44,947	+ 1.23	+ 8.16
Ranaghat		80,425	+ 5.04	+ 1.00
Chokdaha		81,367	+ 0.01	...

Commission ascribed the epidemic to obstructed drainage and waterlogging of the soil, which had been intensified by a gradual filling-up of the *bils* by the deposit brought in from the rivers: this again had been supplemented by a gradual but continuous rise in the level of the river beds, thus causing a general derangement of levels so serious as to affect the natural drainage of the country. There was another serious epidemic which lasted from 1880 to 1885; this was inquired into in 1881-82 by the Nadia Fever Commission, which came to the conclusion that the epidemic was due to the insanitary condition of the villages and the silting up of its rivers. A further investigation was made by the Bengal Drainage Committee in 1906-07, whose conclusions may be stated at some length as throwing light on the unhealthiness of different parts of the district and the results of the present census.

220. "It is impossible to differentiate between the physical features of the different portions of the Nadia district. The whole area consists of an alluvial plain, which still receives a fair share of the Gangetic flood through the channels of the Jalangi, Matabhanga and Garai, but it is subject to general inundation in years of high flood only. Back-waters, minor streams and swamps intersect it in all directions. A low-lying tract of black clay soil, known as the Kalanter, stretches from the adjoining district of Murshidabad through the Kaliganj and Tehatta thanas on the west, but these areas do not present any special features from the point of view of health. Taking the average annual district death-rate from fever for 1901-05 (33·3 per mille) it may be said that those thanas which have a corresponding rate of 35 and over are specially unhealthy, and those with a rate of 30 and under are comparatively healthy. On the basis the most unhealthy thanas in Nadia are those of Gangni and Karimpur adjoining one another on the north-west, and Jibannagar, Kumarkhali and Naopara\* in the east. The more healthy thanas comprise those of Krishnagar, Chapra and Meherpur, forming a little strip from north to south in the centre of the district, and Chakdaha in the extreme south. It is difficult to connect the figures showing the variations in population, in the three censuses of 1881, 1891 and 1901, with a theory of the progressive deterioration of health in thanas which now show the highest rates of mortality from fever, but the outbreaks of epidemic fever in the district between 1861 and 1864, and again between 1880 and 1886, have complicated the conclusions as to normal health which may be deduced from the various fluctuations. \* \* \* Looking to the available evidence touching the medical history of the district, we arrive at the following conclusions:—(a) the whole district is very unhealthy; (b) similarly, the whole district is feverish; (c) investigation upon a small scale has demonstrated the fact that some of the fever is probably due to Leishman-Donovan infection, but that the greater part is malarial; (d) the most malarious thanas are those of Gangni, Karimpur, Jibannagar, Kumarkhali and Naopara; (e) the least malarious areas are the Krishnagar, Chapra, Chakdaha and Meherpur thanas."

221. It may easily be imagined that in such a district as this the population is not likely to be progressive, for, apart from actual mortality, the constitution of the survivors is enfeebled, and their reproductive powers reduced by constant sickness. In 1881, it is true, a gain of 11 per cent. was recorded, but this was due merely to the deficiencies of the first enumeration, for from 1872 onwards it suffered terribly from fever and in one year lost no less than 40 per mille of its inhabitants. In the next decade there was a decrease of 1·2 per cent., and in 1901 there was an advance of only 1·5 per cent. Conditions between 1901 and 1910 were very unfavourable, the only healthy years being 1904, 1909 and 1910. Not only was fever generally prevalent, but there were constant epidemics of cholera from 1902 to 1908, the death-rate from cholera in those seven years averaging over 4 per mille and being as high as 7 per mille in 1907. There was, moreover, scarcity in 1908, when conditions approached those recognized as famine conditions, though it was not found necessary to declare famine under the Famine Code. The rainfall of 1905, though in excess of the normal, was badly distributed. Next year it was below the average and was again unequally distributed, while in 1907 it was still more deficient, there being an almost complete failure of the monsoon in September and October. The distress which ensued in 1908

\* The Naopara thana is now called Mirpur.



affected about 800 square miles, comprising the whole of the Meherpur subdivision and parts of the Sadar and Chuadanga subdivisions.

222. It may be added that the land appears to be of low fertility. "The soil," reports the Collector, "is universally a light sandy loam possessing but little fertilizing power. The light manuring which is applied is generally insufficient, and there is no doubt that the soil is getting less and less fertile. The average yield of crops is low, as will be seen from the fact that the average yield of winter rice is 805 lbs. per acre, and of autumn rice 835 lbs., while in Jessore it is 1,145 and 870, and in 24-Parganas it is 943 and 1,014 respectively. Another noticeable feature is that it is becoming necessary to allow the land to lie fallow for longer periods between croppings. During the five years from 1904-05 to 1908-09 only about 40 per cent. of the total cultivable area was actually cropped. The corresponding percentages in the two sister districts of Khulna and Jessore were about 74 and 89 respectively. It can safely be concluded that the soil in Nadia is not sufficiently fertile to enable the same percentage of the population to depend upon agriculture as in other districts."

223. A light railway connecting Ranaghat and Krishnagar was opened in 1898, and the Murshidabad branch of the Eastern Bengal State Railway in 1904-05. All the subdivisions, except Meherpur, are traversed by at least one branch of the Eastern Bengal State Railway. The Meherpur subdivision is cut off from the railway and has no water communications, for the only river which traverses it, the Bhairab, is silted up. Emigration is more active than in any other district of the division, and the number of persons leaving it, in order to escape its unhealthy climate or for the sake of employment elsewhere, has risen by 11,500 since 1901. On the other hand, the number of immigrants has increased by 14,000, owing largely to the number of workmen required for the construction of the Lower Ganges Bridge at Damukdia. There is therefore a net gain from migration of 2,500.

224. Only five thanas, viz., Kaliganj, Chapra, Krishnagar and Hanskhali in the Sadar subdivision, and Ranaghat in the subdivision of the same name, have an increase of population. Krishnagar and Chapra are among the thanas classed by the Drainage Committee as among the least malarious in

NADIA.	1911.		1901.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
Actual population ... ..	812,480	805,286	522,922	505,389
Immigrants ... ..	37,810	33,543	30,226	28,794
Emigrants ... ..	74,266	61,013	71,160	52,577
Natural population ... ..	849,236	850,736	562,925	589,083

the district. The other two placed under this category, viz., Chakdaha and Meherpur, are so far fortunate, that they have not lost population but are stationary. The increase of the Ranaghat thana is due to the fact

that it contains the town of Ranaghat, an important railway junction where labour is attracted by work on the line and in the brick-fields. The malarious thanas mentioned by the Drainage Committee have all lost population at a rate varying from 4 to 13 per cent. The Karimpur thana, in particular, shows a gradual decrease of about 6,000 during each of the two decades since 1891. Apart from malaria, the decrease is partly due to the fact that a portion of the north of the thana has been subject to diluvion by the river Padma, necessitating migration to the northern districts of Pabna and Rajshahi.

Every subdivision has lost ground, but the loss in the Kushtia subdivision is greater than the figures indicate, because at the time of the census, a labour force of 3,447 was employed on the construction of the Lower Ganges Bridge, many of whom were immigrants from outside. The falling off in the Chuadanga and Meherpur subdivisions, on the other hand, must be discounted by the fact that, at the time when the census was taken, a number of labourers had migrated temporarily to the adjacent districts of Jessore, Khulna, etc., where labour is required for harvesting winter rice. The main crop of Nadia is *aus* or early rice, whereas in these districts winter rice predominates. When therefore the *aus* crop has been harvested, a large number of agricultural labourers find employment in reaping the winter crop of other districts.

225. Owing to the ravages of Burdwan fever, the increase of population between 1872 and 1891 was very small (barely 3 per cent.), but a good recovery was made between 1891

and 1901, the proportional growth recorded in the cent. The increase was far from uniform, for in

MURSHIDABAD.	Population, 1911.	PERCENTAGE OF VARIATION.	
		1901-1911.	1891-1901.
<b>DISTRICT TOTAL</b> ...	<b>1,372,274</b>	<b>+ 2.93</b>	<b>+ 6.57</b>
<b>Sadar Subdivision</b> ...	<b>517,723</b>	<b>- 0.65</b>	<b>—</b>
Gorakhpur ...	35,074	+ 18.41	—
Berhampore ...	30,143	+ 7.16	+ 373
Beidanga ...	118,938	+ 13.64	—
Noeda ...	50,779	+ 8.00	+ 623
Hariharpur ...	53,251	+ 6.70	+ 250
Dumtabor ...	35,343	+ 4.82	+ 473
Baulmgar ...	85,553	+ 3.81	+ 258
Dumka ...	112,342	+ 3.54	+ 220
<b>Lalbagh Subdivision</b> ...	<b>195,128</b>	<b>+ 2.73</b>	<b>—</b>
Bhagwangola ...	59,254	+ 3.84	+ 457
Shamshirganj ...	21,902	+ 13.42	+ 1894
Shamshirganj ...	11,169	+ 8.65	+ 1894
Asanpur ...	12,346	+ 3.30	—
Sagardighi ...	40,424	+ 3.02	+ 3691
Nobogram ...	49,833	+ 7.94	—
<b>Jangipur Subdivision</b> ...	<b>357,930</b>	<b>+ 7.10</b>	<b>+ 5.36</b>
Laiga ...	66,517	+ 7.91	+ 133
Raghunathganj ...	73,259	+ 9.07	+ 1074
Mirzapur ...	47,597	+ 4.01	+ 930
Suti ...	47,292	+ 4.44	+ 640
Shamshirganj ...	102,965	+ 13.79	+ 1192
<b>Kandi Subdivision</b> ...	<b>301,493</b>	<b>+ 9.75</b>	<b>—</b>
Bharatpur ...	36,621	+ 0.83	—
Khargaon ...	68,549	+ 7.49	+ 1392
Kandi ...	34,798	+ 9.00	+ 1231
Barwan ...	74,375	+ 6.55	+ 978
Gokaran ...	26,947	+ 2.20	—

the latter year being 6.6 per cent. The low-lying water-logged tracts to the east it was only 3 per cent., whereas in the higher and better drained thanas to the west it averaged 12.9 per cent. It was as high as 26 per cent. in Sagardighi and Nabagram, two sparsely populated thanas which attract immigrants from Birbhum and the Sonthal Parganas.

226. The decade 1901-1910 was one of chequered prosperity. In 1904 there were severe floods by which a considerable area was submerged. Next year there was an epidemic of cholera, which caused over 8,000 deaths, and this was followed by an epidemic of small-pox in 1907. In that year too the Lalitakuri embankment in the Lalbagh subdivision gave away, and there was a partial failure of the winter rice crop. Taking the average of the whole decade, however, crops were almost normal, and a demand for labour was created by the construction of three new railway lines, viz., the Ranaghat-Murshidabad branch of the Eastern Bengal State Railway, and the Barharwa-Azimganj-Katwa and Ondal-Sainthia branches of the East Indian Railway. The effect of these lines being opened is already apparent in an increasing exodus of labourers during the cold weather. The number of persons enumerated outside the district is now nearly 29,000 more than in 1901, and the district has lost nearly 25,000 by migration more than it has gained.

227. The west and east of the district are clearly differentiated by their physical configuration.

MURSHIDABAD.	1911.		1901.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
Actual population ...	678,292	608,982	633,248	679,636
Immigrants ...	30,002	36,569	35,546	35,248
Emigrants ...	31,306	35,325	38,469	40,227
Natural population ...	676,988	712,726	620,245	684,617

The portion lying to the west of the Bhagirathi is a continuation of the Chota Nagpur plateau: its general level is higher than that of the rest of the district, the surface is undulating and the climate is comparatively dry. The eastern portion is a deltaic tract in which the land is still being gradually raised by the deposition of silt from the rivers which traverse it. Here, however, the action of nature has been interfered with by the marginal embankment along the left bank of the Bhagirathi, which prevents the inundation which would otherwise occur.

228. The healthiness and unhealthiness of different parts are described as follows by the Drainage Committee:—"Taking the average annual district death-rate from fever (1901-1905) as 29.7 per mille, it may be concluded that the thanas which exhibit a rate of 25 and under are fairly healthy and those in excess of 40 noticeably the reverse. The healthy thanas of Khargaon, Kandi, Barwan, Gokaran and Bharatpur (constituting the Kandi subdivision) occupy a compact block in the south-west corner, while Raghunathganj and Mirzapur, along with Shamshirganj, Suti and Sagardighi (the rates for which are only slightly higher), lie to the north-west—all (except Raghunathganj) to the west of the Bhagirathi. The only other thanas on that side of the river are Nobogram, which is neither specially healthy nor the reverse, and Asanpur, which falls within the area of high rates. The feverish thanas group themselves in a well-defined tract, running north to south along the east bank of the Bhagirathi from Bhagwangola, through Manullabazar,

Shahanagar, Daulatbazar, Asanpur (west of the Bhagirathi), Sujaganj and Gorabazar. The average annual mortality from fever (1901—1905) in these thanas runs higher than any rates in either Jessore or Nadia, with the one exception of the Gangni thana in the latter, which exceeds the rate of Bhagwangola only. Hariharpara adjoining to the east is only slightly less unhealthy. The eastern portion of the district, Gowas, Jalangi and Nonda, stands midway in point of health between the two areas above defined. The variations in the total population recorded in the three censuses, especially during the decade 1891—1901 (the figures for the earlier ten years were affected by epidemic fever), corroborate these conclusions in a marked manner. The district as a whole showed a fair increase in population at the last census (+6·6 per cent.), but all the noticeably unhealthy thanas, with the exception of Bhagwangola and Hariharpara, and Gorabazar and Asanpur, which were practically stationary, showed a falling off, although it is to be remarked that the declining prosperity of the trade which used to centre around Murshidabad and Cossimbazar has also contributed to this result. The only other decrease, in Suti, which is a healthy area, was due to emigration, not illness. The facts then may be summarised as follows :—(a) Some portions of the district are extremely unhealthy, more so than Jessore or Nadia; other portions are comparatively healthy. (b) Fever is similarly distributed. (c) Local investigation has shown that the fever is malarial, but the presence or absence of Leishman-Donovan infection is an open question. (d) The most malarious thanas are Bhagwangola, Manullabazar, Shahanagar, Daulatbazar, Sujaganj, Hariharpara, Asanpur and perhaps Jalangi. (e) The least malarious areas are comprised in the whole of the Kandi subdivision, and the thanas of Shamshirganj, Suti, Raghunathganj, Mirzapur and Sagardighi.

The conclusions of the Drainage Committee are confirmed by the results of the present census. The Kandi subdivision has developed at the rate of 9·75 per cent., and all the other thanas mentioned as least malarious have an increase except Raghunathganj, where the population is stationary. Shamshirganj, which made the greatest progress between 1872 and 1901, is still growing rapidly and has added another 16 per cent. to its population. Of the eight thanas mentioned as most malarious, six are distinctly decadent.

229. Jessore, like Nadia, is a land of moribund rivers and obstructed drainage, and its history during the last half century is also one of recurring epidemics of disease and declining population. It forms a flat alluvial plain inter-

JESSORE.	Population, 1911.	PERCENTAGE OF VARIATION, 1901—1911.
<b>DISTRICT TOTAL</b>	<b>1,758,264</b>	<b>+ 3·03</b>
<b>Sadar Subdivision</b>	<b>462,305</b>	<b>- 3·82</b>
Bagherpara	50,308	- 0·40
Jessore	128,994	- 2·09
Jhiverpacha	78,226	+ 0·44
Madrampur	132,842	- 4·23
Keshafpur	72,407	- 6·00
<b>Jhenida Subdivision</b>	<b>362,518</b>	<b>- 6·13</b>
Balkopa	166,626	- 0·89
Jhenida	88,229	- 7·74
Kaliganj	71,368	- 13·20
Kotechandpur	36,385	- 9·72
<b>Magura Subdivision</b>	<b>265,948</b>	<b>- 4·12</b>
Magura	142,018	- 4·96
Mohammadpur	82,627	+ 0·28
Sadka I. O. P.	41,303	- 9·42
<b>Narail Subdivision</b>	<b>360,509</b>	<b>+ 2·54</b>
Lofata	120,664	+ 7·15
Narail	149,229	+ 2·71
Barkali	90,616	+ 2·91
<b>Bangaon Subdivision</b>	<b>306,984</b>	<b>- 3·27</b>
Malindighi	92,125	- 6·37
Bangaon	89,643	+ 0·71
Bangaon	104,126	- 2·14
Gaighata	42,040	- 2·90

sected by several rivers debouching from the Ganges, and by numerous lesser channels and *khal*s, many of which have lost their connection with feeder streams, and have become merely channels for local drainage. Some rivers, such as the Garai and Madhumati and a portion of the Chitra in the Narail subdivision, though they have degenerated considerably, still have flowing streams. Others have practically no current for the greater part of the year. Except in the rains, when they maintain a languid vitality, these so-called rivers are merely a chain of long stagnant pools overgrown with weeds. In the south, however, the lower reaches of the rivers are affected by the tide. After the rainy season a portion of the country is under water, either from the over-flowing of neighbouring rivers or from the local rainfall. When the land dries up, extensive *bils* are left, some of which remain stagnant throughout the year.

230. In 1817 the district suffered from a virulent epidemic of cholera,\* and in 1836 there was the first outbreak in epidemic form of that malignant type of fever which was first known as Nadia and then as Burdwan fever.† It lasted for seven years, and seemed to disappear in 1843. In 1846, however, it broke out again, and in the next two years spread over the whole district. After a temporary cessation the fever re-appeared in 1854-56, and about this time began to spread westward to Nadia and the 24-Parganas. This epidemic ceased in 1864, but between 1880 and 1885 there was another serious epidemic, for which the Nadia Fever Commission of 1881-82 could discover no specific cause. It held, however, that it had its source in the silting up of the main rivers and the general insanitary condition of the villages. Since 1891 fever of a less virulent type has been prevalent and formed the subject of a special inquiry by the Drainage Committee in 1906-07. The conclusions at which the Committee arrived were—“(1) The whole district is extremely unhealthy; (2) malarial fever prevails extensively everywhere; (3) by a rather arbitrary comparison, the thanas of Jhenida, Gaighata, Salikha and Bagharpara are the most malarious; (4) the least malarious are thanas Barkalia, Lohagara, Kotchandpur and Gadkhali.‡”

231. The only census at which there has been any increase of population is that of 1881, but the apparent increase then recorded must be attributed to incomplete enumeration at the preceding census. In 1891 there was a decline of 2·6 per cent., and this was followed by a further decrease of 4 per cent. in 1901. In the latter year the south-eastern corner was the only tract which showed even a nominal improvement, and the loss of population was greatest in the country running west and south-west from the Muhammadpur thana on the eastern boundary. The unhealthiness of the district was no less conspicuous during the decade 1901—1910, in which the total number of deaths exceeded the births by 70,000, while the death-rate was above the birth-rate in all but three years (1901, 1909 and 1910). This drain on the population is not counterbalanced by an influx from outside. The immigrants, it is true, are more numerous by nearly 13,000 than in 1901, but still fall short by 13,500 of the number of those born in Jessore who, owing either to necessity or choice, were resident elsewhere at the time of the census. All but five thanas have lost population. Three of these fortunate

thanas, viz., Barkalia, Lohagara and Jhikargachha, are among those mentioned by the Drainage Committee as the least malarious in the district; Barkalia and Lohagara form part of the Narail subdivision, which is the only tract which has made any progress.

JESSORE.	1911.		1901.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
Actual population ...	501,092	507,172	914,025	899,130
Immigrants ...	29,774	29,997	24,446	22,551
Emigrants ...	29,424	22,574	43,779	27,259
Natural population ...	910,766	894,047	983,515	904,988

## NORTH BENGAL.

232. Rajshahi is covered with recent alluvium, except in the north-west, where the elevated tract known as the Barind has a quasi-laterite soil. With the exception of the Padma, which forms the southern boundary of the district, and

RAJSHAHI.

\* It is commonly believed that 1817 was the first year and Jessore the first place in which cholera broke out in a virulent epidemic form, and that it had appeared before only in a mild endemic form. This belief does not appear to be justified, for there are historical references to earlier cholera epidemics. Not to multiply instances, Hicky's Bengal Gazette of 22nd April 1781 refers to an outbreak in Calcutta as follows:—"The plague has now broken out in Bengal and rages with great virulence: it has swept away already about 4,000 persons. Two hundred or upwards have been buried in the different Portuguese churches within the last few days." See also Jessore Gazetteer, p. 61.

† It was reported on in 1863 by Dr. Elliott, who traced it back as far as 1824 and noted that "a peculiar type of fever was prevalent in Jessore for many years previous to its first appearance in the district of Nadia."

‡ Now the Jhikargachha thana.

of the Mahananda, which runs for a short distance along its western border,

RAJSHAHI.	POPULATION.		PERCENTAGE OF VARIATION.	
	1911.	1901-1911.	1891-1901.	
<b>DISTRICT TOTAL</b>	<b>1,480,587</b>	<b>+ 1'37</b>	<b>+ 1'58</b>	
<b>Sadar Subdivision</b>	<b>564,224</b>	<b>+ 1'41</b>	<b>- 1'27</b>	
Baola	98,628	+ 2'49	- 2'57	
Tanor	92,390	+ 4'37	+ 1'77	
Godagari	23,097	+ 17'06	+ 1'28	
Puthia	86,369	- 6'46	- 3'57	
Charghat	102,612	- 6'26	- 5'92	
Bagnura	159,127	+ 4'38	+ 3'95	
<b>Naogaon Subdivision</b>	<b>517,405</b>	<b>+ 8'91</b>	<b>+ 12'13</b>	
Naogaon	* 187,291	+ 10'52	+ 14'23	
Manda	435,738	+ 7'66	+ 10'81	
Panchupur	89,018	+ 4'22	+ 8'67	
Mahadebpur	94,661	+ 12'90	+ 14'10	
<b>Nator Subdivision</b>	<b>398,958</b>	<b>- 7'02</b>	<b>- 4'76</b>	
Nator	118,160	- 12'63	- 9'94	
Singra	120,508	+ 0'48	+ 1'81	
Bawalgram (Barligan)	98,963	- 7'99	- 6'77	
Lalpar	61,327	- 8'13	- 1'98	

the river system consists of a network of moribund streams and water-courses. The district slopes slightly from west to east, and its drainage, instead of being carried off by rivers, flows into a chain of marshes and swamps, the neighbourhood of which is malarious and unhealthy. Rajshahi is, in fact, one of the most malarious districts in North Bengal, and had a higher death rate during the past decade than any district in the division except Jalpai-guri and Dinajpur. Nator is the most malarious, and Naogaon the least malarious subdivision in the district, the Sadar subdivision occupying

an intermediate place between the two.

233. Between 1872 and 1891 the population of the district, as a whole, was almost stationary, and in the next ten years there was a small increase of 1'6 per cent. During these 30 years the south and centre of the district were decadent, the thanas concerned sustaining a loss of 12'8 per cent.; on the other hand, the population increased by 25'6 per cent. in the Barind, and by 59'3 per cent. in the rich *ganja*-growing thanas of Naogaon and Panchupur in the Naogaon subdivision. The Barind has developed owing to the immigration of Santals, Mundas and Oraons, who find congenial employment in clearing it for cultivation, while the Naogaon subdivision has benefited by the movement of the inhabitants of unhealthy water-logged areas to the healthier and more prosperous thanas included in it.

234. The history of the last decade has been uneventful. Fever has continued unabated, and the reported births exceeded the deaths by only 31,266, representing an increase of 2'14 per cent. on the population of 1901. The actual increase of the population according to the census is 20,003 or 1'4

RAJSHAHI.	1911.		1901.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
Actual population	755,206	725,261	740,764	710,820
Immigrants	57,940	38,027	46,315	32,364
Emigrants	20,097	18,829	11,941	11,671
Natural population	718,253	705,963	705,996	699,127

per cent. only, a result which is practically unaffected by the variations in the number of immigrants and emigrants since 1901. Both are now more numerous than they were in that year, but the increase of the former (15,888)

is nearly counterbalanced by the increase of the latter (15,114). The rate of growth in the natural population indeed closely corresponds with that of the actual population. Small as the increase is, it is mainly attributable to the greater fecundity of the Muhammadans. While they have increased in numbers, the Hindus have decreased by 2'79 per cent.

235. The deterioration of the Nator subdivision, which is the chief centre of malaria, has continued, and a further loss of 7 per cent. is now recorded. Singra is, as in 1901, the only thana that has gained population, but the gain is under one-half per cent. The Sadar subdivision has a slight growth of 1½ per cent. The most progressive thana in this subdivision, or indeed in the whole district, is Godagari, which lies within the Barind and has added 17 per cent. to its numbers. Elsewhere, there has been a small increase of 3½ to 4½ per cent., but Puthia and Charghat have again decreased. Naogaon subdivision, where two thanas (Manda and Mahadebpur) lie in the Barind and two (Naogaon and Panchupur) in the *ganja* area, is by far the most

progressive part of the district, all its thanas contributing to the increase. It is now more populous by 22 per cent. than it was in 1891, whereas the Sadar subdivision has remained practically stationary, the increase at this census not having made up entirely for the loss in 1901. The Nator subdivision is steadily declining and has lost 11 per cent. of its population the last 20 years.

236. The district of Dinajpur is a flat alluvial plain broken in the south by the Barind, which rises in low undulating ridges, and in the north-west by low hills along the Kulik river. It is well drained, and the rainfall is abundant and well-

distributed; but these advantages are minimized by the prevalence of fever of a malignant type. A comparatively thinly peopled district, its population has been steadily growing, the ratio of increase, though never very great, rising at each successive census. Conditions between 1901 and 1910 were generally favourable to a further increase. The death rate was the highest in North Bengal, but was surpassed by the birth rate (43·7 per mille), the result being an excess of 45,626 of births over deaths. There was some scarcity during 1908 and 1909 in the west of the

DINAJPUR.	POPULATION.		PERCENTAGE OF VARIATION.	
	1911.	1901-1911.	1891-1901.	
<b>DISTRICT TOTAL</b> ... ..	<b>1,687,863</b>	<b>+ 772</b>	<b>+ 570</b>	
<b>Sadar Subdivision</b> ... ..	<b>894,954</b>	<b>+ 904</b>	<b>+ 404</b>	
Dinajpur (Kotwali) ... ..	217,775	+ 498	+ 631	
Kaliganj ... ..	116,360	+ 1068	+ 496	
Baliganj ... ..	88,520	+ 308	+ 136	
Banshihari ... ..	99,892	+ 1531	+ 331	
Parbatipur ... ..	84,044	+ 1390	+ 841	
Nawabganj ... ..	88,362	+ 1708	+ 1871	
<b>Balurghat Subdivision</b> ... ..	<b>447,343</b>	<b>+ 1577</b>	<b>+ 1421</b>	
Patniala ... ..	110,181	+ 1794	+ 1905	
Pera ... ..	83,600	+ 1688	+ 879	
Balurghat (Patnam) ... ..	104,501	+ 1422	+ 2596	
Gangarampur ... ..	95,686	+ 1430	+ 499	
Phulbart (Chintaman) ... ..	71,870	+ 1693	+ 1387	
<b>Thakurgaon Subdivision</b> ... ..	<b>545,566</b>	<b>+ 046</b>	<b>+ 220</b>	
Thakurgaon ... ..	229,671	- 165	+ 139	
Ranmankali ... ..	72,981	- 079	- 045	
Pirganj ... ..	104,509	+ 641	+ 386	
Birganj ... ..	144,414	+ 047	+ 416	

district and in the south-east corner in Ghoraghat, which was met by the distribution of loans and relief works. All distress disappeared with the bumper crops reaped next year, and it does not seem to have affected the growth of population, for during these two years there were 17,000 more births and 11,500 less deaths than in the two preceding years.

237. The increase disclosed by the census is far greater than is apparent

DINAJPUR.	1911.		1901.	
	Ma'n.	Female.	Ma'n.	Female.
Actual population ... ..	889,876	797,987	822,462	742,992
Immigrants ... ..	119,502	77,541	80,789	51,214
Emigrants ... ..	11,096	12,494	8,420	8,773
Natural population ... ..	781,430	702,870	731,462	700,499

from the vital statistics, amounting to 121,018 or 7·7 per cent. The difference is due to the largely enhanced number of immigrants, of whom there are 65,000 more than in 1901, while emigrants have only increased by 6,000. The

immigrants are mainly found in the Barind, where they are fast reclaiming the waste: they are nearly all aboriginals, such as Santals, Mundas and Oraons, who have increased from 90,345 to 131,668. Owing mainly to their presence, all the thanas in the Barind, viz., Kaliganj, Banshihari, Parbatipur and Nawabganj of the Sadar subdivision and the whole of the Balurghat subdivision, have increases of over 10 per cent. The Thakurgaon subdivision, which grew by 2 per cent. between 1891 and 1901, is now practically stationary, one thana only (Pirganj) having gained population. This subdivision suffers severely from malaria, and the loss it thereby sustains is not compensated for by immigration, as in the Sadar and Balurghat subdivisions.

238. Between 1872 and 1891 there was a continuous growth of population in Jalpaiguri due to the development of the tea industry (which was introduced in 1874) and to the influx of labourers and cultivators. The increase was, however, almost

JALPAIGURI.

entirely confined to the Western Duars, *i.e.*, the country lying along the foot

JALPAIGURI.	POPULATION.		PERCENTAGE OF VARIATION.	
	1911.	1901-1911.	1891-1901.	
<b>DISTRICT TOTAL</b> ... ..	<b>902,660</b>	<b>+ 1479</b>	<b>+ 1570</b>	
<b>Sadar Subdivision</b> ... ..	<b>699,959</b>	<b>+ 495</b>	<b>+ 988</b>	
Jalpaiguri ... ..	85,789	+ 470	- 070	
Rajauli ... ..	75,480	+ 408	- 231	
Boda ... ..	103,401	- 037	- 072	
Pathgram ... ..	58,624	+ 423	- 228	
Mainaguri ... ..	200,636	+ 923	+ 2117	
Damdin ... ..	116,035	+ 737	+ 2826	
<b>Alipore Subdivision</b> ... ..	<b>202,701</b>	<b>+ 6983</b>	<b>+ 6475</b>	
Alipore ... ..	126,586	+ 8149	+ 7001	
Falakata ... ..	76,115	+ 6834	+ 3474	

of the Himalayas between the Tista and Sankos rivers, which comprises the Alipur subdivision (thanas Alipur and Falakata) and two thanas in the Sadar subdivision, viz., Mainaguri (with the Dhupguri outpost) and Damdin. In this area there was a remarkable increase, the tea gardens having attracted labour, while new settlers came in from other districts and the Cooch Behar State, as well as from the west of

the district. With regard to the condition of the district during the past decade, the Deputy Commissioner (Mr. Lees) writes:—"The chief feature of the history of the past ten years is the great expansion of cultivation, especially in the Alipur subdivision. There are now few jungle blocks in the district outside the reserved forests. The rapid development of the tea industry between 1881 and 1891, when the area under tea rose from 35,683 acres to 76,158 acres, suffered some check owing to the depression of the tea industry, but the area under tea has now risen to 88,000 acres. Almost all the available land which is suited for tea cultivation in this district has now been taken up, and further expansion of tea cultivation cannot be very great. The decade was a period of prosperity without any serious flood or other calamity." There were, it is true, severe floods in 1902, 1906 and 1910, but comparatively little damage was done to the crops. Epidemics of cholera broke out in the two last years, and also in 1908, a year of deficient rainfall, carrying off altogether 5,000 persons. Fever, which is endemic in this Tarai district, continued unabated. Of all the districts in North Bengal only Dinajpur had a higher death-rate, and the excess of births over deaths was only 4,646.

239. The census shows an addition to the population of 116,334, or 14.8

JALPAIGURI.	1911.		1901.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
Actual population ... ..	490,228	412,432	422,500	283,976
Immigrants ... ..	123,309	111,569	104,914	68,309
Emigrants ... ..	9,677	11,223	7,366	9,271
Natural population ... ..	346,596	311,792	324,591	290,538

per cent., for which immigration is mainly responsible, the natural population having increased by only 7 per cent. There are now no less than 265,268 immigrants in the district, their number having risen by 77,045 or 41

per cent. since 1901: the emigrants have also increased, but only by 3,573, leaving a balance of 73,472 in favour of the district. The population in the Western Duars has continued to grow rapidly, the percentage of increase

CENSUS.	INCREASE IN—	
	District.	Western Duars.
1901 ... ..	100,550	103,461
1901 ... ..	106,708	114,538
1911 ... ..	116,334	108,766

being 26 per cent.: the marginal table sufficiently shows the effect its development has had on the expansion of the district. While, however, the Alipur subdivision to the east has grown by no less than 70 per cent., the percentage of increase in Mainaguri and Damdin, in the west, is only 9 and 8 per cent., respectively, whereas it was 31 and 28 per cent. in 1901. These two thanas, lying nearest to the old settled tracts, were

naturally the first to attract new cultivators. They filled up rapidly, and there is now little waste land available for new settlers. In the Alipur subdivision, however, cultivation is extending in every direction, and there is a constant stream of immigrants attracted by the fertility of the land and the lowness of the rents. In the rest of the district there has been a

small natural growth of population, varying only from 4 to 5 per cent., except in the Boda thana, which records a slight loss: this thana is an old settled tract, with a fairly high density of population, which offers no prospects to immigrants, and is decadent, having lost population at each census since 1881.

240. No district in either Province exhibits more clearly the effect of settled peace than Darjeeling. Writing in 1854, Sir Joseph Hooker said that there were not a hundred inhabitants under British protection when Darjeeling was first transferred, but that, during the two years in which he witnessed its development, its progress resembled that of an Australian colony not only in the amount of building, but also in the accession of native families from the surrounding countries.\*

DARJEELING.	Population, 1911.	PERCENTAGE OF VARIATION.	
		1901-1891.	1891-1881.
<b>DISTRICT TOTAL</b> ... ..	<b>265,550</b>	<b>+ 6.65</b>	<b>+ 11.55</b>
<b>Sadar Subdivision</b> ... ..	<b>152,097</b>	<b>+ 13.96</b>	<b>+ 26.33</b>
Darjeeling ... ..	75,367	+ 8.24	+ 12.79
Jorhanga cw ... ..	37,210	+ 20.86	+ 24.92
Kalimpong ... ..	49,520	+ 19.72	+ 52.97
<b>Kurseong Subdivision</b> ... ..	<b>41,207</b>	<b>- 6.81</b>	<b>+ 1.39</b>
Kurseong ... ..	41,207	- 6.81	+ 1.39
<b>Siliguri Subdivision</b> ... ..	<b>72,246</b>	<b>+ 2.53</b>	<b>- 3.47</b>
Siliguri ... ..	72,246	+ 2.53	- 3.47

The influx of immigrants has continued almost unabated up to the present time, and the population has been nearly trebled during the 39 years over which the census returns extend. The census of 1881 disclosed an addition of 64 per cent., which was partly due, however, to the incompleteness of the first enumeration, and this was followed by an increase of 43.5 per cent. in 1891. During the next decade the rate of progress was reduced to 11.55 per cent., owing largely to the depression of the tea industry. The rate of progress in these ten years was very different in the hills and the Tarai at their base. The former is a healthy tract, where the development of the tea industry has attracted labour, while new settlers have come in to bring waste lands under the plough. The latter is an unhealthy tract the inhabitants of which are sodden with fever. It sustained a loss of 3.5 per cent. between 1891 and 1901, whereas there was a growth of nearly 15 per cent. in the hills.

241. The present census shows a decline in the rate of increase, the actual addition of population being 16,433, or 6.65 per cent. The explanation is that there is only a limited area in which there is room for an increase of population. Over one-third of the district is covered by reserved forests, while the tea gardens extend over about one-seventh of its area. While they were being opened out and developed, labour poured in and a phenomenal growth of population resulted. Now all the land suitable for tea cultivation, within the area reserved for it, has been taken up. On the tea gardens therefore no considerable increase of population can be expected. As it is, tea occupies a third of the cropped area, and the tea gardens employ a labour force of 53,000, or one-fifth of the total population of the district. As regards ordinary cultivation, only one-third of the district is cultivable, and it cannot therefore hope to support a teeming agricultural population. Even in Kalimpong, where nearly half the land is reserved for native cultivation, it is recognized that it has reached the limit of safety in some parts, and in such localities it has been found necessary to prohibit further extension.

The net result is a progressive decline in the rate of increase and a shrinkage of the volume of immigration. The immigrant population decreased between 1891 and 1901, and there is now a further falling off of 7,000. The immigrants still, however, account for two-fifths per cent. of the total population, and, as pointed out in the last Census Report, the reduction in their numbers merely means that the flow of fresh immigrants is growing less and not that it is closing. The earlier foreign-born immigrants are dying out, and their place is being taken by their children born in Darjeeling.

\* *Himalayan Journals*. Sir Joseph Hooker refers to the hills portion of the district excluding Kalimpong, which was then part of Bhutan.



242. To turn to the variations of population in different parts of the

DARJEELING.	1911.		1901	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
Actual population	142,094	122,456	122,000	116,112
Immigrants	67,102	50,056	71,289	52,102
Emigrants	3,863	4,543	3,128	2,568
Natural population	80,829	77,953	47,583	61,442

district, the most progressive thanas are Jorbungalow and Kalimpong. The former grew by 24·5 per cent. between 1891 and 1901 and now records a further increase of 20·9 per cent. In the latter the rate of growth has fallen from 55·9 per cent. to 19·3 per cent., a result due to the check imposed on immigration by the small proportion of cultivable land that is left. As stated in the District Gazetteer (1907) :— "Whether the volume of immigration will be so great in the future is very doubtful. The best lands have been taken up, those now being developed consist of the poorer and more remote lands, which have been the last to attract settlers, though they are largely taken up by those who can get no good land elsewhere, and there are only 30 square miles of reclaimable jungle left." The growth in the Darjeeling thana is normal and calls for no remarks. The Kurseong subdivision, which was almost stationary in 1901, has now sustained a loss. In that year it was shown that the tea garden population was slightly reduced, but this loss was more than counterbalanced by the access of new settlers for ordinary cultivation, and to some extent by the development of the town of Kurseong. The result of this census seems to show that the limit which the land can support has been reached, and it appears probable that some of the cultivators have moved to Kalimpong and Jorbungalow. The Tarai (Siliguri subdivision) has a slight increase, but it has not yet entirely made good the loss that occurred between 1891 and 1901, and the number of its inhabitants is still slightly less than it was 20 years ago.

243. The population of Rangpur declined at each census until 1901, when an increase of 4·3 per cent. brought back the number of its inhabitants to the same figure as in 1872. The improvement in 1901 was due in great measure to

RANGPUR.	Population, 1911.	PERCENTAGE OF VARIATION.	
		1901—1911.	1891—1901.
<b>DISTRICT TOTAL</b>	<b>2,385,330</b>	<b>+ 10·73</b>	<b>+ 4·30</b>
<b>Sadar Subdivision</b>	<b>683,127</b>	<b>+ 3·77</b>	<b>+ 1·84</b>
Bangpur (Kotwali)	147,292	+ 3·70	+ 7·52
Mahiganj	102,027	- 4·09	- 2·41
Kaliganj	150,181	+ 4·96	+ 1·69
Badarganj	28,248	+ 3·74	+ 7·96
Mitropokhur	96,813	+ 5·32	+ 3·72
Irwanj	77,366	+ 10·98	+ 2·79
<b>Nilphamari Subdivision</b>	<b>491,660</b>	<b>+ 6·38</b>	<b>+ 3·01</b>
Nilphamari	156,796	+ 5·13	+ 9·97
Dima	129,692	+ 3·96	- 2·32
Jaldhaka	165,272	+ 9·20	+ 1·78
<b>Kurigram Subdivision</b>	<b>589,520</b>	<b>+ 15·29</b>	<b>+ 1·31</b>
Kurigram	85,634	+ 14·15	- 4·62
Lalmariat (Barshari)	121,060	+ 4·70	+ 4·27
Nagorwar	145,137	+ 10·19	+ 0·65
Ulipur	237,689	+ 26·48	+ 1·82
<b>Gaibandha Subdivision</b>	<b>620,623</b>	<b>+ 18·91</b>	<b>+ 12·22</b>
Gaibandha	251,231	+ 19·24	+ 14·61
Gobindganj	206,512	+ 17·49	+ 10·96
Sundarganj	100,049	+ 24·48	+ 1·80
Rhaghasta	76,491	+ 14·56	+ 12·65

immigration; if this were left out of account, the increment would barely have exceeded 1 per cent. Immigration was stimulated by the extension of railway communications, for the Gaibandha subdivision was rendered more accessible by the line running from Santahar to Fulchari on the Brahmaputra, the Cooch Behar Railway was opened to traffic, and the Tista river was bridged. The earthquake of 1897, moreover, appears to have had beneficial effects on the public health; for by changing the levels of a great part of the district, it facilitated its drainage, and consequently malaria seems to have been less prevalent.

244. The improvement in the general condition of the people continued between 1901 and 1910. The crops were good and the people prosperous except in 1908-09, when there was scarcity in parts of the Sadar and Gaibandha subdivisions, which was relieved by means of loans and does not seem to have affected the growth of population to any appreciable extent. The Kaunia-Bonarpara line has been opened, and, as it touches the town of Gaibandha, has done much to open out that subdivision, while the extension

of the Eastern Bengal State Railway, first to Dhubri and then to Gauhati, has established direct communication between Assam and Calcutta.

The ravages of malaria diminished, and, though there was some recrudescence after 1905, the number of births exceeded the reported deaths by no less than 133,512 or 6·2 per cent. The increase of population returned at the census is nearly 100,000 more, amounting to 231,215 or 10·7 per cent. To

RANGPUR.	1911.		1901.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
Actual population ... ..	1,254,717	1,120,611	1,124,991	1,029,124
Immigrants ... ..	122,451	52,629	90,450	26,998
Emigrants ... ..	22,249	22,290	26,602	27,470
Natural population ... ..	1,161,115	1,107,260	1,071,243	1,027,598

this increase immigrants have contributed largely, for they are more numerous by 69,000 than in 1901, while the district has only lost 7,000 by the exodus of the native born. Owing partly to immigration and partly to natural causes, the Muhammadans, who pre-

ponderate in the district, have increased by 14·54 per cent., while the Hindus have increased only by 3·46 per cent. The greatest growth of population has taken place in the Kurigram (15·3 per cent.) and Gaibandha (18·9 per cent.) subdivisions, where there has been a great influx of Musalmans from Pabna and Mymensingh, who have settled on the *chars* of the Brahmaputra. In the Nilphamari and Sadar subdivisions the rate of progress has been influenced more by natural causes than by immigration. Both these subdivisions suffer from fever and epidemics of cholera: the former has gained 6·4 per cent. and the latter only 3·8 per cent. All thanas, however, are progressive except Mahiganj, which has been decadent since 1881.

245. The Karatoya river traverses Bogra from north to south and divides it into two unequal portions with distinct characteristics. The eastern portion is covered with the alluvium of the lower Brahmaputra valley, while the western and larger portion forms part of the Barind.

BOGRA.

BOGRA.	Population, 1911.	PERCENTAGE OF VARIATION.	
		1901-1911	1891-1901.
<b>DISTRICT TOTAL</b> ... ..	<b>983,567</b>	<b>+ 15·24</b>	<b>+ 11·78</b>
Bogra ... ..	270,000	...*	...
Adamdighi ... ..	108,752	...*	...
Dopchanchia ... ..	48,878	...*	...
Bharinkandi ... ..	122,553	+ 15·29	+ 16·18
Rubganj ... ..	92,170	+ 20·78	+ 15·45
Panchahiti ... ..	107,263	+ 21·20	+ 22·06
Khetia ... ..	63,482	+ 23·22	+ 11·24
Sherpur ... ..	54,448	+ 2·45	+ 7·09
Dhunot ... ..	32,298	+ 2·70	+ 18·29

\* Figures showing the percentage of variation in Bogra, Adamdighi and Dopchanchia are not available owing to changes of jurisdiction.

has been a sustained and fairly rapid growth of population, the increment recorded both in 1891 and 1901 exceeding 11 per cent. Conditions during the decennium ending in 1910 were favourable to a further advance. The resources of the district were developed by the railway, running from west to east through Bogra, which was completed in 1900-01. Good harvests were reaped throughout the first half of the decade, and though there was some scarcity in 1908-09 and 1909-10, it was short-lived and the cultivators were able to tide over their difficulties by means of loans. The public health was, on the whole, good, and the births exceeded the deaths by 100,932, representing an increase of 11·8 per cent. on the population of 1901.

246. The increase of 130,063 or 15·2 per cent. brought to light by the

BOGRA.	1911.		1901.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
Actual population ... ..	409,526	481,041	436,571	416,632
Immigrants ... ..	87,790	23,268	22,258	15,520
Emigrants ... ..	19,959	12,617	8,137	7,619
Natural population ... ..	477,768	468,290	422,660	408,712

census is mainly due to natural growth. Compared with 1901 there is a net gain of only 15,431 from increased migration, immigrants having risen from 37,897 to 63,148 and emigrants from 15,756 to 25,576. All parts of the district contribute to the

increase. The least progress has been made by the Sherpur thana, an unhealthy tract lying along the moribund Karatoya river: here the deaths during the decade exceeded the births, and there would have been a loss of population but for the immigration of aboriginals and others, who are bringing the jungle under cultivation. The higher ratio of increase (5·7 per cent.) in thana Dhunot, a fertile area which is the most densely populated part of the district, is due to natural growth and not to immigration. In the other thanas, which are mostly healthy and dry, the increase is due to the combined effect of natural causes and immigration. One noticeable feature of the increase is that the Hindus, who were practically stationary between 1891 and 1901, have now increased by 8·24 per cent. The Muhammadans, who form the bulk of the population, show still greater improvement, the ratio of increase among them having risen from 5·6 to 16 per cent.

247. Between 1872 and 1881 the population of Pabna increased by 8·3 per cent., but part of the increase is attributable to the incompleteness of the first census. In 1891 there was a gain of 3·85 per cent., while in 1901 there was a further addition of 4·3 per cent. Between 1901 and 1910 the growth of population was retarded. Crops were poor in the first four years and the jute trade slack in the last three. High floods occurred in 1903, 1906 and 1910, of which that of 1906 did considerable damage to the crops, while the inundation of 1910 caused some temporary distress. In four of the ten years the reported deaths exceeded the births, and in the decade as a

PABNA.	Population, 1911.	PERCENTAGE OF VARIATION.	
		1901-1911.	1891-1901.
<b>DISTRICT TOTAL</b>	<b>1,478,586</b>	<b>+ 0·51</b>	<b>+ 4·34</b>
<b>Sadar Subdivision</b>	<b>599,266</b>	<b>+ 2·04</b>	<b>+ 2·70</b>
Sainthia (Dulai)	169,940	+ 2·08	+ 7·20
Pabna	204,094	+ 2·30	+ 6·21
Mathura	94,636	+ 7·20	+ 6·33
Chatmohar	130,596	- 1·55	- 2·99
<b>Sirajganj Subdivision</b>	<b>829,320</b>	<b>- 0·57</b>	<b>+ 9·42</b>
Sirajganj	370,168	+ 2·27	+ 10·93
Shahadpur	256,336	- 2·31	+ 8·78
Raiganj	104,870	- 1·96	+ 11·96
Ullapara	194,446	- 1·29	+ 7·17

whole there was a loss, the deaths outnumbering the births by 11,238. "Malaria," writes the District Magistrate "is a permanent scourge and has its strongest hold in thanas Sainthia (formerly Dulai) and Chatmohar of the Sadar subdivision and in Raiganj and Ullapara in the Sirajganj subdivision. Thana Pabna in the Sadar subdivision is not free from its ravages. This is due mostly to the existence of a number of *bils* of various sizes in the interior, in most of which the water lies stagnant almost all the year round except in years of excessive flood."

248. There has, according to the recent census, been an increase of 7,191, or only one-half per cent. No less than 7,154 persons however were employed on the Lower Ganges bridge works at Sara, of whom the majority were newcomers from outside districts: if they are left out of account, the increase is entirely wiped out. The returns for birth place show that since 1901

PABNA.	1911.		1901.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
Actual population	733,591	704,995	709,848	711,847
Immigrants	44,770	20,190	34,138	14,302
Emigrants	54,847	48,929	29,917	24,304
Natural population	737,722	726,626	716,607	721,651

immigrants have increased from 49,040 to 64,900 and emigrants from 64,305 to 102,667. The loss by emigration thus considerably exceeds the gain by immigration, the net loss being 22,502, which added to the excess of deaths over births, should have caused a considerable decrease of population: it is therefore open to question whether the vital statistics are correct. There was an increase of 12,515 or 2 per cent. in the Sadar subdivision, of which more than half was due to the employes enumerated in the Lower Ganges bridge works: without them the Pabna thana would have sustained a loss. In Chatmohar, a malarious area, there is a slight decrease, and in Sainthia a slight increase, while Mathura, which has a better climate and more fertile soil, has a substantial growth. The population declined in all the thanas of Sirajganj subdivision, except the Sirajganj thana, where there was a very small

increase. The loss in Raiganj and Ullapara is due to the ravages of malaria. As regards the decrease in this subdivision, the Subdivisional Officer writes: "It is difficult to account for the fall in population shown by this census, but I am of opinion that the ravages of malaria have had a serious effect. The jute trade appears also to have reached its high water-mark as regards the number of persons employed. No attempt has been made to revive or rebuild the jute mill at Sirajganj, which fell in the earthquake of 1897 and used to employ about 2,000 hands. The immigration of Bunas into Raiganj thana has gone on steadily, but this has been more than counterbalanced by the emigration of cultivators from the riparian tracts to the districts of Rangpur and Goalpara, where they find more land for settlement." But for emigration the subdivision as a whole would have shown an increase instead of a decrease.

249. Malda consists of two distinct tracts separated by the river Mahananda. The western portion is composed of recent alluvium, a part of it being still subject to the fluvial action of the Ganges. The eastern portion lies in the

MALDA.	Population, 1911.	PERCENTAGE OF VARIATION.	
		1901-1911.	1891-1901.
<b>DISTRICT TOTAL</b>	<b>1,004,159</b>	<b>+13·88</b>	<b>+ 8·49</b>
Gomastapur	67,414	+ 11·77	+ 6·81
English Bazar	94,617	+ 4·61	- 6·33
Nawabganj	71,274	- 0·34	- 1·63
Kaliachak	164,801	+ 11·20	+ 14·30
Sibganj	150,371	+ 13·79	+ 11·91
Khatra	82,599	+ 16·37	+ 16·41
Ratan	133,098	+ 22·16	+ 4·43
Talimukta	57,203	+ 12·90	+ 0·38
Old Malda	84,222	+ 16·41	+ 22·90
Gajol	96,763	+ 21·02	+ 22·00

Barind, which has an undulating surface and stiff laterite soil. The population has been growing steadily in spite of the prevalence of malaria. An increase of 14·5 per cent. was recorded in 1891, and another increase of 8·5 per cent. in 1901. Between 1891 and 1901 the greatest progress was made by the Gajol and Old Malda thanas in the Barind, two sparsely populated areas where Santals settled in large numbers. There were also large increases in Kaliachak and Sibganj to the south-west, where new alluvial formations attracted a number of Musalman cultivators from Murshidabad on the other side of the Ganges, as well as from English Bazar and Nawabganj in this district: the two latter thanas consequently sustained a loss.

250. Since 1901 the district has made steady progress. The births exceeded the deaths in every year but 1907, the result being a net excess of 98,484 or 11·2 per cent. on the population of 1901. The crops were good except in 1908-09, when short rainfall led to a failure of the winter rice crop—the principal crop in the Barind area—and some distress was experienced, which was remedied by the issue of loans and the opening of relief works. In the rest of the district, however, good *bhadoi* and *rabi* crops were obtained and, owing to the high prices of food-grains, the condition of the people was, if anything, more prosperous than in other years. The scarcity had no deterrent effect on the growth of population: on the contrary, the birth-rate in 1909 (52 per mille) was higher and the death-rate (29·4 per mille) lower than in any other year of the decade. The most important feature in the economic history of the decade was the opening of the Katihar-Godagari Railway, which traverses the district from north to south. The railway has already done much to develop the district. The Collector reports—"At every railway station a bazar has sprung up, and the cultivator has profited largely by the competition of traders in jute, rice and other country produce. Growers of the mango fruit are now able to reach markets at a greater distance and command better prices. Another result has been to facilitate immigration into the thinly populated areas in the east of the district."

251. The outcome of the above conditions is a gain of 122,425 or 13·9 per cent. This increase is to be attributed to natural causes, for though there has been a greater influx of immigrants, the outward movement of the people has resulted in a corresponding increase in the number of emigrants. The immigrants consist chiefly of Santals, who are reclaiming waste lands in the Barind, and of Musalmans who cultivate the new alluvial formations

in the *diara* tract, besides Bihari settlers who come into the northern thanas of the district and into Manikchak. The Santals alone have increased by 14,394 during the past decade. Population increased in every thana except Nawabganj, in which there was a small decrease owing to the dilu-  
 vation of their lands having compelled a certain number of the people

to move to other thanas in the district. English Bazar, in which there was a decrease of 6.23 per cent. in 1901 (attributed to declining trade, unhealthiness and migration to adjoining thanas) now shows an increase of 4.61 per cent. The proportional growth in all the remaining thanas exceeds 10 per cent. As in other districts of North and East Bengal, the Muhammadans have a larger share in the increase than the Hindus, owing to their numerical superiority as well as to their greater procreative capacity.

252. From 1881 to 1901 Cooch Behar suffered from persistent unhealthiness, and both the census of 1891 and that of 1901 showed a declining population, the decrease recorded being 3.9 per cent. and 2 per cent., respectively. Conditions during the decade ending in 1910 were more favourable. Fever, which is the scourge of this low-lying water-logged country, showed some abatement, while cholera, from severe epidemics of which the State suffers periodically, was not so prevalent; the number of deaths due to it was 9,000 as compared with 17,000 in the previous decade. There was a serious inundation in 1906,

COOCH BEHAR.	1911.		PERCENTAGE OF VARIATION.	
	population.		1901-1911.	1891-1901.
	1911.	1911.		
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>592,952</b>		<b>+ 4.58</b>	<b>- 2.05</b>
Kotwali	150,008		+ 7.40	- 4.4
Tufanganj	90,147		+ 9.14	- 1.7
Dinhat	148,329		+ 8.22	- 2.0
Matabhanga	142,804		+ 1.77	- 3.3
Mekliganj	51,546		+ 2.87	- 1.0
Haldibari	39,520		+ 9.01	+ 9.9

from which the north of the Matabhanga subdivision suffered most, but otherwise there were no seasonal calamities. Cultivation expanded, the cultivators benefited by the rise in the price of agricultural produce, and there was an increasing demand for labour, which was met by the import of coolies from up-country. The Gauhati extension of the Eastern Bengal State Railway (from Gitaldaha to Gauhati) was built during the decade and has already helped to open out the south-east of the State.

253. The result of the census is to show an increase of 25,978 or 4.6 per cent., part of which is due to immigration, the immigrant population being greater by over 10,000 than in 1901, while the number of emigrants has risen by a little under 4,000. These immigrants are mostly temporary, and the males outnumber the females by 2 to 1. All parts of the district share in the increase, but the most progressive is Tufanganj, a sparsely-inhabited area, where there has been a rapid extension of cultivation. It is closely followed by the Cooch Behar (Kotwali) thana, which has gained by immigration from Mekliganj. Haldibari, a thriving jute-centre, has a normal increase of 5 per cent. The least progress has been made in Matabhanga, which suffered from the floods of 1906, and is reported to be the most unhealthy part of the State. The small increase in Mekliganj is due to the fact that it lost to the Cooch Behar thana, while Dinhat was visited by a severe epidemic of cholera in 1909.

COOCH BEHAR.	1911.		1901.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
Actual population	318,548	276,404	301,282	265,592
Immigrants	36,293	18,949	27,894	16,909
Emigrants	18,121	17,115	18,761	15,792
Natural population	299,579	274,670	290,359	264,413

progressive is Tufanganj, a sparsely-inhabited area, where there has been a rapid extension of cultivation. It is closely followed by the Cooch Behar (Kotwali) thana, which has gained by immigration from Mekliganj. Haldibari, a thriving jute-centre, has a normal increase of 5 per cent. The least progress has been made in Matabhanga, which suffered from the floods of 1906, and is reported to be the most unhealthy part of the State. The small increase in Mekliganj is due to the fact that it lost to the Cooch Behar thana, while Dinhat was visited by a severe epidemic of cholera in 1909.

#### EAST BENGAL.

254. The Khulna district was created in 1881, when the census showed a small increase of 3.2 per cent. This was followed by a further increase of 9 per cent. in

KHULNA.

1891, but the percentage of growth was reduced to 6·4 per cent. in 1901.

KHULNA	Population, 1911.	PERCENTAGE OF VARIATION.	
		1901-1911.	
<b>DISTRICT TOTAL</b> ... ..	<b>1,366,766</b>	<b>+ 9·08</b>	
<b>Sadar Subdivision</b> ... ..	<b>441,245</b>	<b>+ 10·07</b>	
Kulma ... ..	129,870	+ 3·29	
Demuria ... ..	94,624	+ 3·22	
Baltaghat ... ..	43,360	+ 7·13	
Paikgachha ... ..	153,191	+ 22·88	
<b>Satkhira Subdivision</b> ... ..	<b>547,380</b>	<b>+ 11·91</b>	
Kalaroa ... ..	72,061	+ 2·87	
Magura ... ..	90,241	+ 2·37	
Satkhira ... ..	111,749	+ 8·90	
Kaliganj ... ..	204,267	+ 31·47	
Asasuni ... ..	62,262	+ 16·24	
<b>Bagherhat Subdivision</b> ... ..	<b>378,141</b>	<b>+ 4·16</b>	
Mollahat ... ..	61,237	+ 0·91	
Bagherhat ... ..	164,130	+ 3·22	
Rampal ... ..	69,179	+ 6·74	
Morviganj ... ..	83,495	+ 7·70	

This latter census disclosed considerable variations in different parts. While the Sadar subdivision in the centre of the district had an increase of 17·7 per cent., the ratio was only 6·6 per cent. in the Bagherhat subdivision to the east, while there was a falling off of 1·5 per cent. in the Satkhira subdivision to the west, where, however, the decrease was practically confined to the two unhealthy thanas of Kalaroa and Asasuni.

255. The condition of the people was generally prosperous in the decade succeeding the census of 1901. The east of the district benefited by the construction of a light railway from Barasat to Basirhat,

which was opened in 1905-06, while the deepening and widening of the Madaripur Khal, so as to make it navigable throughout the year, were of immense advantage to the jute trade. The health of the people was on the whole good, the births during the decade exceeding the deaths by 93,000. The crops were fair, and though the poorest classes felt the pinch of high prices from 1906 to 1909, the cultivators benefited by the enhanced value of their crops. There was a severe cyclone in October 1909, accompanied by a tidal wave which carried all before it along the waterways near the sea-face. Cattle were destroyed in thousands (the estimated loss was 80,000), trees blown down on all sides, *kutchas* buildings levelled to the ground, and the rivers swept clear of country boats. Fortunately, however, there was very little loss of human life, and only slight damage was done to the rice crop. The rainfall in the previous part of the year had moreover been copious and well distributed, and next year bumper crops were reaped.

256. The increase of population disclosed by the census is 113,723 or 9 per cent.—a result due to natural growth, rather than to any large accretion from outside districts. Though the immigrant outnumbers the emigrant population, the excess is only 15,000, whereas in 1901 it was nearly 40,000, the change being due to emigrants increasing by 14,000 and immigrants falling off by 11,000. All parts of the district have progressed in a major or minor degree.

KHULNA	1911.		1901.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
Actual population ... ..	709,379	657,187	655,470	599,378
Immigrants ... ..	50,314	35,816	43,897	22,090
Emigrants ... ..	29,115	19,732	14,066	11,819
Natural population ... ..	690,799	633,161	622,641	580,366

The variations seem to depend on two factors, viz., the relative healthiness and unhealthiness of different parts, and the reclamation of cultivable land on the fringe of the Sundarbans. On the former point the conclusions of the Bengal Drainage Committee were—“(a)

The district is not conspicuously unhealthy in any part; (b) malaria is prevalent, but not especially so; (c) the most malarious thanas are Kalaroa, Mollahat, Magura and perhaps Satkhira; and (d) the least malarious are Kaliganj, Paikgachha, Asasuni and Rampal.”

257. On the whole, the most unhealthy part is the northern tract adjoining Jessore, and the central portion of the district is not so insalubrious, as it is more open and the jungle less dense. In the Sundarbans, to the south of this cultivated belt, there are few permanent inhabitants, the land being low and subject to inundation, and fresh water scarcely obtainable. It is on the northern edge of this latter tract that cultivation is advancing most rapidly. To this cause and to their comparative healthiness must be ascribed the uniformly large increase (16 to 23 per cent.) in Kaliganj, Paikgachha and Asasuni, which all lie along the central line of the Sundarbans. The three thanas, which were classified by the Drainage Committee as malarious, viz., Kalaroa and Magura on the north-west and Mollahat on the north-east, have advanced very slightly, the ratio of increase in the two

former being under 3 per cent., while Mollahat is stationary. Satkhira, about the unhealthiness of which there was some doubt, has added 8·9 per cent. to its population, owing mainly to its development by the light railway: at the previous census it decreased by 1·75 per cent., in consequence of bad health and the loss of trade caused by the diversion of its boat traffic.

Considering the variations in the population of each subdivision, the rate of advance has been rapid in the Satkhira and Sadar subdivisions, but comparatively slow in the Bagerhat subdivision. It was noticed in the last census report that the clearance of jungle in the Sundarbans was proceeding at a relatively slow rate in this last subdivision, and the same feature is now even more marked. This is partly due to the cyclone of 1909, which killed off the deer, and consequently led to an increase in the number of man-killing tigers in this part of the Sundarbans: how serious an obstacle these brutes are to the expansion of cultivation is familiar to all having a knowledge of the Sundarbans.

258. Hemmed in on three sides by the Jamuna, Padma and Meghna,

DACCA.

Dacca is subject to all the vicissitudes of alluvion and diluvion, as well as to the periodic inundation

and silt fertilization characteristic of Eastern Bengal. These great rivers, as

DACCA.	Population, 1911.	PERCENTAGE OF VARIATION.	
		1901—1911.	1891—1901.
<b>DISTRICT TOTAL</b>	<b>2,960,402</b>	<b>+ 11·95</b>	<b>+ 10·61</b>
<b>Sadar Subdivision</b>	<b>1,013,819</b>	<b>+ 14·99</b>	<b>+ 11·45</b>
Dacca (Kotwali)	118,566	+ 31·53	+ 13·02
Karatganj	242,047	+ 16·89	+ 10·76
Kapata	220,036	+ 36·13	+ 23·33
Narabganj	173,803	+ 1·73	+ 0·09
Sadar	264,375	+ 12·17	+ 12·72
<b>Narayanganj Subdivision</b>	<b>779,564</b>	<b>+ 17·99</b>	<b>+ 15·00</b>
Narayanganj	187,761	+ 18·94	+ 14·32
Islipata	229,094	+ 18·88	+ 15·70
Ropganj	262,709	+ 16·20	+ 14·63
<b>Munshiganj Subdivision</b>	<b>692,407</b>	<b>+ 9·34</b>	<b>+ 9·86</b>
Munshiganj	319,221	+ 6·67	+ 10·20
Srinagar	377,186	+ 11·67	+ 9·52
<b>Manikganj Subdivision</b>	<b>474,812</b>	<b>+ 1·25</b>	<b>+ 4·46</b>
Manikganj	221,277	+ 6·55	+ 2·97
Seabe (Gheor)	154,046	+ 1·17	+ 7·61
Hartmanspore	99,389	+ 5·79	+ 1·11

towards Mymensingh, which is higher and undulating, is somewhat sparsely populated, but is now being rapidly opened out, on account of the pressure on the soil in other parts of the district. Between 1872 and 1901 there was an increase of over 10 per cent. at each census, and in the year last named the population was greater by 45 per cent. than it was 29 years before.

259. During the past decade there has been nothing to retard the further

DACCA.	1911.		1901.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
Total population	1,477,690	1,442,712	1,209,723	1,234,702
Immigrants	74,640	39,981	56,767	28,532
Emigrants	124,345	55,338	34,942	23,644
Natural population	1,227,595	1,496,099	1,217,908	1,329,816

growth of the people. It was a period of general prosperity and good health, the only year in which there was any interruption to the even tenor of development being 1906, when unusually high floods led to a failure of crops in part of the district; the distress, however, was temporary and not sufficient to call for relief measures. The census shows an increase of 315,967 or 12 per cent., which is due entirely to natural growth, for, compared with 1901, the balance of migration is against the district, causing a loss of 20,000. Both emigration and immigration are more active than in 1901, but while the number of immigrants has risen by 29,322, the increase of emigrants is 49,416. The latter number 177,903, but the excess of males over females shows that 45 per cent. are temporary absentees.

well as numerous smaller streams which intersect the district, annually flush and fertilize the land, except in an elevated tract to the north, which includes the Madhupur Jungle. Malaria, which checks the growth of population in so many districts, has no strong hold over this district, except in a small area on the western side. Blest with a fertile soil, a good water-supply, a healthy climate and a comparatively high standard of material prosperity, the people in this favoured tract are multiplying with great rapidity, though most of the district is very densely populated. The northern part

260. The Sadar subdivision, where cultivation is spreading fast in the Madhupur Jungle, has an increase of 15 per cent. Both the Dacca and Kapasia thanas have grown by over 20 per cent., owing to the development of Dacca city in the former and the expansion of cultivation in the latter. The increase in thana Nawabganj is very small, although there has been an accelerated rate of progress compared with the previous decade. The density in this thana is extremely high, and there is a considerable exodus of its male inhabitants; in consequence of this the females exceed the males by one-eighth. The increase of 18 per cent. in the Narayanganj subdivision is evenly distributed between the thanas comprised in it. It is a fertile healthy tract, to which up-country immigrants are attracted in increasing numbers by the demands of the jute industry, and from which there is very little emigration. In the Munshiganj subdivision the increase amounts to 9·3 per cent., which is very little less than at the previous census. The density in this subdivision is the highest in Eastern Bengal, and there is, in consequence, a flow of emigration from it. The rate of progress has diminished in thana Munshiganj, but increased in thana Srinagar in spite of its higher density. The least progressive part of the district is the Manikganj subdivision. Situated between the Dhaleswari and Padma, it is liable to constant changes by alluvion and diluvion. In recent years it has lost by diluvion, the Padma having cut away a considerable area along the western boundary in thanas Sealo and Harirampur. The rate of increase has now fallen from 4·5 to 1·25 per cent. owing mainly to this outward movement.

261. The Madhupur Jungle divides Mymensingh into two unequal and ethnically dissimilar portions. The western and smaller portion, which is watered and drained by the Jamuna, resembles in its general character the alluvial tract on the other side of that river.

MYMENSINGH.	Population, 1911.	PERCENTAGE OF VARIATION.	
		1901-1911.	1901-1901.
<b>DISTRICT TOTAL</b>	<b>4,526,422</b>	<b>+ 15·53</b>	<b>+ 12·75</b>
<b>Sadar Subdivision</b>	<b>1,185,330</b>	<b>+ 21·26</b>	<b>+ 14·59</b>
Mymensingh (Kotwali)	225,227	+ 16·91	+ 14·40
Phulbaria	120,631	+ 18·29	+ 18·09
Gabergao	109,789	+ 18·81	+ 13·24
Nandali	132,371	+ 14·25	+ 9·72
Isarganj	185,796	+ 21·24	+ 12·10
Phulpur	316,129	+ 31·91	+ 17·67
Muktasaha	95,407	+ 22·86	+ 14·40
<b>Netrakona Subdivision</b>	<b>655,295</b>	<b>+ 14·01</b>	<b>+ 7·12</b>
Netrakona	199,937	+ 18·42	+ 8·81
Kondua	175,484	+ 14·17	+ 10·28
Durgapore	127,035	+ 11·13	+ 1·72
Borhatia	123,772	+ 10·99	+ 8·61
Khollajuri	30,763	+ 17·39	+ 10·58
<b>Jamalpur Subdivision</b>	<b>813,306</b>	<b>+ 20·23</b>	<b>+ 16·10</b>
Jamalpur	255,460	+ 20·37	+ 15·94
Nalihatari	124,653	+ 25·27	+ 16·01
Dewanganj	177,363	+ 19·99	+ 11·72
Sierpore	179,634	+ 22·55	+ 21·19
Madarganj	76,853	+ 9·25	+ 15·20
<b>Tangail Subdivision</b>	<b>1,049,772</b>	<b>+ 8·20</b>	<b>+ 12·89</b>
Tangail	298,205	+ 2·94	+ 10·59
Kalibail	160,903	+ 10·20	+ 10·41
Gopalpur	218,232	+ 13·28	+ 19·44
Natarpur	118,371	+ 5·90	+ 10·20
Mirzapore	106,781	+ 14·43	+ 10·59
Osardi	93,196	+ 12·35	+ 10·41
Sarishari (formerly Jagannathganj.)	29,900	+ 0·97	+ 18·44
<b>Kisarganj Subdivision</b>	<b>822,719</b>	<b>+ 14·40</b>	<b>+ 11·78</b>
Kisarganj	190,604	+ 12·06	+ 10·10
Kathinai	176,420	+ 15·17	+ 11·04
Bastrapur	155,645	+ 11·30	+ 14·16
Baile	146,630	+ 15·18	+ 10·10
Bhairabnagar	53,513	+ 21·19	+ 14·16
Astogram	97,897	+ 17·00	+ 14·16

The eastern portion is fertilized by the Surma (called the Meghna in its lower reaches), by the old Brahmaputra and numerous other streams. Towards the east, there are extensive *haors* or marshes, where people gather in the cold weather to catch fish, grow *boro* rice, and graze their cattle. Along the border of the Garo Hills, the country is hilly and sparsely populated. The greater part of the Tangail subdivision is malarious like the tract on the other side of the Jamuna, but the remainder of the district is practically free from this scourge. Taken as a whole, Mymensingh must be regarded as one of the healthiest districts in Bengal, its death-rate being lower than that of every other district in North and East Bengal except Tippera. The soil is fertile and admirably suited to the cultivation of jute, which is extensively grown throughout the district. The people are so prosperous that they can afford to look down upon menial work and leave most of it to immigrants from Bihar and the United Provinces, who serve as earth-diggers, *palki*-bearers, domestic servants, boatmen and general labourers. The Musalman form nearly three-fourths of the inhabitants of the district. Owing to the preponderance of this prolific and hardy community and to the constant influx of immigrants, the population



has been rapidly growing, the ratio of increase exceeding 12 per cent. at every census. Between 1901 and 1911 there was nothing to cause a check to the development of the district. The public health was good, and even in 1905, when there was a virulent epidemic of cholera causing a mortality of 10½ per cent., the deaths were outnumbered by the births. The agricultural seasons were also good. Some distress was caused by severe floods and high prices in 1906, but their effects did not last long. Both emigration and immigration have been stimulated by the extension of the railway to Fulchari.

262. The addition of population now returned is 608,320 or 15½ per cent. It would have been even greater but for emigration, for though immigrants have increased by 46,000 since 1901, there has been even greater rise in the number of the district-born who were enumerated outside the district. The latter are now more numerous by 76,000, and their aggregate (156,993) is very little less than that of immigrants (161,395). There would be a net loss of 30,000 if the whole of the migration were permanent, but the excess of the males shows that the majority of the emigrants are temporary absentees; immigrants are, to an even greater extent, only temporarily resident in the district.

MYMENSINGH.	1911.		1901.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
Actual population	2,329,602	2,196,819	2,014,399	1,901,709
Immigrants	111,176	90,719	62,760	32,250
Emigrants	83,907	71,026	45,971	34,394
Natural population	2,314,384	2,207,636	1,979,004	1,894,003

Tangail. This sub-division suffers from malaria and lost heavily from the cholera epidemic of 1905: this was so virulent that in many places the villagers, being unable to dispose of their dead by ordinary means, either threw the bodies into the rivers or left them to rot on the ground. It has, moreover, lost from the emigration of Musalmans to the *chars* of the Brahmaputra in the Goalpara district, where they can obtain land on easy terms. Owing to these causes, the percentage of increase has fallen to 2·8 and 5·9 per cent. respectively in thanas Tangail and Nagarpur. Both these thanas are liable to malaria, both are very densely populated, and it is from them that the Musalmans have chiefly emigrated to the higher reaches of the Brahmaputra. All the remaining thanas in the subdivision have a gain of over 10 per cent. In spite of emigration there is an increase of 18·8 per cent. among the Musalmans, or 12 per cent. more than among the Hindus, though the latter are reinforced by immigrants from upcountry.

263. Faridpur is bounded on three sides by the Meghna, the Padma and the Garai, and is intersected by numerous smaller streams. In the north and east the land is comparatively well-raised, but the level sinks towards the south, and on the

FARIDPUR.	Population, 1911.	PERCENTAGE OF VARIATION.	
		1901—1911.	1891—1901.
<b>DISTRICT TOTAL</b>	<b>2,121,914</b>	<b>+ 8·71</b>	<b>+ 6·20</b>
<b>Sadar Subdivision</b>	<b>546,499</b>	<b>+ 5·20</b>	<b>+ 6·14</b>
Faridpur	118,194	+ 6·81	+ 9·37
Bhanga	232,632	+ 8·62	+ 12·93
Nagarvanda	110,496	+ 8·02	+ 7·39
Bhulua	96,186	- 6·17	- 6·43
<b>Goalpanda Subdivision</b>	<b>328,963</b>	<b>- 0·003</b>	<b>- 8·05</b>
Goalpanda	124,072	+ 2·54	- 3·71
Balakandi	81,902	- 7·42	- 9·47
Paungsa	122,989	+ 3·92	- 12·53
<b>Madaripur Subdivision</b>	<b>616,203</b>	<b>+ 15·04</b>	<b>+ 11·82</b>
Madaripur	243,368	+ 12·00	+ 12·93
Palong	250,332	+ 16·80	+ 6·82
Bochar	212,503	+ 16·09	+ 30·91
<b>Goalganj Subdivision</b>	<b>430,249</b>	<b>+ 9·20</b>	<b>+ 11·82</b>
Goalganj	121,698	+ 10·94	+ 14·32
Kotalpara	102,343	+ 10·72	+ 12·29
Masumipara	112,277	+ 7·48	+ 8·77
Kasidant	94,929	+ 7·48	+ 8·77

confines of Backergunge the whole country is practically a marsh intersected by strips of high land, the remains of rivers that have at various times flowed through this tract. The district is malarious, the mortality from fevers during the past decade being exceeded in Eastern Bengal only by that of Chittagong. Since 1872 the population has made steady progress, there being a total increase of 37·65 per cent., which is almost evenly distributed between the four decades ending in 1911.

264. In the last decade there has been an increase of 169,971 persons or 8·71 per cent. Births exceeded deaths by 101,560, but there would have been a greater excess had it not been for epidemics of cholera in five years, which carried off nearly 37,000 persons. The number of immigrants has increased from 73,483 to 96,333 and of emigrants from 75,810 to 81,469, there being

PARIDIPUR.	1911.		1901.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
Actual population ... ..	1,074,919	1,046,903	877,385	974,578
Immigrants ... ..	96,829	29,494	46,572	28,810
Emigrants ... ..	32,619	28,830	54,190	31,690
Natural population ... ..	1,070,829	1,036,811	804,822	962,288

therefore a balance of about 17,000 in favour of the district. Much of the migration is temporary, as is apparent from the proportion of the sexes, for males exceed females by 17,345 among immigrants and 23,769 among emigrants.

In the Sadar subdivision there has been an increase of 5·2 per cent., which is shared in by all the thanas, except Bhushna, where there is a decrease of 6·17 per cent.; this thana is very malarious owing to the silting up of old drainage channels. The high percentage of increase (15 per cent.) in the Madaripur subdivision is due partly to natural causes and partly to immigration, for the fertile alluvial formations in that subdivision attract Musalman settlers from the adjoining districts. In the Gopalganj subdivision there is a fair increase of 9·2 per cent., but the Goalundo subdivision is stationary: the latter is notoriously unhealthy, and the deaths during the decade exceeded the births considerably.

265. Backergunge is a part of the alluvial delta formed by the river systems of Eastern Bengal, and consists partly of mainland and partly of islands in the estuary of the Meghna. The mainland forms an unbroken plain, intersected by a network of tidal rivers and channels. Along the coast lie the Sundarbans, a semi-aquatic area of forests, swamps and tidal creeks, in which cultivation is gradually extending. The soil is extremely fertile, being annually enriched by the silt brought down by the rivers. Owing to its low level, and the peculiar character of its river system, the district is practically protected against drought by natural irrigation, but it is exposed to the devastation of cyclones and tidal waves. The more fertile tracts in the lower levels, which are exposed to tidal waves and infested by wild animals, offer few attractions to the people of other districts. They cannot stand the climate of the Sundarbans as well as the

BACKERGUNGE.	Population, 1911.	PERCENTAGE OF VARIATION.	
		1901-1911.	1891-1901.
<b>DISTRICT TOTAL</b> ... ..	<b>2,428,911</b>	<b>+ 5·98</b>	<b>+ 6·40</b>
<b>Sadar Subdivision</b> ... ..	<b>985,184</b>	<b>+ 4·21</b>	<b>+ 7·53</b>
Barnal ... ..	152,397	+ 6·94	+ 7·96
Gauraul ... ..	252,596	+ 10·22	+ 14·79
Mehauliganj ... ..	174,194	+ 9·12	+ 6·19
Jhalokati ... ..	187,305	+ 3·95	+ 6·48
Nalchiti ... ..	82,335	+ 3·40	+ 2·55
Backergunge ... ..	144,397	+ 1·98	+ 2·10
<b>Pirozpur Subdivision</b> ... ..	<b>550,418</b>	<b>- 0·56</b>	<b>+ 6·52</b>
Pirozpur ... ..	122,935	- 5·04	+ 5·33
Sarupkati ... ..	204,649	- 0·70	+ 12·71
Matbaria ... ..	122,005	+ 7·71	- 4·39
Bhandaria ... ..	29,809	- 2·48	+ 7·92
<b>Patuakhali Subdivision</b> ... ..	<b>574,972</b>	<b>+ 10·01</b>	<b>+ 5·22</b>
Patuakhali ... ..	308,470	+ 5·67	+ 1·65
Banphal ... ..	120,255	+ 8·75	- 0·41
Amtil ... ..	144,952	+ 16·25	+ 11·38
Gaichips ... ..	101,296	+ 12·42	+ 12·79
<b>Dakshin Shahzpur Subdivision.</b> ... ..	<b>318,337</b>	<b>+ 17·80</b>	<b>+ 4·56</b>
Bhola ... ..	167,092	+ 11·94	+ 4·24
Baranadi ... ..	151,245	+ 26·30	+ 4·98

natives of Backergunge, and the new settlers are mainly people from other parts of the district, who have either lost their old homes by diluvion or are attracted by low rentals. Even the Maghs, who take up lands in this area, are chiefly colonists from other localities in the district, from which they have been ousted by Bengalis. The people generally are in easy circumstances. "There is no doubt," writes the Collector, "that the average Backergunge cultivator could, if he would take the trouble, be a wealthy man. In all but the most exceptional years his lands give him an abundant crop of rice with the minimum of exertion, and, in addition, his cocoanut and betelnut trees can nearly always be depended upon to give him a plentiful and valuable crop of nuts without any labour on his part beyond that of plucking them."

266. Between 1872 and 1881 the development of the district was checked by the disastrous cyclone of 1876, but in the next decade it recovered from its effects and grew rapidly, an increase of 13·3 per cent. being recorded in 1891. A further advance of 6½ per cent. was made in the decade ending 1901, the greatest growth of population taking place in the areas where reclamation was most active, viz., in the northern thanas of Gaurnadi (14·8 per cent.) and Swarupkati (13·7 per cent.) and in two of the Sundarban thanas, Amtali and Galachipa (11·3 and 13·8 per cent.). The first half of the decade ending in 1910 was a prosperous period, but in 1905 a partial failure of the early paddy, followed by a general failure of the winter crop, resulted in scarcity. Relief operations had to be started and help given in the shape of loans. Some suffering was also felt in 1909, when a cyclone, accompanied by floods, swept over the country. All parts of the district suffered more or less, but the southern portion of the Dakshin Shahabazpur, Patuakhali and Pirozpur subdivisions were especially affected. The effect of these conditions is seen in the returns of vital occurrences. In the first half of the decade the births exceeded the deaths by nearly 114,000; in the second half there was a reduced birth rate and an enhanced death rate, resulting in the excess of births being only 18,000. In the decade, as a whole, the excess amounted to 132,788, an increase of 5·8 per cent. on the population of 1901.

267. The actual increase shown by the census corresponds very closely with this figure, being 137,159 or 6 per cent. This increase is the result of natural growth, for migration has increased very little since 1901, and the immigrants outnumber the emigrants by only 16,000. The greatest development has taken place in the Dakshin

Shahabazpur subdivision (17·8 per cent.), where the large increase is due to the settlement of immigrants on newly formed *chars*. The rate of growth has been slower in Patuakhali (10 per cent.), but the two Sundarbans thanas of Amtali and Galachipa have large gains owing to the expansion of cultivation and colonization. The same cause accounts for the increase in the Matbaria thana of the Pirozpur subdivision. All the other thanas in the latter subdivision have lost ground. It appears to have become more malarious: complaints are made that the water in the tidal creeks has become more brackish, and in the last five years of the decade deaths exceeded births. Conditions were more favourable in the Sadar subdivision, where the population increased by 4 per cent. Here the most progressive tract is the swampy Gaurnadi thana, where reclamation is steadily going on as fresh deposits of silt gradually replace the water and extend the cultivable area.

268. Tippera consists of a flat alluvial plain broken only by the Lalmai Hills, which cover a comparatively small area. It is fertilized by the Meghna, which flows along its western border, and by a number of smaller streams that

bring down silt from the hills to the east. In the tract watered by the Meghna the soil is admirably suited to the cultivation of jute, while the remainder of the district forms one of the most important rice producing tracts in Bengal. In point of climate Tippera occupies the first place in North and East Bengal, its death rate from fever being the lowest in these two divisions. The population increased rapidly between 1872 and 1901, the rate of growth increasing at each successive

BACKWUNGE.	1911.		1901.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
Actual population	1,244,835	1,194,078	1,175,008	1,115,849
Immigrants	46,915	34,427	31,095	8,906
Emigrants	36,629	16,440	24,535	14,477
Natural population	2,255,249	1,198,019	1,149,355	1,121,428

TIPPERA.	Population, 1911.	PERCENTAGE OF VARIATION.	
		1901—1911.	1891—1901.
<b>DISTRICT TOTAL</b>	<b>2,430,138</b>	<b>+ 1474</b>	<b>+ 1879</b>
<b>Sadar Subdivision</b>	<b>1,099,050</b>	<b>+ 1476</b>	<b>+ 1661</b>
Cocilla (Kotwall)	198,056	+ 1181	+ 1228
Daulkandi	248,407	+ 1796	+ 1927
Moradnagar	254,623	+ 1481	+ 1572
Chaudhna	180,961	+ 1820	+ 1884
Chandnagar	146,835	+ 978	+ 1448
Laksm	143,297	+ 1628	+ 2074
<b>Brahmanbaria Subdivision.</b>	<b>757,283</b>	<b>+ 1184</b>	<b>+ 1474</b>
Brahmanbaria	232,490	+ 1146	+ 1444
Kaalia	159,462	+ 1102	+ 1293
Naltnagar	265,340	+ 1282	+ 1620
<b>Chandpur Subdivision</b>	<b>573,805</b>	<b>+ 1875</b>	<b>+ 3005</b>
Chandpur	247,036	+ 1822	+ 3676
Hajiganj	147,206	+ 2070	+ 2891
Matiaganj	159,668	+ 1796	+ 2393

census and reaching 18·8 per cent. in 1901. The next decennium opened in a cycle of general prosperity. The jute industry was thriving, and trade of all sorts expanded with the advent of the railway, for the Assam-Bengal Railway was opened in 1895, while a branch line running from Laksam to Noakhali was added in 1903. This period culminated in 1904-05, when exceptional prices were realized for a fine harvest of jute, and rice was so cheap that it sold at 14 to 15 seers per rupee. In 1906, however, heavy floods caused extensive loss of both the rice and jute crops, and the distress was enhanced by a fall in the price of jute. Two lean years followed, but there were good harvests in 1908-09. In 1910 the floods were abnormally high and prolonged and did much damage, especially in the north of the district.

269. The result of adverse conditions during the latter half of the decade was to reduce the rate of increase to 14·7 per cent., the actual increase being 312,147. It would, however, have been greater had not the balance of migration been against the district, the number of emigrants rising from 55,529 to 95,757, while immigrants only increased from 56,752 to 60,360.

TIPPERA.	1911.		1901.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
Actual population ... ..	1,342,091	1,387,057	1,045,099	1,022,002
Immigrants ... ..	21,303	21,997	27,095	19,697
Emigrants ... ..	56,737	37,080	30,367	35,163
Natural population ... ..	1,303,455	1,322,080	1,079,261	1,037,507

Emigration is especially active in the Sadar subdivision, from which people move freely to Hill Tippera, where they can obtain land on easy terms. The increase is shared by all the subdivisions and by all the thanas within them, the range of variation

being comparatively small. The greatest advance has been made by the Chandpur subdivision to the south and the least by the Brahmanbaria subdivision to the north, the Sadar subdivision, which lies between them, having an intermediate position. In Tippera, as elsewhere, the Muslims are multiplying more rapidly than the Hindus, the rate of increase of the latter (8 per cent.) being less than half what it is among the former.

270. Noakhali consists of a tract of mainland together with a number of islands in the mouth of the Meghna, the largest of which are Sandip and Hatia. The mainland is a flat alluvial plain broken only by a hilly tract in the extreme north-east

## NOAKHALI.

NOAKHALI.	Population, 1911.	PERCENTAGE OF VARIATION.	
		1901-1911.	1891-1901.
<b>DISTRICT TOTAL</b> ... ..	<b>1,302,090</b>	<b>+ 14·05</b>	<b>+ 13·08</b>
<b>Sadar Subdivision</b> ... ..	<b>961,527</b>	<b>+ 16·85</b>	<b>+ 14·42</b>
Sudhar m (Noakhali) ... ..	194,696	+ 10·55	+ 3·90
Lakhipur ... ..	204,399	+ 22·74	+ 18·90
Begumganj ... ..	224,046	+ 17·98	+ 18·93
Bansura ... ..	145,131	+ 19·80	+ 20·44
Sandip ... ..	110,452	+ 3·93	+ 13·94
Hatia ... ..	75,808	+ 34·30	+ 12·20
<b>Feni Subdivision</b> ... ..	<b>340,563</b>	<b>+ 6·81</b>	<b>+ 9·74</b>
Chharganals ... ..	124,292	+ 3·20	+ 8·87
Feni ... ..	208,271	+ 10·25	+ 10·29

corner. The soil is fertile throughout the district, the lands subject to the direct fluvial action of the Meghna, being especially rich, although subject to sudden changes, as that river cuts away the land in one place, and builds it up in another. The district is one of the most densely populated in Bengal, and since 1901 the area under cultivation has increased by 15 per cent.: the limits within which further extension is possible have almost been reached. Rice covers about three-fourths of the district and the annual yield is estimated at ten million maunds, of which about six millions are required for local consumption, leaving a balance of four millions for export. The area under jute has risen from 7,000 acres to over 30,000 acres since 1901, and the profits derived from its sale are considerable: it is reported that in 1911 about 400,000 maunds of jute were exported, and that the cultivators obtained at least 24 lakhs of rupees from its sale. Besides this, betelnut and coconut plantations cover a large area and yield a handsome profit, the value of their produce being estimated at 25 to 30 lakhs of rupees. These resources place the peasantry above the margin of want, and they are, in fact, in easy circumstances.

271. When the census of 1881 was taken, the population of the district had been reduced by the disastrous cyclone of 1876, when the island of Hatia lost a quarter and Sandip a sixth of its inhabitants. This cyclone was followed by a terrible epidemic of cholera, and the mortality from both causes was estimated at 100,000. The result was a decrease of 2·3 per cent., but since 1881 the population has been growing very rapidly, an increase of 23 per cent. being recorded in 1891 and of 13 per cent. in 1901. Since 1901 there has been a series of prosperous years, except 1906, when there was a failure of the crops and relief operations had to be undertaken. Some damage to the crops was also caused by heavy floods in 1909, when fever broke out in a virulent form, causing a mortality of 33,817 as against 26,670, the average for the decade. In the whole decade the reported births exceeded the deaths by 165,754, representing an increase of 14·5 per cent. on the population of 1901.

272. The census shows that the population is greater by 160,362, or 14

NOAKHALL.	1911.		1901.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
Actual population	645,898	656,792	568,777	572,301
Immigrants	12,777	10,067	10,775	8,568
Emigrants	35,915	12,673	26,139	7,444
Natural population	669,026	656,792	594,141	571,937

per cent., than it was at the last census, in spite of a slight loss by emigration. Emigrants are now more numerous by 15,000 than in 1901, but nearly half are temporary absentees, males being in excess of females by 23,242. The Sadar subdivision, which is less fully developed than the Feni subdivision, has grown more than twice as fast as the latter. There are, however, some remarkable variations in the rate of growth, for while Sandip has an addition of less than 4 per cent., the abnormal figure of 36½ per cent. is reached in Hatia. Such variations, extraordinary as they may appear, are due to the changes wrought by the constructive and destructive powers of the great rivers and the consequent shifting of the population. Chhagalnaia, a densely populated thana, which in 1901 had 1,033 persons per square mile, has only a slight increase (2 per cent.), but the pressure on the soil has been no check to growth in Begamganj or Ramganj, of which the former had 864 and the latter 1,023 persons to the square mile in 1901: they now have a gain of 18 and 20 per cent. respectively.

273. Chittagong consists of a long narrow strip of coast, valleys and low

CHITTAGONG. ranges of hills lying between the Bay of Bengal and the Chittagong Hill Tracts; its average breadth is only about 15 miles, while its length is 165 miles. The soil is

CHITTAGONG.	Population, 1911.	PERCENTAGE OF VARIATION.	
		1901-1911.	1891-1901.
<b>DISTRICT TOTAL</b>	<b>1,508,433</b>	<b>+11·47</b>	<b>+ 4·89</b>
<b>Sadar Subdivision</b>	<b>1,259,842</b>	<b>+ 9·26</b>	<b>+ 4·62</b>
Chittagong (Kotwali)	112,137	+ 13·99	+ 10·79
Mirazari	115,918	+ 10·42	+ 9·31
Sitakund	76,344	+ 3·19	+ 9·97
Hachanari	86,796	+ 4·46	+ 5·92
Phatikchhari	117,441	+ 4·57	+ 5·44
Raonai	177,314	+ 7·73	+ 5·91
Patiya	236,682	+ 7·87	+ 7·12
Satkania	172,976	+ 10·45	+ 1·09
Bankhail	152,342	+ 18·98	+ 9·29
<b>Cox's Bazar Subdivision</b>	<b>248,591</b>	<b>+ 24·19</b>	<b>+ 8·47</b>
Cox's Bazar	86,360	+ 16·55	+ 9·91
Mohakhail	47,071	+ 27·37	+ 5·35
Chakarua	61,314	+ 29·66	+ 1·31
Teknaf	53,946	+ 31·30	+ 21·29

fairly fertile, but malaria is more prevalent than elsewhere in East Bengal: between 1901 and 1910 it had the highest death rate from fever of all the districts in the Division. It is also exposed to cyclones, and its census history is one of fluctuation, caused by disastrous cyclones and epidemics of cholera consequent on the pollution of the water supply. The first cyclone occurred in 1876, and was accompanied by a storm-wave, which swept the sea board: 12,000 persons were drowned, and 15,000 perished in the cholera epidemic which followed. The loss of population caused by this calamity, by the ravages of disease in other years, and by emigration, reduced the growth of population to less than one-half per cent. in

1881. The next ten years, however, were healthy and prosperous, and a considerable increase of population was recorded in 1891, the number of inhabitants being 13·9 per cent. more than in 1881. In the next decade again the district suffered from a destructive cyclone, which burst in October 1897. A series of storm-waves swept over the island of Kutubdia and the villages on the mainland, drowning many thousands of men and cattle, sweeping away homesteads and destroying standing crops: the loss of life by drowning alone was estimated at 14,000 souls. Cholera broke out in a severe form, and in Kutubdia alone it was estimated that more than one-tenth of the population died during the epidemic. The result was that in 1901 an increase of only 4·9 per cent. was recorded, which is about half what it would have been but for the cyclone and its after effects. The greatest growth occurred in the thanas along the coast which escaped the brunt of the cyclone, viz., Teknaf and Cox's Bazar in the south, and Chittagong, Sitakund and Mirsarai in the north.

274. Since 1901 the district has been free from any such calamity. There was, however, a partial failure of the rice crop over the lowlying tracts of the district, which were affected by heavy floods in 1906. "The people generally," writes the Collector, "are prosperous. In normal years, they get two crops of paddy from their fertile soil, and can obtain house materials and fuel from the neighbouring hills at a nominal price. Those who have no lands of their own and are not so well off go down in thousands in December to cut paddy in Aracan, where they earn a rupee a day, and return in February and March with large sums of money." The effect of these favourable conditions is seen in the addition of 155,183 persons or 11½ per cent., a result which is not due to the accretion of population from outside, for the number of immigrants is only 18,701 or about 7,000 more than in 1901. There has also been a small gain from a slightly diminished exodus of the district-born, the number of whom has fallen from 106,037 to 99,627. In 1901 the figures were inflated

CHITTAGONG.	1911.		1901.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
Acts of population	722,837	755,396	641,292	711,838
Immigrants	12,818	6,082	7,029	4,310
Emigrants	90,880	8,947	85,504	20,223
Natural population	800,899	788,460	720,167	727,781

by the outward movement of the people after the cyclone, and also by a poor rice crop in some parts. The emigration is moreover of a temporary character, and does not represent a permanent loss, most of the emigrants being

labourers engaged in cutting rice crops in Burma, or lascars on steamers engaged in the eastern trade, who leave their wives at home: the excess of males over females in the emigration population is no less than 81,733.

275. The local variations exhibit very clearly how completely the tracts affected by the cyclone have recovered from its effects. Maikhal, which in 1901 had a decrease of 7 per cent., has now gained 37 per cent. Chakaria and Banskhal, which were stationary, have an increase of 30 and 19 per cent. respectively. Satkania, where the loss was partly due to the cyclone and partly to enhanced emigration, has advanced by 10½ per cent. Of the two subdivisions, Cox's Bazar has made most progress, this being a sparsely populated area, which is fast developing as cultivation expands. Here the growth has been greatest in the two thanas Maikhal and Chakaria, which suffered from the cyclone, but Cox's Bazar and Teknaf have also large increases. In the Sadar subdivision the most progressive thanas are those that have recovered from the cyclone and the two northern thanas of Chittagong and Mirsarai. Chittagong owes its expansion largely to the development of Chittagong town, while Mirsarai has a more fertile soil than the inland thanas and has benefited from railway communication. The remaining thanas have a more or less uniform rate of growth, varying from 3 to 8 per cent.

276. The greater part of the Chittagong Hill Tracts consists of hills and ravines covered with dense jungle. The aboriginal tribes, who constitute over 94 per cent. of the population, live chiefly by *jhuming*, and plough cultivation has not made much progress. The area so cultivated is not more than 1 per cent. of the

total area, while the net cropped area only slightly exceeds 5 per cent. Re-

CHITTAGONG HILL TRACTS.	Population, 1911.	PERCENTAGE OF VARIATIONS.	
		1901-1911.	1891-1901.
<b>DISTRICT TOTAL</b>	<b>153,630</b>	<b>+ 23'30</b>	<b>+ 16'29</b>
Chakma	77,355	+ 58'74	+ 7'1
Mong	37,612	- 13'45	+ 40'4
Bohmong	49,063	+ 11'21	+ 12'9

erved forests alone extend over 1,020 square miles or one-fifth of the district. The district being sparsely inhabited, and the people consisting of hardy aborigines, they have been steadily adding to their numbers. A phenomenal increase of 46 per cent.

was recorded in 1881, but this is merely a proof of the incompleteness of the first census. It is, in fact, known to have been vitiated by the fact that, the Chief's revenue being based on capitation tax, it was to his interest to return a small population. With improved enumeration, the rate of increase was reduced to 5·6 per cent. in 1891, but rose again to 16·3 per cent. in 1901. Since 1901 the history of the district has been uneventful. The health of the people was good, and the only year in which there was any shortage of the crops was 1906, when there was some scarcity necessitating the grant of loans.

277. The rate of increase according to the present census is 23·3 per

CHITTAGONG HILL TRACTS.	1911.		1901.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
Actual population	69,690	71,180	65,326	56,324
Immigrants	5,060	1,240	6,527	907
Emigrants	600	591	1,100	762
Natural population	78,329	70,478	63,010	56,729

cent., the actual increment being 29,068. The returns of birthplace are not altogether reliable: such as they are, they show very little variation compared with 1901, and the increase must therefore be attributed to natural growth. The local variations are extraordinary. Chakma, which both in 1891 and

1901 increased by 7 per cent., has now a sudden rise of 58 per cent. Mong, which declined by 40 per cent. between 1891 and 1901 and increased at the same rate in 1901, has now a loss of 13 per cent. Bohmong has an increase of 11 per cent., which is very nearly the same as was recorded in 1901. These variations are ascribed to the nomadic habits of the people, who move from place to place as they *ihum*: it is reported that that a large number migrated from the Mong circle to the Mioni valley in the Chakma circle. It is further reported that there has been immigration from Hill Tippera, though this is not apparent in the returns of birthplace. It is possible that the changes may be due, in part at least, to differences in the dividing line between the circles as drawn at different censuses.

278. The State of Hill Tippera consists of several ranges of hills, running north and south with an average interval of 12 miles, and increasing in height towards the east. The hills are clothed for the most part by bamboo jungle, while the low

HILL TIPPERA.	Population, 1911.	PERCENTAGE OF VARIATION, 1901-1911.
<b>DISTRICT TOTAL</b>	<b>229,613</b>	<b>+32'48</b>
<b>Sadar Subdivisions</b>	<b>74,672</b>	<b>+13'80</b>
Kalichaine	31,000	+52'90
Khowal	31,298	+107'85
Dharmamagar	19,056	+87'57
Saamara	18,062	+68'30
Udaypur	40,114	
Bhonia	19,187	-9'66
Subram	5,315	

ground is covered with tree jungle, cane bush and thatching grass. The nomadic cultivation known as *jhuming* is almost universal in the hills, plough cultivation being confined to the plains, and in particular to the narrow strip adjoining British territory. The first census of the State was admittedly incomplete, and that of 1881 was also probably inaccurate, so that the abnormal increase of 171 per cent., recorded in 1881 and the very high rate of 44 per cent. returned in

1891 must be discounted. The first reliable census was that of 1901, according to which the number of inhabitants was 26 per cent. more than ten years before.

279. Since 1901 uniform and steady progress has been made. The

HILL TIPPERA.	1911.		1901.	
	Ma's.	Female.	Male.	Female.
Actual population ...	121,820	107,798	97,495	80,880
Immigrants ...	90,741	80,802	34,929	19,064
Emigrants ...	708	864	88	84
Natural population ...	71,367	77,559	67,556	61,829

revenue has been doubled, communications improved, and the reclamation of cultivable waste has proceeded rapidly, attracting numerous new settlers. There were no epidemics of disease, and crops were on the whole good. The census recently concluded shows that the population has increased by 56,288

per cent. or  $32\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. Large as this increment is, it is accounted for partly by the natural growth of the people, but mainly by the influx of immigrants, who are more numerous by 37,769 than they were 10 years ago: over one-third of the population consists of persons born outside the State. They include a large number of Muhammadans from the adjoining British districts of Tippera and Sylhet: owing to this addition to their numbers, the Muhammadans have increased by 43.3 per cent., a ratio double that of the previous decade. The increase in population is shared by all parts except Bilonia and Sabrum, the decrease in which is attributed to the movement of the people to Udaypur and across the border into the Chittagong Hill Tracts.

## SOUTH BIHAR.

280. The census of 1881 disclosed an increase of 12.6 per cent., but this apparently large increase was due, in part at least, to the incompleteness of the first census held in 1872. In 1891 the population was found to be stationary, the recorded

PATNA.	Population, 1911.	PERCENTAGE OF VARIATION.	
		1901-1911.	1891-1901.
<b>DISTRICT TOTAL</b> ...	<b>1,609,631</b>	<b>- 0.93</b>	<b>- 8.4</b>
<b>Patna City Subdivision*</b> ...	<b>140,063</b>	<b>- 0.65</b>	<b>- 21.76</b>
<b>PATNA CITY</b> ...	<b>136,153</b>	<b>+ 1.01</b>	<b>- 18.41</b>
Pirbahar Ward 1 ...	33,435	...	...
Akshayanj 2 ...	20,834	...	...
Chwaja Kalan 3 ...	33,308	...	...
Chauk Kalan 4 ...	19,890	...	...
Mansaram 5 ...	14,654	...	...
Rural area ...	18,423	...	...
<b>Sadar Subdivision</b> ...	<b>201,193</b>	<b>- 0.29</b>	<b>- 10.45</b>
Phulwari ...	89,056	- 1.46	- 0.94
[Bakarganj]* ...	[14,512]	...	...
Mansurhi-Buzurg ...	115,137	+ 0.67	- 11.37
<b>Dinapore Subdivision</b> ...	<b>314,644</b>	<b>- 0.33</b>	<b>- 10.36</b>
Manor ...	80,348	- 7.87	- 11.57
Dinapore ...	83,325	- 4.01	- 11.19
Bitram ...	173,088	+ 3.17	- 9.36
<b>Bark Subdivision</b> ...	<b>378,621</b>	<b>+ 3.64</b>	<b>- 10.52</b>
Patna ...	74,737	+ 2.96	- 18.66
Bach ...	197,814	+ 1.01	- 4.41
Mokameh ...	106,050	+ 9.45	- 13.10
<b>Bihar Subdivision</b> ...	<b>575,110</b>	<b>- 4.30</b>	<b>- 0.95</b>
Bihar ...	325,939	- 4.81	+ 0.09
Hilsa ...	161,564	- 4.12	- 2.39
Islampur ...	77,607	- 2.55	- 7.36

increase being barely 1 per cent., while in 1901 there was a decrease of 8.4 per cent. This decrease was directly due to the direct and indirect losses caused by plague, viz., mortality, the flight of the district-born, the absence of those who had homes in other districts and the disorganization of the census staff, which led to a defective enumeration. Plague appeared in epidemic form in January 1900, broke out again in the next cold weather and was at its height at the time the census was taken.

281. Conditions during the ten years which have since elapsed were not such as to give any hope of recovery. Plague continued to levy a heavy toll year after year: in three years only was the mortality

ascribed to it under 3,000, and in four years (1901, 1904, 1905 and 1907) it was over 20,000. Altogether, over 140,000 deaths have been caused by this

\* For municipal purposes the Bakarganj police-station forms part of Patna City, but for general administrative purposes it forms part of the Patna City subdivision but of the Sadar subdivision. The figures relating to it are therefore included in those for Patna City, but are excluded from those for the Patna City subdivision.



scourge, representing a death-rate of 8·7 per cent. on the population of 1901: it is probable that the actual number was even greater owing to deaths from plague being returned under the comprehensive head of fever. Epidemics of cholera have also been frequent, that of 1910, which caused nearly 14,000 deaths, being specially virulent: the aggregate number of deaths due to this disease during the decade was over 50,000. Altogether, the number of deaths from all causes exceeded the number of reported births by no less than 111,632. The birth-rate has risen, the average being a little under 41 per mille as compared with 38 per mille in the preceding five years. But it has failed to keep pace with the death-rate, the average for which is 47·50 per mille, the highest ratio in either Province: only twice, and then only slightly, have the births in any one year outnumbered the deaths. There has, moreover, been no commercial or industrial development which would attract population from outside. The Bihar-Bakhtiyarpur Railway has, it is true, helped to open up the south-west of the district, but, on the other hand, the towns are decadent and the river-borne trade, on which they largely depended, is dwindling. There were partial failures of crops in four years, and in 1901, 1905 and 1909 there were floods. That of 1901, which inundated the country all along the Ganges, was the greatest within living memory, but it subsided rapidly and did very little damage. The inundation of 1909, however, had serious effects on the *bhadoi* crops of the Masaurhi thana.

282. The census discloses a decrease of 15,111, or a little under 1 per cent. That the decrease

PATNA.	1911.		1901.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
Actual population ... ..	809,373	799,853	804,450	820,399
Immigrants ... ..	28,341	53,950	32,382	50,178
Emigrants ... ..	33,439	79,456	73,983	68,334
Natural population ... ..	806,998	824,444	844,170	822,449

should be so small in view of the adverse circumstances sketched above is partly due to the fact that at the time of the census there was a large influx of labourers from other districts, who came to cut *rabi* crops in the low-lying lands in the Mokameh thana.

Owing largely to this accession, the number of immigrants is 10,000 more than in 1901, but it is still 43,000 below what it was in 1891. The volume of emigration has increased to a far greater extent, the number of persons born in the district who were enumerated outside it rising in the last ten years by 31,000. There was a widespread epidemic of plague from December until after the census was taken—8,000 deaths from plague were reported in January and February 1911—and there was a certain amount of desertion on that account. It did not, however, interfere with the completeness of the census, for those enumerators or supervisors who fled from their villages either provided substitutes—the well-to-do paid for their services—or returned to assist both in the preliminary enumeration and the final census. There was, in fact, only one case in which a breakdown of the census organization seemed imminent. Patna city had been free from plague till the first week in March, when it broke out in two wards. Some of the enumerators in one of these wards absconded a few days before the final census, but their schedules were recovered and a special staff deputed to fill their places. The census organization stood the strain put upon it, and no part of the decrease can be ascribed to a failure in the enumeration.

283. All parts of the district share in the decrease or are stationary, except the Barh subdivision and the Masaurhi thana in the south of the Sadar subdivision. In the former, however, the increment is mainly due to the influx of labourers already referred to, as a result of which the Mokameh thana has an increase of over 9,000, or over three-fourths of the increase of the whole subdivision. The Masaurhi thana is a fertile tract traversed by the railway, and it is noticeable that the adjoining thana of Jahanabad is the most progressive area in the Gaya district. Taking the district as a whole, the population is now 8 per cent. less than it was in 1881, and there seems, under present conditions, but little hope of recovery.

284. Between 1881 and 1891 the population of Gaya was practically stationary, the increase recorded in 1891 being only 0·6 per cent. The reason for this slow

growth appears to be that the district suffered from the ravages of

GAYA.	Population, 1911.	PERCENTAGE OF VARIATION.	
		1901-1911.	1891-1901.
<b>DISTRICT TOTAL</b> ...	<b>2,159,498</b>	+ 4'83	- 3'67
<b>Sadar Subdivision</b> ...	<b>755,334</b>	+ 4'74	- 9'68
Gaya Town ...	49,921	- 29'97	- 11'21
Gaya ...	191,464	+ 6'90	- 6'55
Atari ...	94,375	+ 3'95	- 14'98
Tekari ...	165,619	+ 11'80	- 19'78
Barnhail ...	113,966	+ 5'91	- 2'30
Sheghati ...	169,978	+ 12'18	- 1'42
<b>Jahanabad Subdivision</b> ...	<b>422,267</b>	+ 9'33	- 1'85
Jahanabad ...	289,196	+ 7'27	- 2'96
Arwal ...	133,091	+ 14'00	+ 5'20
<b>Aurangabad Subdivision</b> ...	<b>490,881</b>	+ 4'52	- 1'02
Daudnagar ...	122,394	+ 6'29	+ 6'06
Nalimgar ...	101,421	- 1'62	- 0'50
Aurangabad ...	267,066	+ 6'22	- 4'16
<b>Nawada Subdivision</b> ...	<b>460,996</b>	+ 1'49	+ 3'25
Nawada ...	295,062	- 0'94	+ 4'68
Rajaul ...	77,280	+ 4'87	+ 0'40
Pakribarwan ...	88,654	+ 7'24	+ 1'04

fever and that emigration increased greatly, while immigration fell off. The result of the census of 1901 was even more unsatisfactory, for the population decreased by over 78,000 or 3·7 per cent. Not only was the decade 1891-1901 an unhealthy period, but there were two years of scarcity. A virulent epidemic of plague also broke out towards the end of 1900, causing heavy mortality and a general panic, which drove large numbers from their homes. In one thana alone (Tekari) it was found that 11,000 people had fled outside its boundaries be-

tween the preliminary enumeration and the final census.

285. The plague epidemic of 1901 caused over 10,000 deaths, and since then there have been severe epidemics in the four years 1904-1908, the worst year on record being 1905, when there was a death-roll of over 16,000. In the other five years of the decade the district has been almost free from the pestilence, the aggregate mortality being under 1,400. Gaya has thus suffered far less than Patna, the total number of plague deaths being only a little over 41,000, or less than one quarter of those recorded in the latter district. There have, moreover, been no serious epidemics of cholera: the number of cholera deaths in each year has been under 1,000. The total number of recorded births has exceeded the deaths by 70,000. Except in the three years 1906-08, when deficient or unevenly distributed rainfall resulted in poor harvests, the outturn of the crops was fair. There has been no noticeable development of industries, but the interior of the district has been opened out and emigration stimulated by two new lines of railway, viz., the Grand Chord and Barun-Daltonganj lines.

286. The present census discloses an increase of 99,565 or 4·83 per cent., the result of natural growth and a return to normal conditions.

GAYA.	1911.		1901.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
Actual population ...	1,061,291	1,096,207	1,011,271	1,046,652
Immigrants ...	22,104	29,290	18,875	27,259
Emigrants ...	116,911	67,658	96,320	76,929
Natural population ...	1,156,095	1,146,470	1,008,926	1,000,362

Plague, it is true, prevailed in the early part of 1911, causing 1,000 deaths before the census. When it was taken, the disease raged in the towns of Gaya and Jahanabad, and also in several villages in the interior. Nearly all the

inhabitants of Jahanabad encamped in huts outside the town. In Gaya town the people, who had good cause to remember the terrible epidemic of 1900-01, were panic-stricken, and a large number left the town. The result was a loss of over 20,000, which was made good at a second census held three months later. Apart from this disturbing influence, the general increase would have been greater, had it not been for the persons who left the district for employment elsewhere. The number of the district-born who were enumerated elsewhere has risen by 31,000 since 1901, and, even after allowing for an increase of 15,000 in the number of immigrants, there is a balance of 16,000 against the district. All but two thanas share in the increase. The effects of recovery from the effects of plague are specially noticeable in the Tekari thana, which now records a growth of 12 per cent. in place of a decline of 20 per cent. The expansion of the Arwal thana in the north-west has been even more rapid, but, as stated

elsewhere, this is a fertile canal-irrigated area, where the population is steadily growing. Arwal and the adjoining thana of Daudnagar were the only thanas outside the Nawada subdivision (which was then free from plague) which had any increment in 1901. The Jahanabad subdivision, in which the Arwal thana is included, is the most progressive part of the district. The least progressive is the Nawada subdivision, which was the only subdivision with any increase of population in 1901. Here there is a slight decline in the Nawada thana, which may be ascribed to the fact that in 1901 its population was temporarily swelled by plague refugees. The only other thana with a falling off is Nabinagar in the south-west, an infertile tract, where the soil is poor and there is practically no irrigation, so that the crops are scanty at the best of times.

287. Between 1872 and 1891 the population of Shahabad grew steadily, owing largely to the development of cultivation and the influx of immigrants caused by the opening of the Son Canals. If, however, immigrants are excluded, the district actually lost

SHAHABAD.	Population, 1911.	PERCENTAGE OF VARIATION.	
		1901-1911.	1891-1901.
<b>DISTRICT TOTAL</b> ... ..	<b>1,865,660</b>	- 4'94	- 4'8
<b>Sadar Subdivision</b> ... ..	<b>631,228</b>	- 5'82	- 5'87
Arrah Town ... ..	38,549	- 16'91	- 9'40
Arrah ... ..	235,564	- 11'79	- 5'43
Shahpur ... ..	161,809	- 11'78	+ 2'83
Piro ... ..	195,306	- 4'09	+ 2'83
<b>Buxar Subdivision</b> ... ..	<b>382,971</b>	- 8'10	- 5'02
Buxar ... ..	149,540	- 4'55	- 6'02
Dumraou ... ..	234,121	- 10'08	- 4'42
<b>Sasaram Subdivision</b> ... ..	<b>544,374</b>	+ 0'88	+ 1'18
Bikramganj ... ..	192,231	+ 3'24	+ 2'27
Kharaghat ... ..	99,261	+ 3'29	+ 2'59
Sasaram ... ..	160,583	- 3'41	+ 1'33
Dehri ... ..	91,699	+ 1'70	+ 3'14
<b>Bhabhua Subdivision</b> ... ..	<b>307,089</b>	+ 0'22	- 11'16
Mohania ... ..	136,567	- 2'22	- 13'96
Bhabhua ... ..	170,522	+ 2'49	- 6'92

as a whole rather than gained in the decade ending in 1891, owing to persistent fever which was never absent since the year 1879. During the next decade the district was visited by famine, while fever continued to cause great mortality. The census of 1901 disclosed a decrease in the population amounting to 97,883 or 4'8 per cent., which was partly the result of the adverse conditions of the preceding years, and partly due to the loss of temporary immigrants. An epidemic of plague broke out in the north-east of the district shortly before the census, and the fact that the number of foreign-born males enumerated in the district decreased by over 45,000 must, in part at least, be ascribed to the panic it caused. The falling off was most marked in the Bhabhua subdivision, where it was due to the unhealthiness of the climate and to the migration of the people to more favoured parts of the district, especially during the famine of 1896-97. Elsewhere the decrease was greatest in the Arrah thana, where it was ascribed to the exodus on account of the plague. The only thanas that gained ground were Sasaram, Bikramganj and Dehri, three of the four thanas forming the Sasaram subdivision. The area under irrigation is greater here than in other parts of the district, and the construction of the Mughalsarai-Gaya Railway caused an influx of labour. On the other hand, Piru thana in the headquarters subdivision, which borders on this tract and which also has a plentiful supply of canal water, was practically stationary.

288. The decade 1901-1910 was a very unhealthy period in Shahabad. Plague was present throughout the ten years, carrying off 68,000 persons, and there were also virulent epidemics of cholera in no less than six years, the mortality being 18,000 in 1910 alone and over 60,000 in the whole decennium. Fever prevailed and was especially virulent in 1905, when the death-rate returned as due to it was no less than 37'8 per mille: the total death-rate for this year reached the appalling figure of 58'65 per mille. Owing to these epidemics, the natural growth of the population was retarded, and the returns show that the net excess of births over deaths was less than 20,000. The agricultural classes, moreover, had to contend against a succession of bad harvests. The decade opened unfavourably, the outturn of crops being less than half the normal, and the strain on the cultivators' resources was all the greater because this was their second bad season in succession.

Good or fair harvests were reaped during the next four years, but in 1906-1907 they were again short, and in the two years 1907-1909 the failure was serious, the outturn of rice being only half the normal. The good rainfall of 1910 however improved the situation and averted a threatened scarcity.

289. The effect of the unfavourable conditions which prevailed is seen in the results of the census, which has brought to light a decrease of 97,036 or nearly 5 per cent. This diminution of population is due largely to the stimulus given to emigration by the stress of bad years, as well as to the continued

SHAHARAD.	1911.		1901.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
Actual population	304,950	960,710	336,544	1,096,102
Immigrants	18,642	41,963	26,877	57,080
Emigrants	99,681	78,815	83,579	77,124
Natural population	223,911	823,858	226,844	961,998

check of immigration into the district. The number of male emigrants has increased by over 17,000 since 1901, while the immigrant population has declined by over 24,000; the number of foreign-born

males enumerated in the district is now only a quarter of what it was in 1901. The loss has been greatest in the Sadar and Buxar subdivisions to the north, where every thana has receded, the rate of decrease varying from 4 per cent. to 12 per cent. The Sasaram and Bhabhua subdivisions to the south are practically stationary, but every thana in them has progressed slightly, except Sasaram and Mohania, both sparsely populated thanas with a large area of hill and jungle.

290. Between 1872 and 1881 there was a growth of population, which was sustained during the next decade, the census of 1891 showing an advance of 3.4 per cent. The greatest gain was in the Begusarai subdivision, but in the Jamui subdivision

MONGHYR.	Population, 1911.	PERCENTAGE OF VARIATION.	
		1901-1911.	1891-1901.
<b>DISTRICT TOTAL</b>	<b>2,132,893</b>	<b>+ 3.10</b>	<b>+ 1.61</b>
<b>Sadar Subdivision</b>	<b>1,094,563</b>	<b>+ 4.16</b>	<b>+ 0.44</b>
Gogoi	422,859	+ 6.01	+ 2.55
Monghyr	184,447	+ 18.78	- 9.51
Jamulpur	20,526	+ 8.37	- 14.41
Buzajpach	74,790	- 12.75	Not avail.
Lakhtiarad	129,733	+ 9.31	Abn.
Kharagpur	149,092	+ 5.22	+ 6.94
Shakhpura	143,326	+ 1.73	- 7.50
<b>Begusarai Subdivision</b>	<b>651,765</b>	<b>+ 1.37</b>	<b>+ 5.17</b>
Toghrā	230,592	- 1.36	+ 7.74
Begusarai	421,243	+ 2.92	+ 3.74
<b>Jamui Subdivision</b>	<b>386,565</b>	<b>+ 3.08</b>	<b>- 0.49</b>
Sikandra	107,418	- 0.92	- 1.90
Jamui	143,296	+ 20.17	+ 6.62
Onkai	135,851	+ 7.97	+ 4.70

there was practically no increase and in the north-east of that subdivision there was a heavy loss due to the ravages of fever. At the census of 1901 it was found that the population had only increased by 1.6 per cent., a result attributed to a severe epidemic of plague in 1900-01 and, in a minor degree, to emigration from the district. Monghyr was, however, the only district in South Bihar which escaped a loss of population, a result due to the fact that to the north of the Ganges there is a rich alluvial

tract, which attracts immigrants and was free from plague in 1901. The portion south of that river sustained a small loss, an increase in four thanas having been more than obliterated by a heavy loss in the areas where plague had appeared, viz., the town of Monghyr and its environs, and two thanas in the west, to which the epidemic spread from the Patna district.

291. The result of the census of 1911 is an increase of 64,089 or 3.10

MONGHYR.	1911.		1901.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
Actual population	1,043,477	1,089,416	1,011,390	1,057,324
Immigrants	36,241	56,798	37,324	41,245
Emigrants	129,450	110,034	96,344	87,579
Natural population	1,188,768	1,142,672	1,079,660	1,096,924

per cent. The preceding decade was, on the whole, healthy. The births outnumbered the deaths in every year except 1907, the net excess being 137,000, or double that returned for any other district in South

Bihar. Plague was present throughout these ten years and affected nearly all parts except some tracts north of the Ganges, but the mortality never reached such a high figure as in other districts of South Bihar. The maximum number of plague deaths was 11,000 in 1905, and the aggregate for the decade was 43,000, or 4,000 less than the number of deaths caused by cholera. Plague also prevailed in the early part of 1911, causing 3,300 deaths in January and February, and was raging in parts of the Sadar and Begusarai subdivisions (particularly in the Sheikhpura, Surajgarh, Gogri, Lakhisarai, Begusarai and Teghra thanas) at the time of the census; but in spite of the great difficulties it caused, the final census was carried out smoothly, and no loss was caused by omissions from the returns. The people have now become accustomed to this disease, and it no longer inspires the same wild terror. They move out of their villages and encamp near the affected area, but do not fly far and wide as they did when it first appeared. The harvests were, on the whole, fair, though the south of the district, particularly the Jamui subdivision, suffered from drought in some years. Though the northern portion of the district is not, as a rule, liable to suffer much from short and unseasonable fall, it is exposed to floods from the overflowing of the Ganges and its affluents. Severe floods occurred in 1904 and 1906, but fortunately that of 1904 took place when most of the *bhadoi* crops had been harvested, and in 1906, when considerable damage was caused in the Gogri and Khagaria thanas, it was not found necessary to institute relief measures, the people being enabled to tide over their losses by means of agricultural loans. The north of the district benefited by the opening of the Mansi-Bhaptiahi line in 1908, and in the same year the Peninsular Tobacco Company opened a factory at Monghyr for the manufacture of cigarettes. This factory employs over 1,000 hands and is the only new industrial concern of any importance.

292. The increase now recorded must be attributed to natural growth. The population has received a comparatively small accretion from outside. On the other hand emigration has developed to a remarkable extent: the number of the district-born who were temporarily or permanently resident outside its limits has risen by nearly 55,000 or 30 per cent. since 1901. At the time of the census there was a large influx of temporary labourers engaged in cutting crops in the *tals* of the Lakhisarai thana. These are low-lying areas which are covered with water during the rains, but are brought under cultivation in the winter season when the water dries up. The crops are ready for harvest about the end of February or beginning of March, when crowds of labourers come and reap them, encamping out in the open until the harvest is complete. Over 8,000 such temporary labourers were enumerated in the Lakhisarai thana, where their presence mainly accounts for the increase of 9 per cent.

293. The Sadar subdivision has a net increase of 4·16 per cent., but its development is by no means uniform. The Kharagpur thana has declined by over 5 per cent., but this decline is more apparent than real, for in 1901 it harboured a considerable number of plague refugees from Monghyr thana, which is now more populous by nearly 19 per cent. than it was in that year. On account of the partial depletion of the latter thana and the temporary addition to the population of the former at the last census, the figures of 1901 are misleading, and it is necessary to go back to 1891 to see how far they have advanced or stood still. Such a comparison shows that Monghyr has grown by 8 per cent., while Kharagpur is practically stationary. Surajgarh to the east of Monghyr shows a falling off of a little under 13 per cent., which is partly due to the incidence of plague and partly to the migration of labourers to the *tals* in Sheikhpura. In the Jamui subdivision to the south the Jamui thana has expanded rapidly owing to the spread of cultivation, but Chakai has lost population, for which emigration is partly responsible, while the Sikandra thana, which was decadent from 1881 to 1901, is stationary. The Begusarai subdivision exhibits only a slight advance, for though the Begusarai thana has developed, Teghra, which has suffered from plague, has lost ground.

## NORTH BIHAR.

294. The population of Saran grew steadily until 1891, there being an increase of 10½ per cent. in 1881 and a further advance of 7·4 per cent. in 1891. The next decade witnessed a set-back, for in 1901 the population declined by 2·3 per cent.,

SARAN.	Population, 1911.	PERCENTAGE OF VARIATION.	
		1901-1911.	1891-1901.
<b>DISTRICT TOTAL</b>	<b>2,289,778</b>	<b>-4·94</b>	<b>-2·3</b>
<b>Sadar Subdivision</b>	<b>894,248</b>	<b>-6·64</b>	<b>-5·53</b>
Manjhi	121,247	-12·57	-8·42
Chapry	290,096	-2·45	-7·30
Chapry Town	42,373	-23·36	-
Para	212,081	-4·56	-4·99
Mashrak	133,650	-8·00	-1·96
Roupar	32,821	-6·79	-10·24
<b>Siwan Subdivision</b>	<b>758,699</b>	<b>-7·15</b>	<b>+0·13</b>
Siwan	297,259	-14·99	+1·28
Daraul	213,243	-3·42	+4·11
Basantapur	248,197	+6·26	+1·11
<b>Gopalganj Subdivision</b>	<b>636,831</b>	<b>+0·28</b>	<b>+0·07</b>
Mirganj	270,847	+2·22	-0·98
Gopalganj	265,974	-3·04	+0·26

owing to four causes, viz., famine, a consequent reduction of the birth-rate, plague and emigration. There was famine in 1897, which reduced the vitality of the people and lowered the birth-rate, though it was not directly responsible for any great mortality. By the time of the census the people had recovered from the results of the famine, but unfortunately plague broke out in epidemic form during the winter of 1899-1900 and re-appeared with renewed intensity in the succeeding cold weather. The decline of population

was general in the Sadar subdivision and greatest in those thanas where plague was worst. The Darauli thana in Siwan also declined, but the rest of the district had the same population as in 1891. The conclusion arrived at by Mr. Gait was that, while the general want of progress was due to the adverse balance of migration and to the fact that Saran was unable to support a much greater population than it already possessed in 1891, plague was to blame for the greater part of the decrease that had occurred in the southern part of the district.

295. The most noticeable feature of the last ten years in Saran has been the great increase in mortality, the average death-rate being 40·50 per mille, whereas in the preceding nine years it was under 30 per mille. For this increase plague is partly responsible. This disease is now an annual visitation and never leaves the district altogether except for a short period in the rains. It increases all through the cold weather and reaches its height in March: deaths are numerous in April, but there is usually a decrease in May and a further considerable decrease in June. During the ten years the aggregate number of deaths returned as caused by plague was 166,000, or nearly a fifth of the total mortality. Plague alone, however, will not account for the enhanced mortality, unless, as is quite possible, a large number of deaths from plague were returned as deaths from fever and from other causes. The returns under the head of fever account for two-fifths of the total mortality, and a virulent type of fever was prevalent in 1903, 1905, 1909 and 1910: in each of these years it carried off over 40,000 persons. The birth-rate has also been high, averaging 40·13 per mille, but it has failed to keep pace with the death-rate, and the net result is that the deaths during the decade exceeded the births by nearly 9,000. "The general opinion," writes the Collector, "that the district has become more unhealthy is unquestionably justified. . . . There are no large rivers inside the district, and there are many low-lying *chaurs* and swamps; the pressure of population and extension of cultivation has probably obstructed the existing drainage channels, and in part of the district the closing of the Saran canals has perhaps contributed to the unhealthiness of the tracts they previously drained."

296. The outturn of crops was on the whole good except in 1906, when the district suffered from floods, and in 1907 and 1908, when it was affected by drought. The harvests were average during the years 1901, 1904 and 1905, and were up to or above the average in the remaining four years, viz., 1902, 1903, 1909 and 1910: especially good harvests were reaped in the last year. The Collector (Mr. B. Foley) remarks:—"It is doubtful if the material condition of the people was much affected even during the three bad years. In 1906 and 1908 an attempt was made to open test relief works, but no one attended them. Takavi loans were found sufficient for the people's need. Emigration, which has increased largely during the ten years, now renders the people more or less independent of the agricultural condition of the district. . . . The years of highest mortality, namely, 1903, 1905 and 1910, were years of prosperity, while in the three years 1906 to 1908, during which the crops were bad, there was no remarkable mortality. In a dry year the general health is better, while the poor classes do not depend on their crops in the same way as the people of other districts. There is always an enormous emigration from the district, and though this seems to be unaffected by moderate variations in the conditions of agriculture, anything approaching scarcity drives large numbers away from the district to procure high wages elsewhere, a large proportion of which they remit to their homes."

297. There is no sign of real industrial development, and agriculture still almost entirely monopolizes the energies of the people. The indigo industry has continued to decline, and its decline has helped to swell the number of emigrant labourers. The acreage under this crop decreased steadily from 37,600 acres in 1901 to 9,205 in 1910; six factories were closed entirely, another ceased to grow indigo, and other concerns reduced their establishments. Sugarcane has not yet taken the place of indigo, and its cultivation so far shows no tendency to expand. The cultivation of opium has been steadily reduced, and shortly after the census was discontinued altogether, but the manufacture of saltpetre, which was a declining industry during the preceding ten years, is said to have shown some improvement, though the actual number of refineries decreased from 118 in 1901 to 92 in 1910. There has been a further extension of railway communications within the district. A railway line, 17 miles long, has been constructed between Siwan on the main line of the Bengal and North-Western Railway and Thawe in the northern portion of the district. Another short branch line has connected Daronda on the main line with the grain mart of Maharajganj, while the Chapra-Masrakh Railway line, 26 miles long, has established direct communication between Masrakh and Chapra.

298. In addition to losses by death, the district has lost heavily by

SEXES.	1911.		1901.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
Actual population ...	1,064,333	1,225,445	1,093,117	1,313,497
Immigrants...	12,399	34,835	19,452	37,972
Emigrants ...	303,876	80,325	173,498	68,436
Natural population ...	1,256,916	1,271,135	1,209,166	1,345,161

migration, the number of the district-born who were enumerated outside the district being 39,000 more than it was in 1901, while the number of immigrants has fallen by nearly 10,000. It must not be imagined that the adverse balance of migration represents any permanent loss, since most of the emigrants leave the

district only for a time. The labourers generally go away in November and December, and return in the hot weather, though others return only at intervals of one, two or three years. The annual exodus of the able-bodied is now an established feature. As the Collector remarks:—"The system of annual emigration no doubt had its origin in the inability of the soil to support its population. Having, however, once acquired the habit of emigrating for wages, and having found that it is easy to save money in this way, the people now emigrate yearly as a matter of habit to supplement their incomes, whether agricultural conditions are prosperous or the reverse." At the time of the census the presence of plague (which caused over 8,000 deaths in the two preceding months) most probably helped to swell the numbers of the

emigrants, and also to prevent them returning as early as they might otherwise have done. The net result of these combined influences, viz., an increased mortality, which has not been altogether counterbalanced by an enhanced birth-rate, a greater exodus from the district, and the check of immigration, is a decrease of 119,036 or a little under 5 per cent.

299. In reviewing the results of the census of 1901, Mr. J. H. Kerr remarked in the Saran Settlement Report :—“On the whole, leaving out of account any great economic revolution, of which there are at present no signs, the situation may be summed up thus. Gopalganj is capable of supporting a slight increase of population. Siwan has probably reached its utmost limits, while in the Sadar, and particularly in the densely populated thanas of Manjhi Chapra and Sonpur, with their high rent-rates, decline has already set in. Nor is this to be deplored. On the contrary, it is a matter for congratulation that emigration should be growing in favour in a district where it is so greatly needed, and it is a further relief to the situation that North Bihar contains no body of peasantry more alert or more industrious, or more ready, within limits, to take advantage of improvements calculated to increase the productive powers of the soil.” The result of the census is to confirm these conclusions. Gopalganj is the only subdivision with any increase, and even here the Gopalganj thana has lost population. Mirganj, on the other hand, has an increase of over 3 per cent., which is ascribed to its general healthiness and to the comparative absence of plague in the western portion of the thana, from which moreover there is less migration than elsewhere. It is probable also that the opening of the railway from Siwan to Thawe and the consequent development of trade contributed to the increase. Both the Sadar and Siwan subdivisions exhibit a general decline, the only thana which has gained ground being Basantpur, where the increase is due partly to natural growth and partly to the opening of the railway from Daronda to Maharajganj. The greatest decrease has taken place in thanas Manjhi and Siwan, representing 12½ and 15 per cent., respectively, as against the district average of 4·9 per cent.

300. The district of Champaran is still a sparsely peopled district, with ample scope for the extension of cultivation. It developed steadily between 1872 and 1891, owing mainly to immigration. Between 1891 and 1901, however,

the district suffered from a series of lean years, as well as from persistent unhealthiness, while immigration received a sharp check. Scarcity culminated in famine in 1897, when practically the whole district was affected. Though no deaths occurred from starvation, the vitality of the people was lowered, and the sequel of the famine was a reduced birth-rate. These three factors—the unhealthiness of the decade, the diminished fecundity of the people consequent on a series of bad years, and the stoppage of immigration—led to a loss of population in every thana in the district except Bettiah and Adapur;

the latter is a thana with an exceptionally fertile soil, in which a full rice crop was secured even in 1896, when there was a disastrous failure elsewhere.

301. The prosperity of the people appears to have been restored by the end of 1900, and with this recuperation the birth-rate increased rapidly. In the six years ending in 1906 the average birth-rate was 41·85 per mille, as

CHAMPARAN.	Population, 1911.	PERCENTAGE OF VARIATION.	
		1901-1911.	1891-1901.
<b>DISTRICT TOTAL</b>	<b>1,908,385</b>	<b>+ 6·59</b>	<b>- 3·72</b>
<b>Sadar Subdivision</b>	<b>1,101,498</b>	<b>+ 5·85</b>	<b>- 5·37</b>
Motihari	186,155	+ 6·73	- 6·30
Adapur	175,676	+ 4·97	+ 0·39
Dhaka Ramchandra	206,908	+ 10·92	- 4·01
Kumfi	183,331	+ 4·18	- 3·13
Madhubar	103,920	- 0·56	- 4·81
Gobindganj	184,488	+ 4·13	- 11·76
<b>Bettiah Subdivision</b>	<b>806,887</b>	<b>+ 7·60</b>	<b>- 1·32</b>
Bettiah	360,914	+ 5·28	+ 2·52
Bagaha	206,468	+ 3·98	- 0·94
Shikarpur	239,505	+ 13·79	- 1·26



compared with 34·31 per mille in the preceding nine years, and there was an excess of 85,708 births, whereas the number of deaths in 1892—1900 exceeded the births by 1,059. In the second half of the decade there were three years of agricultural depression (1906—1908). In 1906 the north of the district was visited by floods, and later in the year considerable damage was done to the rice crops, while in 1907 and 1908 the outturn was poor owing to scanty and unevenly distributed rainfall. The rice crop was again injured by floods in 1910, but otherwise the harvests were good. Four new railway branches were opened in 1906 and 1907, viz.—(1) from Bettiah to Narkatiaganj, (2) from the latter place to Bhiknathori, (3) from Bairagnia to Shikarpur and (4) from Narkatiaganj to Bagaha. The construction of these lines, besides facilitating trade and helping to develop the resources of the district, afforded employment to a large number of labourers, and a further demand for labour was created by the construction of the Tribeni canal. Taking the decade as a whole, its most conspicuous feature was a low death-rate, viz., 32·66 per cent. (the lowest in Bihar), and a high birth-rate, viz., 42·85 per mille (the highest in North Bihar), the result being an excess of births over deaths amounting to 182,000.

302. The census shows that the loss recorded in 1901 has been more than made good, the population having been augmented by 117,922 or 6·6 per cent. This gain is to be ascribed mainly to the natural increase of population, in a district where the pressure on the soil is light, during a series of years which were on the whole favourable to development. The gain would have been greater but for

CHAMPARAN,	1911.		1901.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
Actual population	942,012	964,273	885,807	904,856
Immigrants	42,012	53,506	55,047	51,724
Emigrants	29,409	18,423	36,442	19,620
Natural population	929,409	931,280	947,002	879,757

the continued shrinkage of the volume of immigration. There are now 11,000 less immigrants than in 1901, while their number is 40 per cent. less than it was in 1891. Not only are fewer settlers attracted from outside, but an increasing number leave the district for employment elsewhere: the number of persons born in the district but enumerated outside it has risen by nearly 12,000 since 1901. This is somewhat surprising, for the district is but imperfectly developed and requires all the available labour for its own needs, but the north of the district, where there is most room for expansion, has an evil reputation for fever. The wages of field labour, moreover, have remained stationary, and the labourers have come to realize that they can get better terms elsewhere. The immigrants are, however, still twice as numerous as the emigrants, the actual excess being nearly 48,000.

303. The growth has been general throughout the district, except for the Madhuban thana in the south-east, which is stationary. In 1901 this was the most densely populated thana, and it suffered most from the floods of 1906 and 1910. The Magistrate is disposed to suspect that rack-renting may have something to do with the result, and, whether that is a predisposing cause or not, the figures for the sexes show that the thana has lost by emigration, the number of males falling off while the females have added to their number. The rate of increase is fairly uniform in the other thanas of the Sadar subdivision, except in Dhaka which has grown by nearly 11 per cent. This is a fertile rice-growing tract, which has suffered less than others from flood and drought. Both the Motihari and Gobindganj thanas suffered severely in the famine and lost heavily between 1891 and 1901. At this census both show a substantial increase, but neither has quite recovered its former position. In the Bettiah subdivision there is a fair growth in thanas Bettiah and Bagaha, though the percentage of increase in the latter is surprisingly low considering the extensive tracts available for cultivation, while there has been a rapid expansion in the Shikarpur thana, where reclamation is steadily progressing.

304. At each of the censuses held since 1872 there has been an increase of population, but the rate of increase shows a steady falling off, which is not altogether

to be wondered at considering the density of population. In 1881 there was

MUZAFFARPUR.	Population, 1911.	PERCENTAGE OF VARIATION.	
		1901-1911.	1891-1901.
<b>DISTRICT TOTAL</b> --	<b>2,845,514</b>	<b>+3.24</b>	<b>+1.5</b>
<b>Sadar Subdivision</b> --	<b>1,081,475</b>	<b>+2.86</b>	<b>-2.27</b>
Paro --	316,708	+ 5.02	- 2.85
Muzaffarpur --	547,279	+ 0.27	- 5.82
Katra --	217,486	+ 4.79	+ 9.74
<b>Sitamarhi Subdivision</b> --	<b>1,053,739</b>	<b>+6.81</b>	<b>+6.73</b>
Suluhar --	312,231	+ 8.28	+ 7.29
Sitamarhi --	369,794	+ 6.93	+ 9.02
Belsand --	214,263	+ 7.97	+ 4.09
Papti --	357,251	+ 9.18	+ 9.35
<b>Hajipur Subdivision</b> --	<b>710,300</b>	<b>-1.10</b>	<b>+0.57</b>
Mahua --	299,360	+ 1.96	- 0.26
Lalganj --	124,063	+ 0.81	- 1.00
Hajipur --	286,877	- 5.27	+ 2.99

an advance of 15 per cent., which was partly due to the deficiencies of the first enumeration. In 1891 the percentage of growth fell to 5 per cent., while in 1901 it still further decreased to 1.5 per cent. The slowness of growth in the decade ending in 1901 is due to the fact that the district suffered from flood, famine and disease. The whole district except the south of the Hajipur subdivision was affected by famine in 1897, next year there were heavy floods, and epidemics of cholera broke out in four years carrying off over 76,000

persons. In other respects, however, the public health was fairly good; the floods caused no permanent injury; and, thanks to a succession of good harvests, the effects of the famine were not long felt. By the end of the decade the people had entirely recovered their normal condition; every thana in the great rice-growing tract north of the Bagmati, where the stress of famine was greatest, showed a marked increase, while every thana south of that river lost population. In the former tract the increase was due mainly to immigration; in the latter emigration was active.

305. Since 1901 there has been no famine, but no little distress has been caused by floods. The Sitamarhi subdivision was swept by a high flood in 1902, when great damage was done to the *bhadoi* crop. Except in a small part of the subdivision, however, the winter rice did not suffer appreciably, and there was ample time for replanting even where it had been destroyed. In other parts, the heavy alluvial deposits benefited the flooded lands, and, in spite of the temporary suffering caused by the flood, no relief was either asked for or required. In 1906 there was a much more serious and widespread inundation, which affected about half the entire district: the thanas which suffered most were Paro, Muzaffarpur, Mahua, Katra and Belsand. For some little time there was acute distress, which was aggravated by the high prices prevailing, but in the end the cultivators were able to weather through with the help of loans, and no famine relief had to be provided. The next two years were years of deficient and badly distributed rainfall, which led to partial failures of the crops, but the ample and reasonable fall of 1909 resulted in good harvests, which to a great extent removed the distress caused by the two preceding years. In 1910, however, there was another inundation which did considerable damage to crops in the Sitamarhi subdivision as well as in part of the Sadar subdivision. Loans had to be granted to the distressed cultivators, and the subsidence of the flood was followed by a virulent epidemic of cholera.

306. Speaking generally, the first half of the decade was a period of prosperity, and the latter half was one of depression owing to repeated crop failures. The health of the people was, however, good, the birth-rate being in excess of the death-rate in every year except 1910. As in Saran, the famine of 1897 was followed by greater productiveness, especially during the first five years of the decade, when the ratio of births was consistently above 43 per mille and ranged between that figure and 48 per mille. The result, for the decade as a whole, has been an excess of births over deaths amounting to 200,000. The actual increase disclosed by the census is 89,384 or 3.24 per cent. The difference between the two figures is due to the movements of the people, immigrants from outside falling off by 14,500 and emigrants increasing by no less than 41,000. Every year many thousands of able-bodied labourers leave the district at the beginning of the cold weather in search of work on the roads, railways and fields

in other districts, returning to their homes at the end of the hot weather, in

MUZAFFARPUR.	1911.		1901.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
Actual population ...	1,380,300	1,489,314	1,319,110	1,487,020
Immigrants ...	24,079	49,197	32,300	35,203
Emigrants ...	113,753	81,061	88,507	67,080
Natural population...	1,449,984	1,517,378	1,373,417	1,445,343

time for the agricultural operations which commence with the bursting of the monsoon. This exodus is now an annual affair, and its volume is increasing steadily with the opening of through connection with North Bengal.

307. Both the Sadar and Sitamarhi subdivisions, which suffered from famine in 1897, have added to their population, and the Hajipur subdivision, the south of which was not affected by it, has lost population. The loss in the latter is due to the decline in the Hajipur thana, which has suffered severely from plague. The Sitamarhi subdivision, which is a great rice-growing tract, is the most progressive part of the district, the rate of increase being the same as in 1901. This subdivision attracts settlers not only from Nepal, but also from the south of the district, owing to the fertility of its soil as well to the fact that it is not affected by plague: here the increase has been greatest in Shiuhar, Belsand and Sitamarhi, which march with the Nepal frontier. In the Sadar subdivision the Muzaffarpur thana is stationary on account of the emigration of men to Bengal in search of work, a cause which also has operated very largely in the decrease so noticeable in Hajipur.

308. The first census of Darbhanga was proved to have been wanting in accuracy by a careful census of the head-quarters and Madhubani subdivisions taken in 1874 and 1876 respectively; the increase of 23 per cent. recorded in 1881 must therefore be

## DARBHANGA.

largely discounted. The rate of progress during the next ten years was 6·5 per cent., but fell to 3·9 per cent. in 1901. This diminution of

DARBHANGA.	Population, 1911.	PERCENTAGE OF VARIATION.	
		1901-1911.	1891-1901.
<b>DISTRICT TOTAL</b> ...	<b>2,929,682</b>	<b>+ 0·59</b>	<b>+ 3·95</b>
<b>Sadar Subdivision</b> ...	<b>1,063,849</b>	<b>- 0·16</b>	<b>+ 1·60</b>
Darbhanga ...	455,129	+ 4·85	- 1·36
Baherah ...	347,524	- 2·11	+ 2·74
Roseraib ...	260,488	- 5·22	+ 5·09
<b>Madhubani Subdivision</b> ...	<b>1,135,771</b>	<b>+ 3·78</b>	<b>+ 7·85</b>
Bulpatib ...	365,123	+ 8·27	+ 8·92
Khasauli ...	271,562	+ 3·72	+ 8·01
Madhubani ...	282,700	+ 2·72	+ 2·96
Phutpara ...	216,486	- 3·17	+ 10·21
<b>Samastipur Subdivision</b>	<b>730,062</b>	<b>- 3·00</b>	<b>+ 1·92</b>
Warisnagar ...	186,227	- 1·97	- 1·15
Samastipur ...	203,409	- 2·24	+ 2·00
Dalsinghsarai ...	260,426	- 4·25	+ 2·91

growth was due to the unfavourable conditions prevailing after 1891. The decade was not very healthy, and in 1892 there was scarcity, necessitating relief measures in the Sadar and Madhubani subdivisions, while in 1897 there was famine, which affected the whole district except the Samastipur and Dalsinghsarai thanas in the Samastipur subdivision. The

result of the census of 1901 was to show that, while there was only a slight increase (1·9 per cent.) in the Samastipur subdivision, which was least affected by the famine, the growth was greatest (7·8 per cent.) in Madhubani, where distress was most acute both in 1892 and 1897. It was only 1·6 per cent. in the head-quarters subdivision, where the Darbhanga thana showed a slight decrease. This, however, was due to an unusually large number of persons having been present in Darbhanga town at the time of the previous census; if the urban area is excluded, the thana had a slight increase. The only other thana in the district in which there was any decrease was Warisnagar, where the population declined by 1·13 per cent.

309. The first half of the decade 1901-1910 was, on the whole, a prosperous period for the people of Darbhanga. Crops were fair, and the recovery from the effects of famine was marked by a rapid increase in the birth-rate, which averaged 43·35 per mille in the quinquennium ending in 1905. The death-rate was comparatively low (34·9 per mille), and the result was that in these five years the number of births exceeded that of deaths by 153,000, the excess being 87,000 more than that recorded in the preceding nine years. After 1905 the district had a series of bad years. Heavy floods in July and

August 1906 were followed by a drought in September and October, and their effect on the crops was disastrous. The distress caused by their destruction was accentuated by the poor outturn of the preceding year, and famine ensued. The rainfall in 1907 was about normal, well distributed and timely, but the year 1908 was a year of protracted drought, which injured almost all the crops of the year, and famine had again to be declared. The last year of the quinquennium was the only one in which the people were free from the pressure of scarcity, the outturn of almost all crops being good and prices almost down to the level of 1905-06. The effect of the famines on the birth-rate and the rapidity with which the people recovered are sufficiently

Year.	Births.	Deaths.
1906	108,212	96,792
1907	90,980	90,980
1908	113,651	82,390
1909	118,676	122,788
1910	99,716	100,549
1911	121,147	94,694

apparent from the marginal figures, which also show the number of deaths in each year of the quinquennium and in 1911. The period of greatest distress was in the latter half of 1906, when the first famine broke out: the births next year fell by over 17,000, but quickly rose in 1908 and 1909 to a figure exceeding that attained in 1906.

The second famine lasted till the 31st July 1909, distress being most acute in the first five months of the year, and another drop of 19,000 occurred, but next year there was an extraordinary rise of over 31,000. No deaths were caused by starvation, and it is noticeable that from 1906 to 1908 the deaths steadily decreased, the number recorded in 1908 being the minimum of the decade. On the other hand, the maximum was reached in 1909, when the people had to bear the brunt of the second famine.

310. The net excess of births over deaths during the decennium was

DARBHANGA.	1911.		1901.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
Actual population	1,412,009	1,517,012	1,410,474	1,498,127
Immigrants	27,160	59,590	35,472	97,101
Emigrants	102,075	73,291	50,445	35,009
Natural population	1,488,184	1,503,310	1,441,444	1,492,009

190,000, but the increase disclosed by the census is less than one-tenth of this figure, being only 17,071 or a little over one-half per cent. The difference between the two figures is due to migration, and in particular to the greatly enhanced number of those

born in Darbhanga who were enumerated elsewhere. The exodus of the native-born has now attained large dimensions, rising by more than 65,000 since 1901; the number of male emigrants alone has been nearly doubled. Owing both to the outward movement of the people, and also to their movements from thana to thana inside the district, it is difficult to gauge the actual effect of the two famines of the decade on the population of the affected areas. The whole of the south and west of the district has a diminution of population, while throughout the north-east and north (except in Phulparas in the extreme north-west) there is an increase. The Darbhanga and Benipati thanas, which suffered in a major degree during the first famine and also, though less severely, during the second famine, have substantial increases. The thanas of Bahera and Roserah, in the Sadar subdivision, where famine prevailed in both years, have a decline, but so also have Samastipur and Dalsinghsarai in the Samastipur subdivision, which remained immune. Owing mainly to epidemics of plague and the loss of population caused by emigration, the decline in the two latter thanas is greater than in Warisnagar, the only thana in the Samastipur subdivision in which famine prevailed.

311. No definite conclusions can be drawn as to the effects of famine in different parts, but some broad and general inferences can be made on a

SUBDIVISION.	VARIATION PER CENT.		
	1881-1891.	1891-1901.	1901-1911.
Madhubani	+ 15.0	+ 7.8	+ 8.28
Sadar	+ 8.0	+ 1.8	- 0.16
Samastipur	- 2.3	+ 1.0	- 3.0

survey of the variations during the last 30 years, as shown in the margin. At each of the three censuses the Madhubani subdivision to the north has gained population, but in a diminishing degree: the Sadar subdivision in the centre had become stationary by

1901, and is now decadent. In the Samastipur subdivision in the south the census of 1901 showed that the loss of population had been temporarily checked, but the downward tendency is now again pronounced. The density of population in these three tracts has much to do with the variations in the

rate of progress. The Samastipur subdivision is the most fertile but densely populated part of the district, and its surplus population are seeking relief by emigration. In the Sadar subdivision, which, unlike Samastipur, is practically dependent on one crop (winter rice), the pressure on the soil has become so great that it does not appear capable of supporting a greater population, while Madhubani is approaching the same condition.

312. The progressive decline of the rate of increase, which has been observed in the case of Darbhanga, is equally noticeable in the case of Bhagalpur. In 1881 there was an addition of 7·8 per cent., but the rate of progress was reduced to

BHAGALPUR.	Population, 1911.	PERCENTAGE OF VARIATION.	
		1901-1911.	1891-1901.
<b>DISTRICT TOTAL</b> ... ..	<b>2,139,318</b>	<b>+ 2·41</b>	<b>+ 2·77</b>
<b>Sadar Subdivision</b> ... ..	<b>598,377</b>	<b>+ 2·24</b>	<b>+ 5·97</b>
Suitanganj ... ..	95,198	+ 0·09	+ 3·01
Bhagalpur ... ..	185,179	- 2·52	+ 6·54
Coibong ... ..	207,964	+ 1·90	+ 6·59
Bilpur ... ..	110,037	+ 14·55	+ 2·72
<b>Supaul Subdivision</b> ... ..	<b>493,671</b>	<b>- 3·37</b>	<b>+ 6·09</b>
Supaul ... ..	326,074	- 0·97	+ 3·65
Pratapganj ... ..	167,597	- 9·01	+ 12·27
<b>Madhipura Subdivision</b> ... ..	<b>509,610</b>	<b>+ 8·99</b>	<b>- 2·81</b>
Boussou ... ..	153,705	- 7·58	+ 2·03
Madhipura ... ..	295,909	+ 5·03	- 3·78
Kisheuganj ... ..	160,996	+ 39·65	- 6·59
<b>Banka Subdivision</b> ... ..	<b>437,660</b>	<b>+ 0·96</b>	<b>+ 2·40</b>
Amstpur ... ..	154,895	+ 1·27	+ 5·45
Katauria ... ..	117,481	- 1·93	+ 2·56
Banka ... ..	165,284	+ 2·23	- 1·14

3·3 per cent. in 1891 and to 2·8 per cent. in 1901. The increase in the latter year was mainly the result of the development of the Supaul and Sadar subdivisions, for there was only a small advance in the Banka subdivision and the Madhipura subdivision lost ground. The result of the census of 1911 is to show that the district, though still continuing to grow, is developing even less rapidly than in the preceding three decades, the net increment of population being only 50,365 or 2·4 per cent.

313. The decade 1901 to 1910 was fairly healthy, for the birth-rate exceeded the death-rate in all but three

years, viz., 1905, 1906 and 1907, and there was a net excess of births over deaths amounting to 103,000. In the three years above mentioned the death-roll was swollen by epidemics of cholera, small-pox and plague, and especially by cholera, which carried off 17,000 persons in 1906. Its ravages were most severe in the Madhipura and Pratapganj thanas, which lost over 15 per cent. of their population from cholera mortality; here the Kosi river has caused extensive water-logging of the soil, and, wells being scarce, the people resort to the numerous old channels of the Kosi for their drinking water. In the first part of the decade good harvests were reaped and a fair degree of prosperity prevailed, except in 1902 when there was scanty and ill-distributed rainfall. In 1906 floods swept the country round Supaul and Madhipura, and in 1908 the failure of the monsoon brought about one of the worst years of scarcity known in this district. The distress was relieved by the liberal grant of loans—over 20 lakhs were advanced—and by the institution of village relief works, while the readiness of the people to leave their homes for tracts where there was a demand for labour did much to mitigate their difficulties. The scarcity was acutely felt in the western part of the Madhipura and Supaul subdivisions, where famine conditions prevailed and relief works were started. There was also a severe drought in the country south of the Ganges where, however, the harvests of the previous year had been good and the people migrated freely from the affected areas. "The landless labourers cleared out in thousands to look for employment elsewhere. The luxuriant crops in the east of Supaul and Madhipura subdivisions north of the river attracted many: large numbers went into the lands on the Purnea side of the Kosi, and many others went eastwards to get employment in the rice-lands of Bengal proper. It was computed that in August and September about 70,000 people crossed the Ganges from south to north in search of work."\* Next year the rainfall was ample and well distributed, the result being excellent crops, but it is reported that the people generally had not fully recovered from the effects of the scarcity by the time the census was taken.

\* Bhagalpur District Gazetteer, p. 104.

314. The movements of the people do not appear to have affected the results very materially.

BHAGALPUR.	1911.		1901.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
Actual population	1,037,876	1,091,442	1,027,533	1,062,416
Immigrants	65,975	66,379	56,066	49,532
Emigrants	14,923	32,972	66,421	97,814
Natural population	1,078,828	1,094,849	1,026,080	1,069,700

As in other districts of North Bihar, the people are availing themselves more freely of the facilities for travel, and the number of emigrants now exceeds that returned in 1901 by over 43,000. On the other

hand, settlers from outside have also come into the district in increasing numbers : there are 28,000 more than 10 years previously, so that the net loss to the district is only 15,000. The Supaul subdivision, which was the most retrogressive part of the district between 1881 and 1901, is the only part of the district which has sustained a loss. Both the thanas included in this subdivision suffered from the scarcity of 1908-09, and as already stated Pratapganj, in which the loss is greatest, had a heavy mortality from cholera in 1906. Both, moreover, suffer from a severe type of malaria; low-lying areas are inundated in the rains, and the subsidence of the floods is followed by outbreaks of fever and cholera. In the Madhipura subdivision, immediately to the south, there is a decline in the Bongaon thana, which adjoins the decadent portion of Darbhanga, but there is a fair growth in Madhipura, which is partly the sequel of its being opened out by the railway, and Kishenganj to the west had a remarkable increase. This thana borders on the water-logged area, but owing to the fact that the river Kosi has for some years past not shown any marked tendency to shift its channels, there has been a rapid expansion of cultivation in its south-eastern portion, which was till recently a desolate tract of swamp and jungle. Apart, however, from this, the number of persons enumerated in this thana was swollen at the time of the census by the influx of *dohatwars*, i.e., non-resident cultivators, who came with their labourers to cut the crops. Owing to their presence the male population outnumbered the females by over 7,000, this being the only thana in either the Supaul or Madhipura subdivision in which males were in excess. In the Sadar subdivision there is only a slight development, but thana Bihpur has increased by nearly 15 per cent. owing chiefly to the spread of cultivation in an area which previously lay waste. There is a small increase in Colgong, but Bhagalpur has decreased in consequence of plague and the dislocation of trade it has caused, while Sultanganj is stationary. The Banka subdivision has advanced slightly, but the Katoria thana, a sparsely populated tract in the extreme south, has lost ground.

315. The population of Purnea, a sparsely peopled district in which the soil is fertile and in which there are still large areas awaiting development, grew steadily between 1872 and 1891, an increase of 7·8 per cent. being recorded in 1881 and a further increase of 5·2 per cent. in 1891. The next decade witnessed a set-back, the result of the unhealthy conditions prevailing and of virulent epidemics of disease. In 1901 it was found that the population had diminished by 3·6 per cent., the only thanas in which there was any progress being Katihar and Daudaha.

PURNEA.	Population, 1911.	PERCENTAGE OF VARIATION.	
		1901-1911.	1891-1901.
<b>DISTRICT TOTAL</b>	<b>1,989,637</b>	<b>+ 5·98</b>	<b>- 3·6</b>
<b>Sadar Subdivision</b>	<b>942,716</b>	<b>+ 13·30</b>	<b>- 2·65</b>
Purnea	159,784	+ 3·94	- 0·61
Kaiba Amer	126,202	+ 5·95	- 2·73
Daudaha	176,265	+ 19·71	+ 1·68
Korah	118,089	+ 7·97	- 3·31
Gopalpur	80,810	+ 3·32	- 22·30
Kadiwa	149,355	+ 12·85	- 7·28
Katihar	181,641	+ 33·94	+ 2·83
<b>Kishanganj Subdivision</b>	<b>608,658</b>	<b>- 1·90</b>	<b>- 4·85</b>
Kishanganj	141,623	- 3·90	- 5·01
Bahadurganj	206,561	+ 1·47	- 3·45
Isampur	254,474	- 3·91	- 4·79
<b>Araria Subdivision</b>	<b>440,233</b>	<b>+ 5·58</b>	<b>- 3·57</b>
Baniganj	89,909	+ 2·92	- 2·92
Forbaganj	139,052	+ 7·97	- 3·36
Araria	211,672	+ 6·29	- 4·80

316. In the past decade conditions have been far more favourable, and the number of births exceeded that of deaths in every year except 1905,

1906 and 1907, the aggregate excess being 34,000. From 1905 to 1907 heavy mortality was caused both by fever and cholera, the latter causing 43,000 deaths between October 1905 and June 1907. Next year (1908) the premature cessation of the monsoon led to a partial failure of the crops, and some distress ensued among the small cultivators and field labourers, but, as the Collector remarked :—"The regularity and abundance of the rainfall, the natural moisture of the soil, and, consequent on these conditions, the comparative ease with which the soil is prepared and the crops grown, have all tended to make the typical cultivator of this district a most fortunate being. Well irrigation and the unceasing toil of the typical Central Bihar cultivator are not necessary for him. With such antecedents it is clear that the economic condition of the cultivators in the affected area before the scarcity could not be anything but satisfactory in spite of high prices prevailing." The population generally has reached a high standard of prosperity as compared with other districts of Bihar. Rents are low, for much of the land has been recently brought under cultivation and cultivators are in demand. The soil is fertile, being inundated and enriched by silt nearly every year. The cultivation of jute has expanded steadily, to the profit both of cultivators, middlemen and merchants, and the district generally is being developed by the extension of railway communications. Two new lines have been opened since 1901, one from Forbesganj to Jogbani on the Nepal border and the other from Katihar to Godagari, the latter being an important line which gives direct communication with Lower Bengal.

317. The census shows that since 1901 there has been an addition to the population of 112,308 persons

PURNEA.	1891.		1901.	
	Male.	Females.	Male.	Females.
Actual population — ..	1,016,421	975,216	959,723	917,606
Immigrants — ..	117,590	81,179	69,032	31,973
Emigrants — ..	20,505	17,943	20,615	16,608
Natural population ... ..	919,536	899,960	911,304	898,436

or 6 per cent. A large part of this increase is due to the influx of new settlers. The actual number of immigrants has now risen to 200,000, the increase since 1901 being no less than 84 per cent. That most of the new immigrants have come to the district for permanent settlement will be apparent from the close

correspondence between the figures for male and females, the increase in the number of the former being a little under 49,000, while in the case of females it is 42,000. The influx of immigrants has led to very large accretions of population in some thanas, notably Katihar and Damdaha. Katihar, which owes its growth very largely to the development of the railway junction of Katihar, has added 34 per cent. to its population since 1901 and is now more populous by 72 per cent. than in 1891. Damdaha thana in the south-west has grown less rapidly, but has an increase of 20 per cent., the result of cultivation being rendered possible now that the Kosi has swung to the west and the thana is no longer swept by its floods. Here waste land is fast disappearing; what used to be a vast jungle area is now a fertile and well cultivated tract. There is a general increase throughout the west and south of the district, and the only decadent portion is the Kishanganj subdivision in the north-east. This a notoriously unhealthy Tarai tract, which has been steadily losing population since 1891, but even here the Bahadurganj thana, which is an important jute-growing centre, has advanced slightly since 1901.

## ORISSA.

318. As in many other districts, the census of 1881 showed a very large addition to the population of Cuttack (16·2 per cent.), but it has been estimated that at least 100,000 persons escaped enumeration in 1872, and that the real rate of

CUTTACK.

growth was 13·6 per cent. A further increase of 7·9 per cent. was registered

CUTTACK.	Population, 1911.	PERCENTAGE OF VARIATION.	
		1901-1911.	1891-1901.
<b>DISTRICT TOTAL</b>	<b>2,109,139</b>	<b>+ 2·37</b>	<b>+ 6·46</b>
<b>Sadar Subdivision</b>	<b>1,068,772</b>	<b>+ 3·24</b>	<b>+ 5·43</b>
Cuttack ... ..	228,195	+ 3·03	+ 4·97
Baukl ... ..	78,004	+ 4·26	+ 7·36
Salapur ... ..	291,552	+ 7·19	+ 4·48
Tirtol ... ..	183,739	+ 1·90	+ 6·78
Jagatsalughpur ... ..	286,284	+ 0·71	+ 5·40
<b>Kendrapara Subdivision</b>	<b>485,918</b>	<b>+ 4·37</b>	<b>+ 8·33</b>
Kendrapara ... ..	200,406	+ 7·97	+ 7·09
Patamuadi ... ..	120,362	- 1·15	+ 19·66
Anil ... ..	115,160	+ 5·90	+ 9·83
<b>Jajpur Subdivision</b>	<b>554,449</b>	<b>- 0·89</b>	<b>+ 6·33</b>
Jajpur ... ..	310,080	+ 0·60	+ 4·36
Dharamkila ... ..	244,369	- 3·27	+ 5·77

in 1891, which was followed by an advance of 6·5 per cent. in 1901. Throughout these 29 years the district developed steadily, its growth being most rapid in the first decade, when it was recovering from the effects of the famine of 1866. Its development was retarded to some extent in the next decade by the terrible cyclone of 1885, but between 1891 and 1901 there was steady progress, throughout the district.

319. There would probably have been a similar growth of population dur-

ing the decade ending in 1910, had it not been for a succession of bad agricultural seasons leading to a large increase of emigration. Owing to floods in 1900 and to drought in 1901, the two opening years of the decade were years of short crops. In the next two years excellent harvests were reaped, but the course of the seasons in 1904 was a repetition of 1901, and the outturn was again poor. In 1907 again there were severe floods early in the rains followed by a drought towards their close. The floods caused great distress in the Jajpur and Kendrapara subdivisions, and, when the water receded, a severe outbreak of cholera supervened. The damage to the crops caused by the floods was completed by subsequent drought, and it became necessary to institute relief measures. In the following year scarcity continued, and floods, followed by drought, again reduced the outturn of the crops. The last two years of the decade, however, were exceptionally prosperous, and by the time of the census the people had completely recovered from their distress. The effect of the failure of the harvests on vital occurrences is very marked. In the first two years of the decade the birth-rate was below 38 per mille: it then remained above 42 per mille for five years, but suddenly dropped as the result of scarcity, falling to 36 per mille in 1908 and reaching the minimum (32 per mille) in 1909. In the last year of the decade, with reviving prosperity, it as suddenly rose to the high ratio of 46 per mille. Except in the three years 1901, 1907 and 1908, the birth-rate was always in excess of the death-rate, though there were epidemics of cholera in all but two years, which carried off altogether 100,000 persons: the mortality in 1907 and 1908 alone, when there were epidemics synchronizing with floods, drought and scarcity, accounted for very nearly half the number.

320. Altogether, the births outnumbered the deaths by 96,610, but the census shows that the addition to the population is only about half that number, viz., 48,826 or 2·4 per cent. The difference is due to the exodus

CUTTACK.	1911.		1901.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
Actual population ... ..	1,001,175	1,107,964	994,165	1,066,167
Immigrants ... ..	10,349	22,906	11,606	21,336
Emigrants ... ..	116,577	54,397	81,385	38,478
Natural population ... ..	1,104,147	1,122,426	1,023,386	1,069,025

of the district born, the number seeking employment elsewhere having risen by no less than 56,000, or 48 per cent., since 1901. The growth of the volume of emigration is due partly to the facilities of communication

with the outside world, which the railway has afforded within the past decade, and partly to the stress caused by repeated crop failures. The scarcity of 1907 and 1908 gave a further stimulus to migration. In 1908 the Subdivisional Officer of Jajpur took a rough census and found that 50,000 persons from that subdivision alone had left their homes under the pressure



of scarcity and the pinch of high prices.\* The emigrants are mostly able-bodied men, and the males are more than twice as numerous as the females. One indirect result is that while the female population has grown by 4 per cent. since 1901, the increase among males is under 1 per cent.

321. There has been a slight loss of population in two thanas, viz., Patamundi in the east and Dharmsala in the north-west, where the loss is due to emigration. In both thanas there has been an increase of the female population, but the males in Patamundi are less by 3,000 than in 1901, and in Dharmsala, which is traversed by the railway, the decline in their number amounts to 7,000. The same feature is noticeable in the neighbouring thana of Jajpur, and it is on this account that the Jajpur subdivision is stationary. In the south-east of the district also there is little or no progress. Here, too, emigration is responsible, for both the thanas concerned (Tirtol and Jagatsinghpur) have lost part of their male population, while the female population has increased. The greatest advance has been made by the Salepur and Kendrapara thanas, which have enjoyed a considerable amount of prosperity on account of the steady expansion of jute cultivation and the facilities for irrigation, which make them fairly independent of seasonal variations. The increase is all the more noticeable in Salepur, because in 1901 it was already the most densely populated thana in the district. After them, comes Banki, a somewhat thinly populated thana, which has been steadily developing since 1891.

322. When the first census was taken, the people of Balasore were recovering from the famine of 1866, which had decimated their numbers. In 1881 an increase of 23 per cent. was recorded, which was due partly to improved enumeration and partly to a recovery from the losses caused by the famine.

## BALASORE.

BALASORE.	Population, 1911.	PERCENTAGE OF VARIATION.	
		1901-1911.	1891-1901.
<b>DISTRICT TOTAL</b> ... ..	<b>1,055,568</b>	<b>- 1.68</b>	<b>+ 7.69</b>
<b>Sadar Subdivision</b> ... ..	<b>594,936</b>	<b>+ 0.40</b>	<b>+ 8.35</b>
Jallasore ... ..	61,888	+ 3.59	+ 7.91
Balipal ... ..	104,522	+ 2.65	+ 8.67
Basia ... ..	80,298	+ 0.21	+ 9.00
Balasore ... ..	121,636	- 0.78	+ 8.90
Sore ... ..	226,814	- 1.16	+ 8.14
<b>Bhadrakh Subdivision</b> ... ..	<b>460,632</b>	<b>- 4.25</b>	<b>+ 7.44</b>
Bhadrakh ... ..	198,851	- 3.65	+ 8.98
Basudebpar ... ..	78,227	- 3.90	+ 12.0
Dhamnagar ... ..	134,623	- 2.91	+ 0.28
Chandbali ... ..	61,434	- 6.77	+ 14.08

in Chandbali there was an increase of 11 per cent. due to the development of trade and the reclamation of waste land. During the next decade the public health was good and the condition of the people prosperous, owing to a succession of good harvests. The result was a further increase of 7.7 per cent., in which all parts of the district shared except the Dhamnagar thana, where the destruction of crops by floods shortly before the census had driven a number of the males to seek employment elsewhere. The Chandbali and Basudebpar thana had the greatest expansion; in other parts of the district the rate of growth was remarkably uniform.

323. During the first half of the decade ending in 1910 the crops were below the average except in 1903-04, while there was a serious failure in 1901-02. Though the births exceeded the deaths by 24,000, the quinquennium witnessed a falling off in the birth-rate as compared with the previous five years, the ratio of births declining from 40 to 39 per mille, while the death-rate rose from 31 to 34 per mille. After 1905 the district entered on a series of unhealthy years. In three years, viz., 1906, 1907 and 1908, the deaths exceeded the births, especially in 1908 when the number of deaths was actually double the number of births. Two epidemics of cholera

\* The crop failure of the preceding years led to 1,087 persons being recruited under the Emigration Acts in 1903 and 2,657 in 1908: the total for the remaining eight years was only 1,494.

occurred in these three years, the first breaking out in 1907 and being responsible for 11,000 deaths, while the second, which broke out next year, was a terrible visitation which carried off 28,000 people. These epidemics were the result partly of scarcity and high prices, which compelled the poorer classes to resort to dietary of a coarser kind than usual, and partly of the failure of winter and spring rains, which greatly reduced the water-supply.

324. The resources of the people were also severely tried by a succession of bad harvests. The rainfall was scanty in 1905 and 1906, and the crops were consequently short. In 1907 a high flood destroyed the rice crop in the greater part of the Bhadrakh subdivision, and the inundation was followed by a prolonged drought. The combined effect of flood and drought was scarcity, which necessitated the opening of relief works and the distribution of gratuitous relief. The year 1908 also was not a prosperous one. The winter rice over a large part of thanas Dhamnagar and Chandbali was again damaged by floods, while scanty rainfall in October, when the crop was in the ear, seriously affected the outturn over a great part of the district. The damage caused by alternating floods and droughts in these successive years was intensified in its effects by the fact that the district is practically dependent on one crop, viz., winter rice. The distress of the poorer classes is, however, relieved by emigration, which has been facilitated by the opening of the Bengal-Nagpur Railway in 1899 and of the Mayurbhanj State Railway in 1904: a third railway connecting Balasore with the capital of the Nilgiri State has also been opened recently, but there is as yet practically no passenger traffic.

325. Taken as a whole, the decade was unfavourable to any growth of

BALASORE.	1911.		1901.	
	Male.	Female.	Ma's.	Fema's.
Actual population ... ..	304,819	350,938	318,768	354,826
Immigrants ... ..	12,297	20,172	13,285	16,222
Emigrants ... ..	43,319	39,151	29,094	32,739
Natural population ... ..	273,807	331,959	284,959	306,309

population. The births outnumbered the deaths by only 2,000; only in one year were the harvests up to the average, and in four years there were serious crop failures. The result of the census is to show that the population has diminished by 18,074 or 1·7 per cent. For this decrease three

factors are responsible, viz., emigration, the prevalence of epidemic disease, and failure of crops resulting in scarcity. The two latter factors have already been referred to, and it will suffice to say that the greater activity of emigration is evidenced by the fact that the number of persons who sought employment outside the district has risen by 21,000 since 1901, and that whereas in that year the excess of females over males in the district was 36,000, it is now 46,000.

326. The only thanas which show any increase are Jellasore and Baliapal in the north, a result which is at first sight somewhat surprising, as they are reputed to be the home of malaria and the most unhealthy part of the district. On the other hand, this area is one of the most prosperous parts of the district. It is for the most part a permanently-settled tract, and the land revenue demand is very light. The agricultural classes are more prosperous than in the centre and south of the district, and not only was the pinch of scarcity less felt, but the ravages of cholera were not so widespread. Even more important, however, is the fact that there is very little emigration from these thanas. On the contrary, they attract settlers. Labourers come to Baliapal from the adjoining subdivision of Contai in the Midnapore district to reclaim waste land and jungle, while Santals and other aboriginals come to Jellasore from the Mayurbhanj State in search of work. In thana Basta, which lies to the south of Jellasore and Baliapal, the population is practically stationary, while thana Balasore, which is to the south of Basta, shows a small decrease. This decrease is to be attributed mainly to emigration, which has brought down the excess of males over females by about 1,000. Soro, the remaining thana of the Sadar subdivision, has also a small loss, which is due to death by disease and emigration. It was the chief sufferer from the cholera epidemic already referred to, and emigration has been active. The Bhadrakh subdivision in the south is mainly responsible for the decrease of population in the district.

Every thana has lost ground, the percentage of decrease varying from 2·9 per cent. in Dhamnagar to 6·8 per cent. in Chandbali. This part of the district suffered most from scarcity, the floods of the Baitarani river having destroyed the crops over a great part of the subdivision in 1907 and 1908. Emigration is also more active than it is to the north, Chandbali being the only thana which does not contribute to the stream of emigrants. Though, however, it has not lost by emigration, this thana has the heaviest decrease owing to the fact that it suffered more than any other from floods, which caused widespread destruction of the crops and were followed by scarcity and virulent epidemics of cholera and other diseases.

327. As in other districts of Orissa, the census of 1881 brought out a large increase of population in Puri amounting to 15·4 per cent. The growth of population was sustained during the ensuing ten years, at the close of which a further advance of 6·3 per cent. was recorded.

PURI.	Population 1911.	PERCENTAGE OF VARIATION.	
		1901—1911.	1891—1901.
<b>DISTRICT TOTAL</b> ... ..	<b>1,023,402</b>	<b>+ 0·60</b>	<b>+ 7·65</b>
<b>Sadar Subdivision</b> ... ..	<b>655,796</b>	<b>- 0·34</b>	<b>+ 7·25</b>
Puri ... ..	222,442	+ 2·24	+ 3·73
Puri Town ... ..	49,911	- 18·90	+ 71·23
Pipli ... ..	276,164	+ 0·33	+ 14·91
Gop ... ..	114,981	+ 0·36	- 14·89
<b>Khurda Subdivision</b> ... ..	<b>367,604</b>	<b>+ 2·33</b>	<b>+ 6·39</b>
Khurda ... ..	261,181	+ 2·71	+ 8·34
Banpur ... ..	106,423	+ 1·41	+ 8·22

actual increase was 7·6 per cent., but part of this was due to the fact that a religious festival was in progress at Puri at the time when the census was taken, the foreign-born population exceeding that of 1891 by more than 13,000. The Sadar and Pipli thanas had the smallest rate of increase, while in the Gop thana and the two thanas of the Khurda subdivision the addition to population varied from 6 to 8½ per cent.

328. Conditions during the ten years ending in 1901 were no more favourable than in the preceding decade. In 1901 there was a partial loss of the winter rice crop in parts of the Khurda subdivision and also in the country on the borders of the Chilka lake, necessitating relief measures in the latter tract. The crops were good in the following three years, *i.e.*, 1902 to 1904, but the outturn was much below the normal in the years 1905 and 1906, and there was a serious loss of crops in 1907 owing to the early cessation of the monsoon and heavy floods in the north-east. Throughout the year 1908 distress, deepening into famine conditions in limited areas, prevailed, and relief operations had to be carried on in the north-east of the district and in the neighbourhood of the Chilka lake. Fortunately, in the last two years of the decade the harvests were excellent and the prosperity of the people revived. The effect of these years of depression is reflected in the statistics of vital occurrences. In four years (1901, 1902, 1907 and 1908) the deaths outnumbered the births, and in the decade as a whole the excess of births over deaths was only 10,000. The mortality was especially great in 1908, a year of scarcity when the distress of the people was aggravated by an epidemic of cholera, which helped to bring the death-rate to the appalling figure of 59 per mille.

329. The combined effect of disease, scarcity and the stimulus given to emigration by poor harvests was to check the growth of the population, and the actual increase brought to light by the census is only 6,000 or only 0·6 per cent. The increase would have been greater had it not been for the adverse balance of migration. As compared with 1901, 6,000

PURI.	1911.		1901.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
Actual population ... ..	506,570	516,622	508,820	510,440
Immigrants ... ..	17,367	25,772	20,919	22,114
Emigrants ... ..	16,122	19,397	11,687	17,504
Native population ... ..	505,096	510,446	497,407	495,835

more of the native population were enumerated outside the district, and 9,000 less persons from other districts were present at the time of the census. As already explained, there was a large body of pilgrims in the district in 1901, as the date of the census was synchronous with the Gobind Dwadasi festival, the number in Puri town alone being over 17,085. Special care was taken at this census to separate the pilgrim population from others, and it was found that it only amounted to 7,139, of whom 5,293 were returned for Puri town. The decrease in the number of pilgrims alone may be taken as at least 10,000. This accounts for the apparently large loss returned for Puri town. If the pilgrims at both censuses are excluded, the town has grown at the rate of 7.7 per cent. There has been a small advance in the Khurda subdivision, which was comparatively free from seasonal calamities and should therefore *a priori* have grown more rapidly. The decline in the rate of growth is due to emigration; the addition to the female population in Khurda thana is more than double the addition to males, and in Banpur the male population is a little less than in 1901, whereas the females have added nearly 2,000 to their numbers. In the Puri subdivision there is a slight advance in the Puri thana (excluding the town), but the Pipli and Gop thanas are stationary.

CHOTA NAGPUR PLATEAU.

330. The centre of the Hazaribagh district consists of a small plateau about 2,000 feet high, which slopes down abruptly on all sides except the south-west, where it stretches out into a long ridge as far as the boundary of the Palamau district. The central plateau, which corresponds to the Hazaribagh thana, is surrounded by a lower ring-shaped plateau, which forms the drainage area of a number of rivers. This lower plateau is broken up by small ranges of hills into several main valleys and numerous ravines. The rainfall and agricultural conditions vary greatly from valley to valley, but where the country is much broken by ravines, it is covered with forests which retain moisture, and suffers comparatively little from deficient rainfall. To the south-west is the Barkagaon thana, which comprises some broad valleys; Simaria and Chatra in the west consist partly of ridges and uplands, partly of ravines; Hunterganj thana to the north-west is a valley sloping down to the Gaya district, but the Pratappur police station in its extreme west is an area of ravines and jungle. To the south-east thanas Mandu and Gumian are full of ravines, but Bagodar and Ramgarh are broad valleys. In the Giridih subdivision Dumurhi lies below and receives the drainage from the Paresnath range, while Giridih, Kharagdiha, Dhanwar and Ganwan are undulating uplands.

331. The increase of population between 1881 (when the first reliable census was held) and 1891 amounted to 5.4 per cent., but this was not evenly distributed, for the whole of the north-west of the district lost ground, except the Hunterganj thana, while there was a large growth elsewhere, especially in the Giridih subdivision. During the next decade there was famine in 1897, when distress was general over a broad belt running north and south through the district, the thanas most affected being Barhi, Kodarma, Bagodar, Gumian, Ramgarh, Mandu and Hazaribagh. The addition to the population recorded in

HAZARIBAGH.	Population, 1911.	PERCENTAGE OF VARIATION.	
		1901-1911.	1891-1901.
<b>DISTRICT TOTAL</b> ...	<b>1,288,609</b>	<b>+ 8.39</b>	<b>+ 1.17</b>
<b>Sadar Subdivision</b> ...	<b>835,953</b>	<b>+ 9.97</b>	<b>- 0.31</b>
Barhi ...	59,630	+ 4.66	- 2.31
Hazaribagh ...	101,111	+ 8.81	- 8.21
Bagodar ...	72,198	+ 11.91	- 0.26
Barkagaon ...	61,478	+ 12.92	- 4.94
Ramgarh ...	36,122	+ 17.76	+ 1.41
Gumian ...	35,622	+ 12.22	- 2.67
Mandu ...	34,420	+ 21.52	+ 2.16
Petarbar ...	59,909	+ 21.73	+ 12.55
Chorpara ...	62,823	+ 2.24	- 3.26
Hunterganj ...	47,740	+ 6.42	+ 8.88
Chatra ...	25,191	- 4.48	- 5.88
Simaria ...	37,606	- 0.87	+ 5.89
Kodarma ...	57,977	+ 10.76	+ 2.22
<b>Giridih Subdivision</b> ...	<b>452,656</b>	<b>+ 8.34</b>	<b>+ 3.98</b>
Ganwan ...	64,121	+ 7.22	+ 4.06
Kharagdiha ...	30,808	+ 2.96	+ 0.81
Dhanwar ...	72,238	+ 2.21	+ 2.26
Giridih ...	179,549	+ 10.60	+ 8.83
Dumurhi ...	94,805	+ 12.16	+ 2.55

1901 represented only 1·2 per cent., the smallness of the increase being attributable to the growing volume of emigration and also to the heavy death-rate following the famine of 1897.

332. Between 1901 and 1910 the health of the people was on the whole good. The birth-rate maintained a high level except in the years 1908 and 1909, and the births outnumbered the deaths by no less than 170,000. Good or fair crops were reaped until 1907, when the rainfall was unfavourably distributed, there being a heavy fall early in the season and a premature cessation in September. The rice crop was almost entirely a failure on high lands, and its outturn was diminished in the low lands. The yield both of *rabi* and of the important *mahua* crop was also only about a quarter of the normal. Distress ensued, which amounted to scarcity in some parts, viz., in the Barkagaon thana, the eastern half of the Hazaribagh thana, and the uplands of Simaria and Chatra. Gratuitous relief had to be given, mainly to old people, women and children left without means of support by the labourers and small cultivators, who migrated in large numbers to the coal-fields and elsewhere. Others were provided with loans, with the help of which they were able to tide over their difficulties. The rainfall next year was favourable, and good crops were reaped. By October 1909 all signs of scarcity had disappeared, and normal conditions were re-established.

333. The material condition of the people appears to have improved considerably during the last 20 years. It is reported: "Labourers and petty agriculturists formerly found it very difficult to get the bare necessities of life. They have now got over the stage of actual want, and in many instances, after defraying all expenses, they are able to live up to a fairly high standard and to indulge in small luxuries previously unknown to them. This change is very noticeable among the aboriginals. Whereas formerly they depended solely upon the edible fruits and roots of the jungles for their subsistence for at least two or three months in the year, they now never, ordinarily, miss their food grain diet." The mica mines at Kodarma and the coal mines of Giridih furnish employment to many thousands, and the wages obtained there alleviate distress arising from the shortage of the crops in their neighbourhood. The demand for labour, it should be added, varies very largely according to the state of the market: the average labour force in the mica and coal mines was 18,000 in 1901, rose to 52,000 in 1906, and fell to under 7,000 in 1910. Except in the neighbourhood of the commercial and industrial centres, the people are poor, and the margin between sufficiency and exigency is often narrow.

334. The increase of population disclosed by the census is 110,648 or 9·4 per cent., which is due to natural growth among a people largely composed of prolific semi-aboriginals. It cannot be said that the movements of the people have affected the census results to any appreciable extent. The number of immigrants is almost exactly the same as in 1901, while the emigrant population has fallen off by only 6,000. The number of those

HAZARIBAGH.	1911.		1901.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
Actual population	829,105	659,506	570,122	607,829
Immigrants	21,875	30,256	19,469	22,414
Emigrants	77,490	67,040	83,573	66,794
Natural population	809,324	706,296	634,229	652,209

born in the district who left it in order to find employment elsewhere reached a very high figure in 1901, and emigration has since been facilitated by the opening of the Grand Chord line. The drain on the available labour varies from year to year according to the outturn of the crops, the exodus being stimulated by bad harvests and checked by good crops; there is no doubt that it would have been greater at the time of the census had it not been for agricultural prosperity. A good index to the extent to which the latter influences emigration is afforded by the returns of coolies recruited for Assam, which show that in 1910-11 the number was only 684, whereas it was 3,465 in 1907-08, a year of scarcity. Every thana in the district has increased its population, except Chatra and Simaria in the west: acute distress was experienced in the upland tracts of these two thanas in

1908, and both have lost slightly. The greatest progress is observable in the south, where four thanas have grown rapidly, the ratio varying from 17.7 to 21.5 per cent. The advance has been slower in the north, where Barhi and Chorparan have a proportional growth of under 5 per cent. and also in the Giridih subdivision. Both the Giridih and Kodarma thanas have an increase of over 10 per cent., though at the time of the census the coal and mica mines were employing a smaller labour force than usual.

335. In spite of the drain caused by increasing emigration, the population of Ranchi grew steadily between 1881 and 1901, the increase being 6.7 per cent. in the first and 5.2 per cent. in the second decade. The growth during the ten years ending in 1901 was retarded by several years of bad harvests and general depression, actual famine prevailing in some parts in 1897 and 1900, when the stream of emigration was greatly increased. After allowing for the effects of emigration, it was estimated that the true increase of population was about 13 per cent.

RANCHI.		Population, 1911.	PERCENTAGE OF VARIATION, 1901-1911.
<b>DISTRICT TOTAL</b> ...		<b>1,387,516</b>	<b>+ 16.80</b>
<b>Sadar Subdivision</b> ...		<b>526,172</b>	<b>+ 15.25</b>
Lohardaga ...	...	27,831	+ 17.87
Kura ...	...	31,809	+ 18.16
Burmu ...	...	23,033	+ 3.30
Mandla ...	...	34,309	+ 7.53
Bero ...	...	28,761	+ 11.22
Lapang ...	...	22,249	+ 13.71
Ranchi ...	...	165,034	+ 18.28
Ormanjhi ...	...	30,134	+ 19.26
Augora ...	...	29,610	+ 14.73
Silli ...	...	30,820	+ 21.93
<b>Khunti Subdivision</b> ...		<b>349,633</b>	<b>+ 16.46</b>
Karra ...	...	36,811	+ 13.30
Torpa ...	...	56,315	+ 11.30
Khunti ...	...	77,076	+ 14.08
Bonda ...	...	22,022	+ 20.90
Sonahata ...	...	42,900	+ 13.45
Tamar ...	...	102,507	+ 21.44
<b>Gumla Subdivision</b> ...		<b>511,711</b>	<b>+ 18.68</b>
Bishunpur ...	...	26,142	+ 20.06
Chainpur ...	...	24,404	+ 17.39
Ghagra ...	...	25,511	+ 19.63
Sisai ...	...	61,458	+ 18.91
Gumla ...	...	46,331	+ 22.29
Raidih ...	...	26,180	+ 16.52
Paikot ...	...	26,761	+ 14.01
Bania ...	...	34,329	+ 20.67
Bano ...	...	31,312	+ 22.21
Kochhra ...	...	63,720	+ 18.39
Kochdega ...	...	60,524	+ 18.39
Kurdeg ...	...	33,737	+ 32.94

The decade ending in 1910 was a period of agricultural prosperity broken only by one bad year. In the first five years good crops enabled the people to recoup from the effects of the famine of 1900. A bumper harvest followed in 1906, leading to heavy exports, but the people, with the improvidence characteristic of aboriginals, squandered their gains and were left with few resources to tide them over the impending scarcity. The failure of the monsoon in 1907 led to a failure of the crops, the stock of food-grains was reduced to a very low limit, and distress became general. Famine

was declared in the Kurdeg, Kochdega, Chainpur, Bishunpur, Gumla and Ghaghra thanas, relief works were opened in Sisai thana and part of Sonahatu, and test works in Burmu and part of Tamar; but elsewhere the people managed to hold out with the assistance of loans, which were freely granted. The crop of 1908 was fair, and made it possible to bring the famine operations to a close in September. The mortality in this year was heavy, for distress lowered the general vitality of the people and diminished their power of resistance to disease. Cholera and small-pox appeared in an epidemic form, causing nearly 10,000 deaths between them, and the death-roll from fever was also heavy. The two last years of the decade were, however, a period of agricultural prosperity, and the effects of the famine had disappeared by the time the census was taken. The birth-rate throughout the decade was very much higher than in the preceding ten years, rising from 38.3 to an average of 44.5 per mille. It was in excess of the death-rate in every year but 1908, and the net result was an excess of births over deaths amounting to 196,000.

336. The total addition to the population is 199,591 or 16.8 per cent., a very large increase, which must be attributed to the increased prosperity of the people, the high birth-rate natural to prolific aboriginal races, and, improved enumeration in tracts previously difficult of access. The balance of migration is heavily

RANCHI.	1911.		1901.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
Actual population ...	676,752	710,763	577,180	610,744
Emigrants ...	17,169	16,475	17,030	15,030
Immigrants ...	160,188	145,191	142,910	133,341
Natural population ...	619,771	639,409	703,060	728,060

against the district, and the opening of the Purulia-Ranchi Railway has helped to swell the number of emigrants. Emigrants outnumber immigrants by 271,666 as against 220,517 in 1891, and the aggregate of the district-born who were enumerated elsewhere is now 30,058 more than it was ten years previously. The increase in the number of the latter is all the more noticeable, because 1910 was a year of good harvests, which should have reduced the stream of emigrants, whereas the census of 1901 took place after a year of scarcity when many thousands more than usual left their homes.\* The security that has been assured to the raiyat by the settlement of the district is said to have brought back to their homes many cultivators who would otherwise have settled in Assam, but it does not appear to have checked in any way the general exodus.

337. The increase of population has been general throughout the district, the percentage being above 10 per cent. in all thanas except Burmu and Mandar. The thanas in which famine was declared have developed to an astonishing extent, the increase in them being nowhere below 17 per cent., while Kurdeg has added nearly one-third to the number of its inhabitants. Nowhere has the growth of population been so rapid as in this latter thana and the adjoining thanas of Kochdega, Kolebira and Bano. The average increase of 22·5 per cent. in these four thanas, writes the Deputy Commissioner, has been "the result of a tendency among aboriginal cultivators to escape from the more settled and landlord-ridden villages of the north and centre of the plateau to the jungles in the south. The movement used formerly to be a continuous advance southwards, but the abolition of *bethbegari* during the decade has rendered the position of the raiyat in Ranchi infinitely superior to that of his brethren in Gangpur, and has arrested further movement across the border." The only other thanas of the district with an increase exceeding 20 per cent. are Silli, Tamar, Bundu, Gumla and Bishunpur. The first three are among the most prosperous thanas of the district and reaped the greatest benefit from the rise in the price of lac during the first six years of the decade; the two last suffered severely from the famine of 1900, and many of their inhabitants must have left the district when the census of 1901 was taken.

338. Palamau added 8·3 per cent. to its population between 1881 and 1891, but in the next ten years the rate of progress was greatly diminished, the census of 1901 showing an increase of only 3·8 per cent. This result was, in a large

PALAMAU.	Population, 1911.	PERCENTAGE OF VARIATION.	
		1901-1911.	1891-1901.
<b>DISTRICT TOTAL</b>	<b>687,267</b>	<b>+ 10·92</b>	<b>+ 3·83</b>
Balumath	72,907	+ 13·66	+ 2·91
Daltongunj	124,870	+ 18·28	+ 1·36
Garhwa	107,674	+ 15·46	+ 7·15
Ranka	47,356	+ 20·90	+ 2·96
Chhatargur	48,627	+ 11·03	+ 2·93
Jatao	91,490	+ 4·08	+ 6·13
Humalnabai	110,593	+ 7·62	+ 6·96
Latehar	51,698	+ 22·06	+ 1·94
Matuadour	32,247	+ 19·44	+ 3·23

measure, due to the fact that in 1896 and 1899 there were crop failures which culminated in famine. Two thanas, viz., Balumath and Latehar in the south-east, lost ground, while the north of the district displayed the greatest advance.

The first six years of the decade ending in 1910 were on the whole prosperous, and the people, whose condition had been reduced by a succession of bad or inferior crops, made a distinct recovery from the effects of the previous lean years. The crops were good, except in 1904-05, and the birth-rate high; in fact, in each of the last three of these six years it ranged above 50 per mille and was higher than in any other district of the province. Altogether, there was an excess in this period of 65,000 births over deaths, or thrice the excess of the preceding nine years. In the remaining four years of the decade the births were in excess by 3,000 only, as a consequence of the adverse conditions prevailing in the three years 1907-09, in each of which deaths outnumbered births. Short rainfall and

\* In the famine year of 1907-1908 the number of coolies recruited for Assam rose to 4,148, the number in the preceding year being only 777. The return for 1901 shows a total of 4,474 recruited from both Ranchi and Palamau; separate figures for Palamau are not available, but the proportion of emigrants from that district was never very large.

deficient harvests were experienced in 1907 and 1908, and in both years epidemics of cholera supervened, accounting in all for 15,500 deaths. In other respects, the decade was a period of development. The Barun-Daltongunj Railway was opened in 1902, thus bringing Palamau into direct communication with both Northern India and Bengal, and this gave a great stimulus to trade and commerce. There was also a boom in the lac market, which did not a little to bring money into the cultivators' pockets. The district abounds in *salas*, *kusum* and *bair* trees, which had for a long time past been regarded as of no particular economic value. The people now realized that they could, with little labour and cost, be turned into a source of profit. They were thus able to supplement their resources materially, and a number of lac factories were established in different parts of the district.

339. The excess of births over deaths in the ten years was 68,585, and the increment of population recorded at the census closely corresponds with this figure, being 67,667 or 10.9 per cent. The balance of migration is only slightly against the district, the outflow of population being less than the influx by 11,500. Compared with 1901, however, the movements of migrants have made a considerable difference, for emigrants have increased by 5,000, while immigrants are 13,000 fewer in number.

The increase has been general throughout the district, except in the Husainabad thana in the north, where there is a considerable decline. Part of this may be ascribed to the fact that at the last census the construction of the Barun-Daltonganj Railway through the thana caused a temporary increase of its population. Part may also be ascribed to mortality from cholera: plague also made its appearance more than once, but caused very little mortality. In all but one of the other thanas the increase is over 10 per cent., and in the south of the district away from the railway (in thanas Ranka, Mahuadand and Latehar) it varies from 19 to 31 per cent. All these are sparsely inhabited thanas, and the actual variation is not very great: in 1901, moreover, there appears to have been considerable temporary migration in consequence of scarcity.

340. Manbhum, which has long been the least difficult of access of all the Chota Nagpur districts, and whose coal-fields have attracted outside labour, has been developing very rapidly since 1881. In 1891 the addition of population amounted to 12.8 per cent., and this was followed by a further increase of 9.1 per cent. in 1901. The growth during the last decade would undoubtedly have been greater had it not been for acute scarcity in 1897 and the adverse balance of migration. Emigration to the tea districts was active throughout the decade and reached large proportions in 1896 and 1897; there was also a movement of the labouring classes to the Raniganj coal-field in Burdwan, but this was small compared with the movement of coolies to Assam, where half the emigrant population was enumerated in 1901. Altogether, there was a net loss of 30,000 persons by migration, and it was estimated that had it not been for this loss there would have been a natural increase of between 11 and 12 per cent.

PALAMAU.	1911.		1901.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
Actual population ...	341,612	346,654	306,202	313,397
Immigrants ...	13,986	11,942	19,399	18,990
Emigrants ...	18,964	18,612	14,899	17,521
Natural population ...	340,692	337,984	300,999	311,976

MANBHUM.	Population, 1911.	PERCENTAGE OF VARIATION.	
		1901-1911.	1891-1901.
<b>DISTRICT TOTAL</b> ...	<b>1,547,576</b>	<b>+ 18.92</b>	<b>+ 9.05</b>
<b>Sadar Subdivision</b> ...	<b>1,163,434</b>	<b>+ 13.59</b>	<b>+ 5.39</b>
Jhalda ...	190,085	+ 18.37	+ 9.87
Parulla ...	967,125	+ 15.70	+ 11.81
Baghmundi ...	45,674	+ 17.24	+ 9.90
Chandil ...	109,903	+ 11.74	+ 6.51
Barahbhatta ...	143,999	+ 10.49	+ 4.88
Manbhar ...	90,902	+ 18.05	+ 10.43
Raghunathpur ...	152,618	+ 10.58	+ 2.85
Gourangli ...	58,836	+ 11.19	+ 0.19
Pare ...	47,665	+ 15.01	+ 2.12
Chiv ...	117,940	+ 16.47	+ 0.77
<b>Dhanbaid Subdivision</b> ...	<b>384,122</b>	<b>+ 38.61</b>	<b>+ 25.16</b>
Gobindpur ...	45,075	+ 18.06	+ 4.37
Jheria ...	152,383	+ 75.50	+ 75.14
Topechanchi ...	99,433	+ 44.00	+ 30.24
Niraha ...	69,420	+ 10.48	+ 7.09
Tundi ...	36,412	+ 18.31	+ 4.15



341. During the ten years ending in 1910 a great stimulus was given to the progress of the district by the development of the coal mines. During the first part of the decade the number of labourers in the mines was more than doubled, and in the second it rose again by two-thirds. High-water mark was reached in 1908, after which there was a falling off due to the state of the coal market. In spite of this, the industrial census shows that nearly 80,000 persons were employed in the collieries at the time of the census. There was also a "boom" in the lac trade, which was followed by a "slump" in 1908, but notwithstanding this the number of factories increased from 52 in 1900-1901 to 118 in 1909-10, when they gave employment to nearly 6,000 persons. The bulk of the people are agriculturists, who are compensated more or less for a failure of their harvests by the lac crop. Their harvests were good during the first half of the decade, but owing to deficient rainfall were very short in 1907-1908. The outturn was, however, excellent in the remaining years. The public health was, on the whole, good except for epidemics of cholera, which swept over the Jheria coal-field during several years. In 1908 there was a particularly virulent epidemic, which caused no less than 12,000 deaths; even this figure probably falls far short of the actuals, as the coal-field area in the Jheria and Topchanchi thanas was for some time reduced to a state of panic, and the returns were defective. The disease spread rapidly through the field, and panic-stricken coolies hurrying away from the infected collieries spread the disease into all parts of the district. The total death-rate during the decade was low, the average being only 26.5 per mille, and the net excess of births over deaths was 167,000.

342. The census shows that the number of inhabitants is now 246,212, or 18.9 per cent. more than in 1901. The increment is partly due to the natural growth of population and partly to migration being in favour of the district. A very remarkable change in the flow of migration inwards and outwards

MANBHUM.	1911.		1901.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
Actual population ...	788,337	739,089	633,536	648,028
Immigrants ...	89,606	90,170	27,391	24,739
Emigrants ...	50,465	63,027	64,915	71,057
Natural population ...	756,398	703,896	600,860	694,357

has taken place in the last ten years, owing mainly to the influx of outside labour to the collieries and to the fact that local labourers prefer the good wages offered there to the prospects of distant employment. The number of persons who have come into

the district has risen by 80,000 and is now more than double what it was in 1901, while the number of emigrants has diminished by 21,000. The result of the tide of migration setting into the district instead of away from it, is that, whereas in 1901 emigrants outnumbered immigrants by nearly 74,000, the latter are now in excess by 27,000.

No less than two-fifths of the total increase is accounted for by the two thanas of Jheria and Topchanchi, which contain most of the collieries. Their expansion in the last 20 years, during which the bulk of them were opened, has been extraordinary, for Jheria has trebled its population, while Topchanchi has an increase of 88 per cent. Excluding these two thanas, Manbhumi has had a proportional growth of a little under 13 per cent. since 1901. This advance has been general and fairly uniform, for no thana has an increase of less than 10 per cent. or of more than 18.3 per cent.

343. The census which has recently been concluded shows that the population of Singhbhum is more than 50 per cent. what it was 30 years ago. The recorded growth would have been even greater but for emigration to the Feudatory States of Orissa and also

SINGHBHUM.	Population, 1911.	PERCENTAGE OF VARIATION.	
		1901-1911.	1891-1901.
<b>DISTRICT TOTAL</b> ...	<b>694,394</b>	<b>+ 13.17</b>	<b>+ 12.48</b>
Chakradharpur ...	112,134	+ 9.34	+ 17.96
Ghatia ...	235,721	+ 16.10	+ 15.28
Chalassa ...	271,924	+ 8.59	+ 9.36
Monoharpur ...	84,565	+ 85.22	+ 15.89

to the tea districts of Assam and Jalpaiguri. In spite of this drain, there was an increase of 20 per cent. in 1891 and another advance of 12.5 per cent. in 1901.

The effects of scarcity in 1900 lingered for a little

time, the birth-rate being as low as 30 per mille in 1901, but it rose to 46 per mille in 1903. Until 1907 the condition of the people continued to be prosperous, but in that year there was a partial failure of the crops and some stress was felt in 1908, when cholera, that common concomitant of scarcity, broke out. In the decennium as a whole there was an excess of 87,000 births over deaths. The ten years under review were not only prosperous from an agricultural point of view, but also ushered in an era of industrial development. The Tata Iron and Steel Company opened large works at Sakchi in Dhalbhum, a railway being at the same time built from Kalimati to Gurumaisini in Mayurbhanj. Iron mines were also opened in Dhalbhum and in the Buda and Notu hills of the Kolhan by the Bengal Iron and Steel Company, a light railway being constructed for the carriage of ore from the hills to the main line at Manoharpur. "There is," reports the Deputy Commissioner (Mr. A. W. Cook), "a constant stream of cooly labour to the railways, mines and iron works, and among the coolies are included a large proportion of raiyats with small holdings. The off-season is spent at these centres, and at sowing and harvest time the workers return to their fields. The importance of this boon to the labourers and the poorer classes of raiyats cannot be over-estimated. They are provided with money to tide over the period from sowing to harvest, and, as a consequence, are no longer forced to have recourse to *mahajans* for their living expenses during this period."

344. The increase of population now recorded, viz., 80,815 or 13·2 per cent., must be attributed to the natural fecundity of a people with a large-aboriginal element, the opening out of the district by the railway, and its more recent industrial development. The increase would have been greater but for the loss by migration. There has been, it is true, an influx of labourers and artisans to the iron works, mines and railways, and the concentration of labour in large centres has been accompanied by an increase in the number of traders who supply their wants. Owing mainly to this cause, the number of immigrants has increased by 13,000, but this increase is more than counterbalanced by the greater exodus from the district. The scarcity of 1907-08 drove many out of the district—the number of coolies recruited for Assam in this and the next year was greater than the aggregate for the preceding six years. Apart from this, the people, having realized how cheap and easy it is to travel by rail, and what good wages can be earned elsewhere, have learnt the habit of temporary migration. Emigrants are now more numerous by 42,000 than in 1901, and outnumber the immigrants by 56,000.

345. The increase is by no means uniformly distributed and varies very largely in different areas. The greatest fluctuation between the percentage of growth in 1901 and 1911 is noticeable in thanas Manoharpur and Chakradharpur.

SIBORHUM.	1911.		1901.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
Actual population ... ..	341,297	323,787	302,425	311,154
Immigrants ... ..	21,027	26,521	14,238	18,044
Emigrants ... ..	50,432	45,202	31,293	33,027
Natural population ... ..	310,612	279,558	315,182	323,637

In the former the ratio has risen by almost 20 per cent., in the latter there is a deficit of about 9. This is due mainly to movements between the two thanas. It is reported that on the census day a large number of residents of the Chakradharpur thana were working at the works of the Bengal Iron and Steel Company, as well as in Manoharpur and its neighbourhood. In Ghatsila (Dhalbhum) the rate of growth has been slightly accelerated, while in the Chaibasa portion of the Kolhan it has slightly fallen off. The explanation is that a number of persons from the Kolhan left for employment in the iron works at Sakchi in Dhalbhum as well as at Gurumaisini in Mayurbhanj.

346. The census of the Sonthal Parganas both in 1872 and 1881 was admittedly incomplete—in 1881 an army of 4,500 men had to be sent into the district to prevent an outbreak, and the first reliable census was that of 1891. The census of 1901 showed an increase of only 3·2 per cent., but it was estimated that but for emigration there would have been an advance of at least 10 per cent.

SONTHAL PARGANAS.

SONTHAL PARGANAS	Population, 1911.	PERCENTAGE OF VARIATION.	
		1901-1911.	1891-1901.
<b>DISTRICT TOTAL</b> ...	<b>1,882,973</b>	<b>+ 4.05</b>	<b>+ 3.19</b>
<b>Dumka Subdivision</b> ...	<b>416,004</b>	<b>- 0.21</b>	<b>+ 3.1</b>
Dumka ...	377,713	- 2.25	+ 4.5
Dumka Damin ...	38,291	+ 25.97	- 26.77
<b>Godda Subdivision</b> ...	<b>387,160</b>	<b>- 0.81</b>	<b>+ 1.39</b>
Godda ...	122,657	- 11.06	+ 12.22
Poreya ...	81,668	+ 3.90	- 3.27
Mahaganj ...	98,018	- 0.97	+ 6.22
Godda Damin ...	105,829	+ 10.67	- 12.37
<b>Deoghar Subdivision</b> ...	<b>306,477</b>	<b>+ 3.05</b>	<b>+ 4.68</b>
Deoghar ...	108,981	+ 0.79	+ 3.88
Sarwan ...	41,275	+ 8.37	+ 4.21
Madhupur ...	83,029	+ 2.55	+ 8.79
Sarath ...	78,196	+ 2.55	+ 8.79
<b>Jamtara Subdivision</b> ...	<b>205,646</b>	<b>+ 8.35</b>	<b>+ 9.25</b>
<b>Pakaur Subdivision</b> ...	<b>237,635</b>	<b>+ 7.95</b>	<b>+ 3.6</b>
Pakaur ...	94,891	+ 14.92	+ 8.24
Pakuria P. S. ...	28,254	+ 4.96	+ 2.12
Manohpur L. O. P. ...	65,931	+ 4.03	+ 1.1
Pakaur Damin ...	68,559	+ 4.03	+ 1.1
<b>Rajmahal Subdivision</b> ...	<b>310,051</b>	<b>+ 12.05</b>	<b>+ 0.11</b>
Rajmahal ...	67,163	+ 18.96	- 6.66
Barharwa ...	40,084	+ 0.92	- 9.49
Sahibganj ...	28,516	+ 44.99	- 9.49
Rajmahal Damin ...	174,288	+ 3.88	+ 4.82

behind, the birth-rate fell from 44 per mille in 1904 to 34 per mille in 1908, and sunk to 31 per mille next year; but after this, good crops and the fall of prices brought about a rapid recovery. In spite of these adverse conditions, there was, according to the returns, an excess of 190,669 of births over deaths during the whole decade.

347. The census shows that the total addition of population is only 73,236 or 4 per cent. To repeat the remarks made in the last census report regarding the ratio of increase recorded in 1901:—"This is a surprisingly small rate of development in a healthy district with a prolific population. The statistics of migration supply the necessary explanation." In that year the number of persons born in the Sonthal Parganas but enumerated elsewhere was 226,008: it has now reached the astonishing figure of 321,283, an increase of 95,000 in 10 years. There are, moreover, 5,000 less immigrants in the district than in 1901, and the emigrants outnumber the immigrants

SONTHAL PARGANAS	1911.		1901	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
Actual population ...	933,420	949,348	896,375	913,364
Immigrants ...	48,306	58,331	65,191	88,324
Emigrants ...	162,101	159,182	115,894	110,114
Natural population ...	1,047,166	1,030,899	969,076	965,144

348. The Dumka and Godda subdivisions, which suffered most from the succession of bad years (1905-1908), show a slight decrease, the result of emigration. The decline in both is confined to the thanas outside the Damin (except the hilly area of Poreya), while there has been a substantial addition to the inhabitants of the Damin. The Deoghar subdivision was also affected by scarcity, but to a smaller degree, and has grown slightly: thanas Deoghar (with Sarwan) and Madhupur, which suffered most, are practically stationary, but Madhupur thana is more populous by 8.4 per cent. The Jamtara and Pakaur subdivisions, which were still less affected by poor harvests and high prices, have a normal growth (8.35 and 7.95 per cent. respectively), in which all parts share. The Rajmahal subdivision is the most progressive part of the district: the greater part of its increase (12 per cent.) is due to natural growth, but part is due to the fact that there was a large labour force, mainly of up-country coolies, employed in the Lower Ganges Bridge quarries in 1911, and that Sahibganj, the increase in which appears *prima*

or good crops were reaped during the first four years, but from 1905 to 1907 the harvests were deficient. The ensuing distress culminated in 1908, when the people, whose staying powers had been severely tried by three bad years, were on the verge of famine in the Dumka and Godda subdivisions. Some relief was obtained by the high prices obtained from lac, but the aboriginals squandered their profits in drink: on this account, the scarcity in 1908 actually coincided with an abnormal increase in the consumption of country spirit. A more substantial mitigation of the distress was furnished by the readiness of the able-bodied Santals to leave their homes in search of labour and wages. Owing to the exodus of the males, and also to the lowered vitality of those left

by 215,000. There is, in fact, an army of emigrants pouring forth from the district year by year, and spreading over the Barind in Malda and Dinajpur, the rice-fields in other Bengal districts, and the coal-mines in Manbhum and Burdwan.

*faciè* abnormal, was partially deserted in 1901 on account of an epidemic of plague.

349. The increase in the Damin since 1901 amounts to 11.9 per cent.,

SUBDIVISION.	VARIATION PER CENT. SINCE 1901.	
	Damin.	Extra Damin.
Dumka	+25.67	- 3.88
Godda	+10.67	- 4.77
Pakaur	+ 4.93	+ 3.73
Rajmahal	+ 6.58	+ 1.92

whereas in the remainder of the district it is only 2.8 per cent. A certain amount of growth in the Damin may be expected, for the population consists of prolific aborigines, mainly Santals, who have been benefited by special agrarian legislation. "To that legislation is due the unhampered extension of cultivation, the controlled

enhancement of rent, and the general protection of weak and ignorant cultivators, who would otherwise have become the prey of their wiler and stronger neighbours, and have sunk into the position of hewers of wood and drawers of water for the more advanced races round them."\* On the other hand, a large percentage of increase is not to be expected in the Damin, which loses heavily by emigration and which consists mainly of hills, where cultivation is neither so advanced nor so widespread as in the plains. The cultivated area has, it is true, increased by 36 per cent. in 30 years, but the increase in the zamindari estates amounts to 84 per cent. When the figures for different tracts are examined, there are the most remarkable variations, as shown in the marginal table. In the Pakaur and Rajmahal subdivisions the increase in the Damin is less than in the country outside it, as is only natural, for the latter tract (except for part of Maheshpur and Pakauria thanas) consists of fertile alluvial soil. The population of the Pakaur and Rajmahal thanas was, moreover, temporarily swollen by the presence of imported coolies and masons working in the Lower Ganges Bridge quarries near Tudkipur (Rajmahal) and Pakaur, while the addition in the Sahibganj thana, as already explained, is due to its being partially evacuated in 1901. In the Dumka and Godda subdivisions, however, the results are exactly the reverse. In the former subdivision, the Damin lost 26.77 per cent. between 1891 and 1901, and now has a gain of 25.67 per cent., though the rest of the subdivision has a decrease. In Godda, the Damin lost 12.27 per cent. at the last census and now has advanced by 10.67 per cent., whereas there is a decrease of 4.77 per cent. outside the Damin. In both subdivisions, emigration from the Damin is active, and *a priori* large increases in this area are not to be expected. The explanation appears to be that there was some confusion about the boundaries of the Damin in 1901 and that part of its population was included in the country outside it. It is safer therefore to compare the present results with those of 1891, according to which the Dumka and Godda Damin have a decrease of 8.6 and 3 per cent. respectively (the result chiefly of emigration), while the country outside the Damin has an increase of 4.1 and 2 per cent., respectively.

350. In Angul the census of 1901 showed an increase of 12.85 per cent.,

ANGUL.

but while the Angul subdivision added 23 per cent. to its population, the Khondmals lost 3 per cent.

There had been some distress in the Angul subdivision in 1897 owing to

ANGUL.	Population, 1911.	PERCENTAGE OF VARIATION.	
		1901-1911.	1891-1901.
<b>DISTRICT TOTAL</b>	199,451	+ 3.93	+ 12.85
<b>Sadar Subdivision</b>	125,233	- 1.93	+ 23.73
<b>Khondmals Subdivision</b>	74,218	+ 15.58	- 3.22

the partial failure of the crops. After this, the people had a series of bad years, which exhausted their resources and culminated in general scarcity in 1900-01. This was most felt in the Khondmals, specially by those who depended for their sustenance on jungle produce,

such as yams and edible bulbs. There were again short harvests in 1902-03, but next year, with bumper crops, all signs of distress disappeared. The prosperity of the people continued till 1908, when there was again scarcity. The failure of the rains, in the latter part of 1907 caused great damage to the winter rice, and the *rabi* crops also suffered. There was a fair mango

\* H. McPherson, *Sonthal Parganas Settlement Report*.

crop in the Angul subdivision, but it failed in the Khondmals, while the *mahua* crop was a failure in both areas. The failure of these two crops seriously affected the poorer classes and aboriginal races, who live on them for about three months in the year. For three successive years, these and other crops had suffered more or less, but it was not until 1908 that the accumulative effect of all these partial failures, coupled with the prevailing high prices, began to show itself and to necessitate relief measures. About three-fourths of the district was affected; the distressed classes were mainly Pans and labourers, the numbers requiring relief being augmented by the families of Pans who had absconded. The distress was never very acute, and it was not necessary to declare famine. In the Angul subdivision, however, considerable mortality was caused by cholera, which was introduced from Dhenkanal; the deaths due to it in this year represented no less than 10 per mille of the population of the subdivision.

351. The census of 1911 shows that, while there is a total addition of 7,540 or 3·9 per cent., the results of the preceding census in the two subdivisions are reversed. The Angul subdivision, which had a large growth between 1891 and 1901, has lost ground, while the Khondmals, which declined slightly in that decade,

ASPECT.	1911.		1901.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
Actual population	86,372	101,079	81,925	95,976
Immigrants	7,972	10,779	9,563	12,169
Emigrants	0,252	11,584	2,294	4,184
Natural population	89,752	102,168	89,866	97,901

has advanced rapidly. Probably part of the increase in the Khondmals must be ascribed to an improvement in the methods of enumeration, and part to the natural fecundity of the Khonds. There have been no widespread epidemics, and even 1908, when there was scarcity, was a healthy year, the drought causing a diminution of malaria. Moreover, though the hill and jungle areas in which the Khonds live were most affected by the drought, the Khonds, being accustomed to live on jungle produce, experienced less distress than the poorer cultivators and labourers in the plains of Angul. In the latter subdivision, the loss is partly due to the mortality caused by cholera and partly to loss from emigration, the Pans having migrated to Assam and elsewhere in considerable numbers. In the district, as a whole, the emigrants now outnumber the immigrants, whereas the reverse was the case in 1901. Inquiries made in 1908 showed that 1,276 persons emigrated to the tea gardens, and, according to the census returns, the total number of emigrants to places outside the district is or more than treble the number returned in 1901.

352. In Sambalpur, as in other districts of the Chota Nagpur Plateau, the first reliable census was that of 1891, which disclosed a growth of 11·7 per cent. The development of the district received a severe check in the next decade owing to the

SAMBALPUR.	Population, 1911.	PERCENTAGE OF VARIATION, 1901-1911.
<b>DISTRICT TOTAL</b>	<b>744,193</b>	<b>+ 16·46</b>
<b>Sadar Subdivision</b>	<b>302,039</b>	<b>+ 10·08</b>
Mundher	15,660	+ 38·07
Dhama	80,126	+ 9·02
Sambalpur	50,262	+ 9·40
Sasani	28,232	+ 14·62
Katarbagan	34,306	+ 6·21
Lalkera	41,122	+ 3·45
Jharsugra	41,638	+ 12·08
Rampalia	31,344	+ 18·18
Muru	27,862	+ 7·93
<b>Bargarh Subdivision</b>	<b>442,154</b>	<b>+ 21·27</b>
Antobhons	36,220	+ 12·54
Astabira	46,878	+ 12·73
Bhuran	46,785	+ 12·81
Barpali	39,550	+ 19·27
Bargarh	51,509	+ 18·07
Bhoadi	30,666	+ 17·50
Sobella	35,619	+ 23·79
Bijepur	22,859	+ 20·42
Meichhamaunda	31,192	+ 27·40
Geilatit	33,222	+ 27·48
Padampur	31,310	+ 27·48
Jagdipar	35,077	+ 42·48
Falkmai	19,436	+ 70·21

the first reliable census was that of 1891, which disclosed a growth of 11·7 per cent. The development of the district received a severe check in the next decade owing to the famine of 1900 and the mortality caused by epidemics of fever, cholera and small-pox during the famine—the death-rate for this year rose to the appalling figure of 108 per mille. The result was that the census of 1901 showed an addition to the population of only 3·3 per cent. The Sambalpur subdivision suffered little, and the east and north of the Bargarh subdivision were not seriously affected; but distress was very acute in the south-west of the latter and especially in Bora-sambar.

The birth-rate of 1901, which was only 30 per mille, was abnormally low in consequence of lowered vitality and reduced fecundity, while, owing to the previous clearance made by famine and disease among the old and weakly, the death-rate reached the minimum ever recorded

(19.56 per mille). The recovery from the effects of the famine was, however, rapid, for next year the birth-rate rose abruptly to 46.65 per mille and throughout the succeeding years it continued at a very high level. The death-rate on the other hand was uniformly low except in 1908, and the combined effect of a high birth-rate and a low death-rate was an excess of births amounting to 104,000 in the decade. The people, moreover, had a succession of good agricultural seasons, except in 1901-03 and 1907-1908, when crops were short in consequence of capricious and unevenly distributed rainfall. On the whole, the decade was one of steady and peaceful progress. "In every direction," writes the Deputy Commissioner, "there are evidences of increasing prosperity. New villages have been settled, and new lands are being brought under cultivation. Agriculture has improved as well as extended. Facilities for irrigation have increased. The value of land has gone up appreciably. The railway has developed the trade of the country, and agricultural produce has commanded better prices than ever it did before. Indebtedness has not increased. The standard of living has not appreciably risen, but ideas of comfort have begun to take hold of the people. Coarse Ganda cloths are being given up in favour of those of finer texture; more people now use shirts and shoes; gold and silver ornaments are coming into greater use. Tiled houses are now quite common, and even pucca houses are not so rare as they used to be. Bicycles too are very much more largely used every year."

353. The census shows the effect of these influences, and testifies to the

SAMBALPUR.	1911.		1901.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
Actual population	365,552	378,441	312,884	325,110
Immigrants*	19,700	23,701	39,072	32,087
Emigrants*	88,108	82,419	48,909	56,232
Natural population	432,960	440,250	332,918	344,956

completeness of the recovery from the famine, for there has been an addition of 105,201 or 16.5 per cent. The increase is partially due to improved enumeration in some tracts, but, even so, the figure is remarkable, when it is considered that the balance of migration is adverse to the district, emigrants outnumbering immigrants by 130,000. Figures are not available showing the number of immigrants that were enumerated in 1901 in the present district, but those for the district as then constituted (which extended over 1,136 square miles more than it now does) will serve for purposes of comparison. They show that there are now nearly 19,000 less immigrants, but 66,000 more emigrants. Part of the decrease of the former may be due to the reduction of area. The large rise in the number of the latter is striking evidence of the extent to which the people of Sambalpur have moved out of the district.

354. All parts of the districts are progressive, but while the Sambalpur subdivision, which was more or less immune from the famine of 1900, has an increase of 10 per cent., the Bargarh subdivision, which was seriously affected by it, has grown more than twice as rapidly. In this latter subdivision there has been an extraordinary development in Borasambar (where distress was most acute), for the four thanas constituting it, *viz.*, Melchhamunda, Gaisilat, Padampur and Paikmal, have percentages of increase varying from 27 to 70 per cent. In this area the revival of agricultural prosperity has resulted in an expansion of the area under cultivation, which has attracted new settlers. In the first two thanas, the rate of progress has been uniform (27.5 per cent.), while in Jagdalpur (42.5 per cent.) the waste and jungle are being fast cleared away and new villages established. The very remarkable increase in Paikmal (70 per cent.) is partly due to the same causes and partly to incomplete enumeration in 1901, when very few literate men were available to work as enumerators. In the Sambalpur subdivision, the most progressive thana is Mundher, which records a growth of 28 per cent., also largely the result of waste and jungle being brought under the plough. Elsewhere the increase is fairly evenly distributed, the least advance being noticeable in Katarbaga and Laikera. Both these thanas are situated close to the border of the Bamra State, and

\* The 1901 figures of immigrants and emigrants for the district as now constituted not being available, those for the district as then constituted have been given.

during the dry season many of their inhabitants leave their homes to work in the Bamra forests.

355. Between 1891 and 1901 the Orissa Feudatory States added 9·5 per cent. to their population, every State recording an increase except Baud in the south and Sonpur and Patna in the east. Baud sustained a slight loss owing to

ORISSA STATES.	Population, 1911.	PER CENTAGE OF VARIATION.	
		1901—1911.	1891—1901.
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,796,563</b>	<b>+ 19'64</b>	<b>+ 9'48</b>
Atharab	45,813	+ 6'92	+ 10'83
Talcher	66,301	+ 9'24	+ 14'73
Mayurbhanj	729,318	+ 19'47	+ 14'58
Nilgiri	68,714	+ 3'39	+ 18'26
Keonjhar	364,702	+ 27'63	+ 13'18
Pai Lohara	25,680	+ 14'39	+ 13'46
Dhenkanal	370,175	- 1'27	+ 14'85
Athmalik	33,768	+ 31'98	+ 28'94
Hindol	49,840	+ 5'94	+ 34'25
Narsingpur	23,964	+ 0'33	+ 17'03
Baranbe	41,429	+ 8'28	+ 17'93
Tigria	33,240	+ 7'73	+ 10'11
Khondpara	73,821	+ 6'30	+ 9'74
Nayagera	151,293	+ 7'47	+ 19'44
Ranpur	46,356	- 0'26	+ 14'96
Deopalla	37,003	+ 9'74	+ 14'01
Baud	113,441	+ 29'55	- 1'43
Bamra	128,016	+ 11'94	+ 18'22
Rairakhol	31,729	+ 18'00	+ 32'29
Sonpur	215,701	+ 37'03	- 12'99
Patna	408,716	+ 47'15	- 16'39
Kaibhandi	418,967	+ 19'33	+ 7'43
Gangpur	303,839	+ 27'18	+ 24'79
Deosi	58,809	+ 32'33	+ 19'17

have, on the whole, been good and there has been

ORISSA STATES.	Male.	Female.
Actual population	1,893,688	1,913,975
Immigrants	142,310	167,230
Emigrants	26,374	46,923
Natural population	1,766,422	1,805,668

through Gangpur and Bamra and the East Coast section of the same railway, enabled to obtain a highly profitable market for their produce." Immigrants are attracted by the areas awaiting development and the easy terms on which land can be acquired, and outnumber the emigrants by 224,000; details are given in the marginal statement.

356. In discussing the variations which have occurred, it will be convenient to divide the 24 States into 4 groups according to locality. The first group consists of the north-eastern States of Mayurbhanj, Keonjhar and Nilgiri. Mayurbhanj has progressed rapidly since 1901. Its economic resources have been developed, it has been opened up by roads and railways, and its trade has expanded greatly. A narrow-gauge railway has been built connecting the capital Baripada with the Bengal-Nagpur Railway line, and another line has been constructed from the works of the Tata and Iron Steel Company at Sakchi (in Singhbhum) to the mines at Gurumaisini. There was some scarcity in 1908, and relief operations had to be instituted, but otherwise the decade was one of agricultural prosperity, new areas being reclaimed and the cultivation in the older settled tracts improving steadily. The increase in the whole State amounts to 19·47 per cent. and all parts have contributed to it. The ratio of increase is least in the Bamanghati subdivision (7·66 per cent.) where there was scarcity in 1908 accompanied by epidemics of cholera and small-pox: it is greatest in Panchpir (35·5 per cent.), a jungly backward tract which has attracted immigrants and in which the census of 1901 was not quite complete. In Keonjhar the percentage of increase is 27·6 per cent., but Nilgiri has grown very slightly, viz., by 3·4 per cent. This latter State suffered from severe

epidemics of disease and scarcity in 1900, which stimulated emigration. In Sonpur and Patna there was a heavy loss of 13 and 16 per cent. respectively, which was directly due to famine in the year preceding the census, in consequence of which a number of people left their homes. The census now concluded shows a general advance except in Dhenkanal and Ranpur, the aggregate addition to the population being 623,168 or 19·64 per cent. This large increase is partly due to more accurate enumeration, but is mainly the result of natural growth among hardy and prolific races. The crops

writes the Political Agent. "a large expansion of cultivation due to the great improvements in communications, light rents and the large profits to be made by agriculturists, who are now, owing to the advent of the Bengal Nagpur Railway

epidemics of cholera in 1907 and 1908, while there was a partial failure of the crops both in 1905-1906 and 1907-1908.

357. The second group consists of the Gangpur and Bonai States to the north-west, both of which have an increase, amounting to 27·18 per cent. in Gangpur, and to 52·3 per cent. in Bonai. The former State has benefited greatly from the railway which passes through it, and it has had excellent crops except in 1908. The inducements offered to immigrants by the large cultivable area lying waste and the small rents charged for holdings have, moreover, led to an influx of settlers from Chota Nagpur. The extraordinary increase in Bonai must be ascribed partially to incomplete enumeration in 1901, and partly to the opening up of the State, the railway being only 12 miles beyond its border. The land is being rapidly reclaimed, and as the State is very sparsely inhabited, there is ample room for expansion.

358. The western block comprises Bamra, Rairakhol, Sonpur, Patna and Kalahandi, all of which were transferred from the Central Provinces in 1905. In Bamra, Rairakhol and Kalahandi, the proportional growth varies from 12 to 19·5 per cent. The increase in Bamra would have been greater, had it not been that at this census a number of people were away working in manganese mines in Gangpur, and that in 1901 the number of persons enumerated in the State was enhanced by 2,000 or more owing to the presence of a large marriage party hailing from Pal Lahara and elsewhere. The rate of growth has been far more rapid in Sonpur (27 per cent.) and Patna (47 per cent.), where it marks a recovery from the famine of 1900, during which there was heavy mortality, while many of the inhabitants died or migrated to Sambalpur. The emigrants returned with the revival of agricultural prosperity, which continued almost unabated through the decade. Sonpur has been opened up by roads connecting it with Sambalpur and Rairakhol, while Patna has benefited by immigration, especially in the south-east and west, where large areas are available for reclamation.

359. The central States consist of Baud, Athmallik, Talcher and Pal Lahara, in which the ratio of increase varies from 9·5 per cent. to 31·9 per cent. The latter percentage returned for Athmallik, a sparsely populated State which gains by immigration. The ratio of increase for Baud (28·55) is very little less, but this State was partially depleted in 1901 as a result of severe scarcity. The remaining States consist of a block to the south-east on or near the borders of Cuttack and Puri, viz., Athgarh, Dhenkanal, Hindol, Narsinghpur, Baramba, Tigiria, Khondpara, Nayagarh, Ranpur and Daspalla, all of small size except Dhenkanal and Nayagarh. Dhenkanal has lost ground slightly, owing to scarcity in 1908 and mortality from cholera and other diseases. The number of recorded deaths in that year was treble the annual average for the remainder of the decade. Emigration was stimulated by the distress, and the result is seen in the figures for the sexes, the females having a slight increase in their numbers while males have decreased. The same phenomenon is observable in Ranpur, where the population is stationary. Narsinghpur has only advanced slightly, while the slow progress made by Tigiria is accounted for by the fact that it is more densely populated than any of the other States. In the other States of this group, the increase of population is fairly uniform, varying only from 5·6 to 9·7 per cent.

CHOTA NAGPUR STATES.

CHOTA NAGPUR STATES.	Population, 1911.	PERCENTAGE OF VARIATION.	
		1901-1911.	1891-1901.
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>148,646</b>	<b>+ 5·36</b>	<b>+ 9·10</b>
Saraikela	109,794	+ 5·02	+ 11·40
Kharsawan	38,852	+ 6·38	+ 3·02

360. The Chota Nagpur States consist of the two small States of Kharsawan and Saraikela, both of which lie to the north of the Singhbhum district. The increase of population registered in these two States is natural and calls for no special remarks.



## SIKKIM.

361. The State of Sikkim recorded an increase of 28,556 or 93·8 per cent. in 1901. This phenomenal increase was partly due to the greater accuracy of the census, the enumeration of 1891 being admittedly incomplete, and partly to immigration, for settlers from Nepal flocked in to cultivate the

SIKKIM.	1901.		1901.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
Actual population ...	47,009	42,861	20,795	26,210
Immigrants ...	16,470	12,350	12,227	11,607
Emigrants ...	1,479	1,768	1,046	1,142
Natural population ...	30,255	31,270	18,504	16,696

areas awaiting reclamation. No less than 22,720 persons, or 38·5 per cent. of the total population, were returned as born in Nepal, and the greater majority of them were new-comers, who had crossed the border since 1891. The census recently concluded has brought to light a further addition of 28,906, or 49

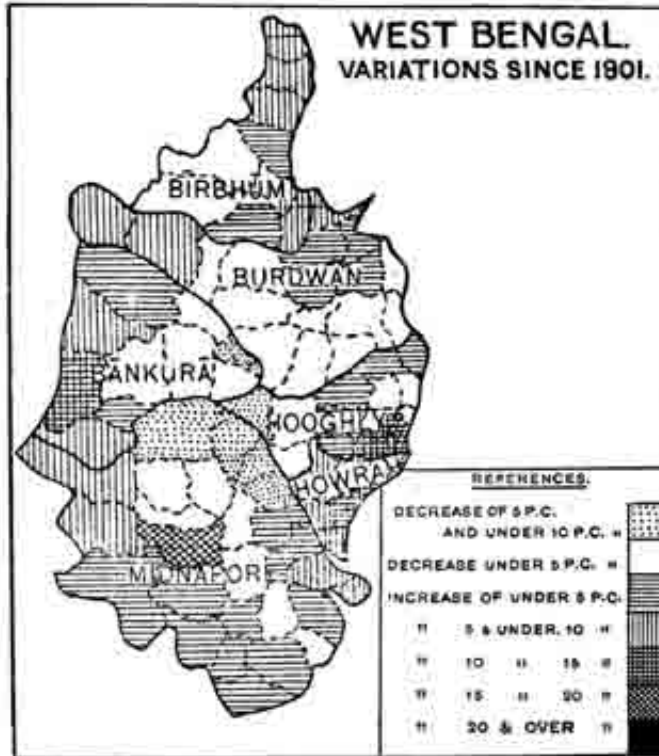
per cent. An analysis of the returns of birthplace shows that the immigrant population has increased by 5,000, while the number of persons born in Sikkim who were enumerated outside the State is greater by 1,255: the large increase cannot therefore be ascribed to any greatly enhanced influx into the State. At the same time, the fact that the number of immigrants is greater than in 1901 shows that the influx of settlers has continued and that the number of new-comers more than makes up for loss by death among the earlier immigrants. Part of the increase is due to natural growth among hardy and prolific races, such as the Nepalese, and part to the greater completeness of the census, which was for the first time carried out by an organized census staff: in 1901 only persons who had houses in Sikkim were enumerated, and not non-residents such as graziers and Nepalese in search of work.

362. Altogether 25,610 persons, or 2,890 more than in 1901, were returned as born in Nepal, but instead of forming 38·5 per cent. of the total population, they now represent 29 per cent. The number of those born in Sikkim has risen from 34,010 to 58,085, or by 71 per cent., owing partly to their including the children of immigrants from Nepal who have settled in Sikkim: the native-born now form two-thirds of the population instead of half as in 1901. The number of Lepchas has risen from 7,982 to 9,031, and of Bhotias from 8,184 to 12,414, of whom 10,250 are Sikkim Bhotias. These indigenous races account for nearly a quarter of the population, and practically all the remainder are Nepalese, among whom the Khambus (Jimdars) are the most numerous, having 15,872 representatives.

## SUMMARY.

263. West Bengal, *i. e.*, the Burdwan Division, had advanced but slightly since 1901, its net increase representing only 2·8 per cent. The most progressive district is Howrah, where there is an addition of 10·9 per cent., mainly the result of immigration stimulated by industrial activity in the city of Howrah and its neighbourhood. In the district, as a whole, immigrants represent one-fifth of the total population, and in the city of Howrah more than two-thirds of the inhabitants are immigrants from outside districts. This city accounts for a fourth of the total increase, and has grown more rapidly than the rest of the districts. Outside its limits the increase is due partly to natural growth and partly to immigration. In all the other districts the rate of increase is below 4 per cent. This figure is nearly reached by Hooghly, which, like Howrah, receives a large number of immigrants, their proportion to the total population being 17 per cent. The Serampore subdivision, which adjoins the Howrah and, like it, is an industrial centre, has grown at very nearly the

same rate as that district, but the Sadar subdivision is now more populous by only 1.16 per cent., and the Arambagh subdivision has sustained a loss. Both these latter subdivisions are unhealthy and decadent: the population of



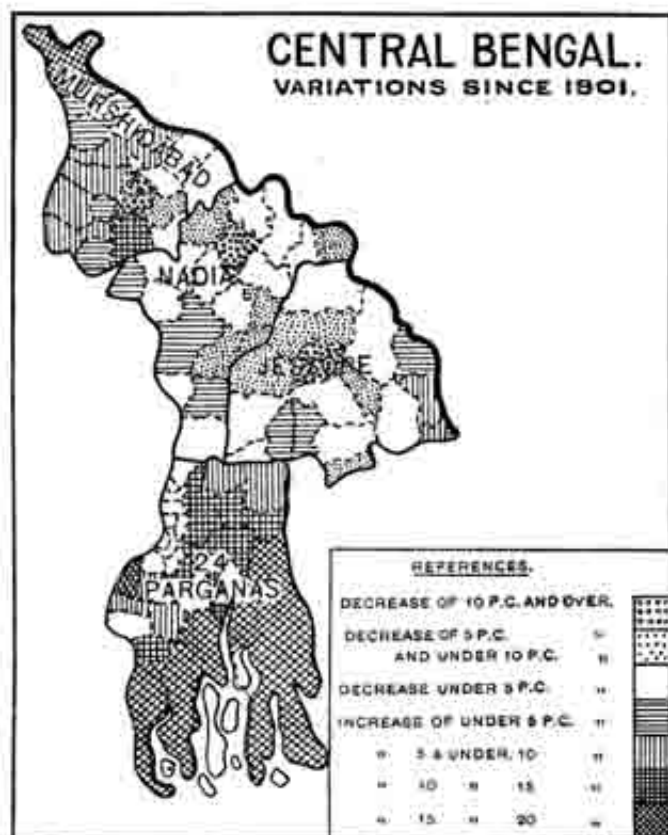
the former is very little more than in 1891, while that of the latter is less by nearly 8,000. Hooghly is closely followed by Birbhum with an increase of 3.7 per cent., due not to emigration, but to natural growth. Here the accession of population is unevenly distributed between the north and south of the district, for the Rampur Hat subdivision to the north has an increase of 6.7 per cent. spread over all its thanas, while the Sadar subdivision has advanced very slightly. Bankura has lost heavily by emigration, the number of persons born in the district but enumerated outside it being 20 per cent. more than in 1901 and

equal to 15 per cent. of the district population. Moreover, while the Sadar subdivision records a gain of 4.9 per cent., the Vishnupur subdivision has lost 3.1 per cent. The latter is a malarious and unhealthy tract in the deltaic rice plain, and its population has decreased at every census except that of 1901. Midnapore has an increase of only 1.2 per cent., the general growth of population being affected by the loss sustained in the Ghatal subdivision in the north-east. The latter, which suffered greatly from epidemic disease and also lost by emigration, has decreased by 7.3 per cent., but the other subdivisions have ratios of increase varying from 1.75 to 3.1 per cent. The population of the Burdwan district, which has suffered from epidemic and endemic diseases, is stationary. The Asansol subdivision in the north-west has added 4.7 per cent. to its population, mainly owing to the influx of labourers to the coal-fields, and the Katwa subdivision in the north-east has a growth of 3.3 per cent. The remainder of the district, which lies along three great rivers, Ajay, Damodar and Bhagirathi, has lost population, only two (Sahebganj and Manteswar) out of 11 thanas having any addition to the number of their inhabitants.

364. Briefly, the two purely alluvial districts (Hooghly and Howrah) owe their increase mainly to the influx of population attracted by the prospects of employment in industrial and manufacturing concerns and by their proximity to Calcutta. The alluvial tracts elsewhere, which are remote from Calcutta, and which have no large industries and manufactures, have suffered from persistent unhealthiness and are more or less decadent or stationary, *e.g.*, the Vishnupur subdivision of Bankura, the Ghatal subdivision of Midnapore, the Hooghly district with the exception of the Serampore subdivision, and the Sadar and Kalna subdivisions of Burdwan. In the lateritic area, however, there has been a small advance, *e.g.*, in the Birbhum district, the Sadar subdivision of Bankura and the Asansol subdivision of Burdwan.

365. Central Bengal owes its increase of  $4\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. entirely to the accession of population in the 24-Parganas, Calcutta, and Murshidabad. There is an actual loss of population in the remainder of the division, where there are no large industries to attract labour from outside. Both Jessore and Nadia, two

unhealthy districts lying entirely in the deltaic rice plain, have declined, while Murshidabad,



which is not entirely alluvial, has a small increase, due to the lateritic area to the west of the Bhagirathi. The 24-Parganas is now more populous than it was in 1901 by 17 per cent. It has gained very greatly by immigration, the immigrant population being nearly one-fourth of the total population. All parts of the district have added to their numbers, but nowhere has there been greater progress than in the suburban municipalities and the Barrackpore subdivision, where the growing demand for labour has resulted in an increase of 45 and 42 per cent., respectively. In rural areas great progress has been made in the northern thanas, through

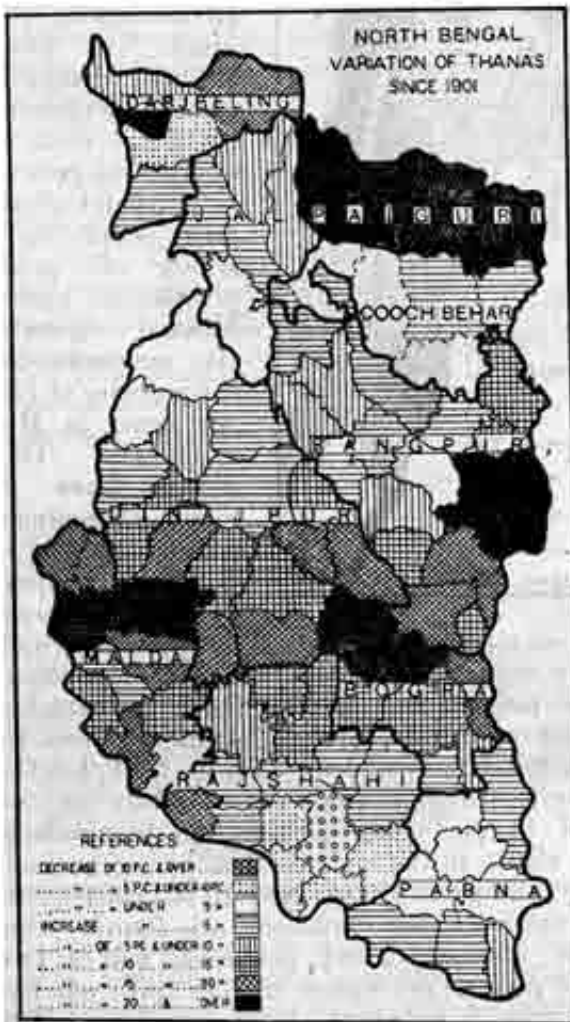
which the Barasat-Basirhat Railway runs, and in the country to the south, where the development is due to the reclamation of the Sundarbans. In the city of Calcutta the percentage of increase has fallen from 24 per cent. to 5·7 per cent., owing partly to the tendency of immigrants to settle in the suburbs rather than in the city itself. This movement has been stimulated by the clearance of insanitary overcrowded *bastis* in Calcutta, the improved suburban traffic service and the development of large industries in its neighbourhood. The reduction in the rate of increase is also partly due to the census of 1901 having been more complete than its predecessor, as a result of which an unnaturally large increase was registered. Murshidabad has added 2·9 per cent. to its population, but while the Jangipur and Kandi subdivisions have grown fairly rapidly, the growth in the Lalbagh subdivision is slight and the Sadar subdivision has lost ground. Nadia and Jessore have sustained a loss, both being unhealthy areas with an unenviable reputation and no manufactures to attract immigrants. The history of both is, as already stated, a dismal record of disease and decline.

366. In North Bengal the most rapid growth of population has taken place in Bogra, which has been growing steadily since 1872 and now records an increase of 15·2 per cent. The increase is due mainly to natural growth among a population largely composed of Muhammadans. It is closely followed by Jalpaiguri, which has gained 14·8 per cent. nearly entirely from the influx of immigrants. In this district there is a small natural growth in the east, a fairly large increase in the centre, where it is the result partly of natural causes and partly of immigration, and a remarkable increase in the Alipur subdivision, where immigrants are fast taking up the available waste land. The tract known as the Western Duars has nearly trebled its population since 1901, but in Mainaguri and Damdim to the west, where nearly all the waste land has now been taken up, the ratio of increase has fallen. The two latter thanas have apparently nearly reached the limit of their expansion, and consequently new settlers are pouring into the more distant and less developed lands of the Alipur subdivision. The population of the latter will probably

have a diminished rate of growth henceforward, as the area of cultivable land outside the reserved forest is now comparatively small. Malda has developed almost as rapidly as Jalpaiguri, but its development is due to natural growth. The past decade in this district has been one of peaceful progress stimulated by the opening of the Katihar-Godagari Railway. All parts of the district share in the increase except Nawabganj, where land has been diluviated and the cultivators have moved to other places. Rangpur, which in 1901 had an increase for the first time in its history, has a further addition of 10·7 per cent. The health of the people has improved since the earthquake of 1897, and the extension of railway communications has stimulated immigration. All parts of the district are progressive, but the greatest advance has been made in the Kurigram and Gaibandha subdivisions, where many new settlers have come to the *char* lands from Sirajganj and Mymensingh.

367. The increase of 7·7 per cent. in Dinajpur is the combined result of

natural growth and of immigration, the volume of which has swollen very much since 1901. Immigrants now number 197,000 or over 11 per cent. of the total population. The increase has been most rapid in the Balurghat subdivision to the south, while the Thakurgaon subdivision to the north is practically stationary. The rate of progress in Darjeeling has fallen from 11·55 per cent. to 6·65 per cent., the explanation being that any considerable further expansion is precluded by the large proportion of land under forest or tea, and that the area in which cultivation can extend is fast being reduced. The growth is greatest in the Darjeeling subdivision, where immigrants have come into Jorbungalow and Kalimpong. The Siliguri subdivision has a slight increase, but the Kurseong subdivision has lost population. Cooch Behar has had an increase of population (4·6 per cent.) for the first time since 1881. This increase is due partly to natural development and partly to immigration, which has been stimulated by railway communications; four lines of

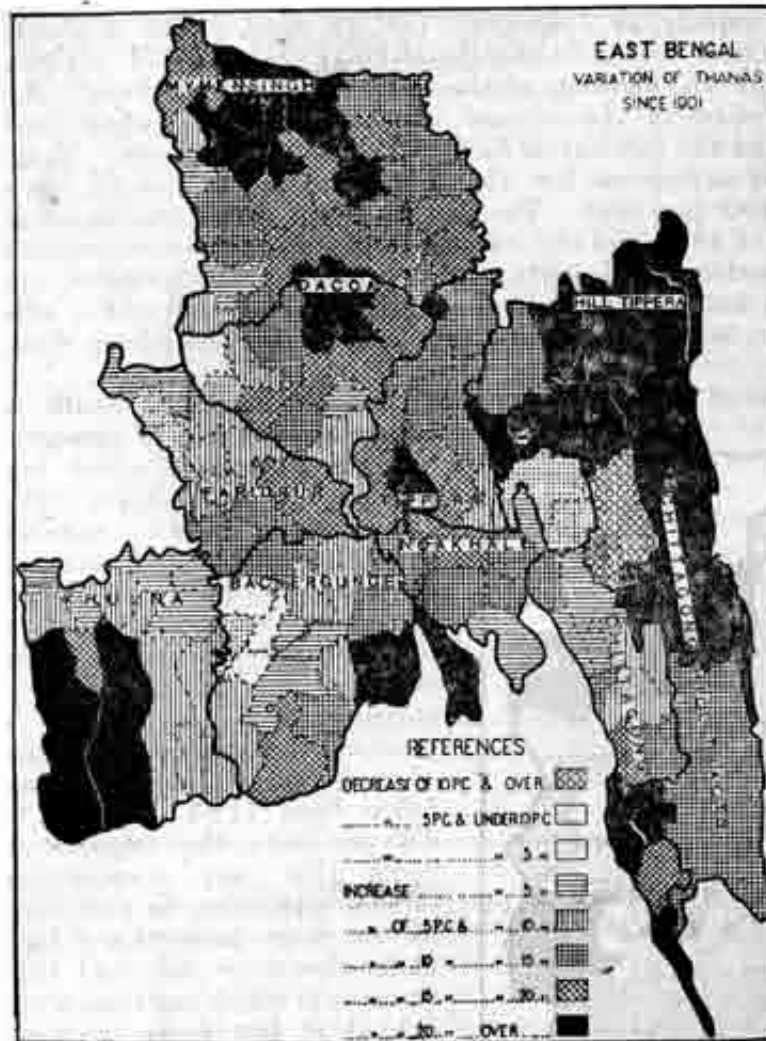


railway intersect the State. Rajshahi, which had an addition of only 1·6 per cent. in 1901, has a further small increase of 1·4 per cent. The greatest advance has been made in the *ganja*-growing thanas in the Naogaon subdivision (14 and 13 per cent.) and in the Barind, where the percentage of increase varies from 4½ to 17 per cent. The Naogaon subdivision has developed rapidly, and the Sadar subdivision very slightly, but the Nator subdivision, an ill-drained malarious area, is steadily declining. Pabna is now practically stationary owing to persistent unhealthiness and the loss it has sustained by emigration. The Sirajganj subdivision has lost ground, and there is only a slight increase in the Sadar subdivision.

368. East Bengal as a whole has added 12 per cent. to its population, and all parts of it, whether densely or sparsely inhabited, are progressive. The greatest progress

EAST BENGAL.

has been made by the State of Hill Tippera, where the large increase of 32½



per cent. is recorded. The area available for cultivation in this State has led to an influx of colonists; over three-fifths of the net gain is due to the increase in the number of immigrants.

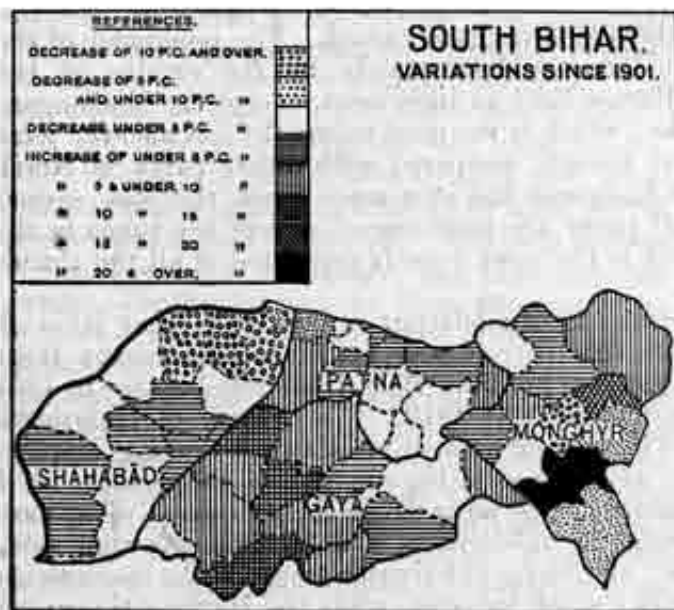
The Chittagong Hill Tracts, a remote tract with few attractions for the people of more civilized districts, owes its increment of 23 per cent. to the natural growth of a hardy aboriginal people in a series of prosperous years. Natural growth also accounts for the increase of 15½ per cent. in Mymsingh. This district has a teeming Musalman population, and is now more populous by 92 per cent.

than in 1872. Least progress has been made in the Tangail subdivision, which suffers from malaria, and has lost by emigration as well as from a virulent epidemic of cholera in 1905. The proportional growth (14·7 per cent.) in Tippera is also accounted for by natural causes, for the district has lost by migration. All parts of the district are more populous than in 1901, but the ratio of increase is greatest in the south and diminishes slightly as one proceeds northwards. The gain of 14 per cent. in Noakhali is similarly independent of migration; all parts share in the increase, but owing to land being swept away and reformed by the great rivers, and to the consequent movements of the people, some extraordinary variations are found. One thana has a gain of only 4 per cent., another of 36½ per cent., and of two thanas which supported over 1,000 persons per square mile in 1901, one has added 20 per cent. and another only 2 per cent. to its numbers. The district of Dacca, with an increment of 12 per cent., has 62 per cent. more inhabitants than in 1872. The balance of migration has been against it, but all parts have gained ground, except on the western boundary where diluviation has caused the inhabitants to move across the Padma to alluvial accretions in Faridpur and Pabna. The Manikganj subdivision consequently has only a small increase. Munshiganj, in spite of its dense population, has again an increase of over 9 per cent., while the Sadar and Narayanganj subdivisions have grown even more rapidly than in the preceding decade.

369. Chittagong, in which the rate of increase was reduced to 4·9 per cent. in 1901 on account of the disastrous cyclone of 1897, has now fully recovered. The most progressive thanas are those which suffered most in that year, but the whole of the south, where cultivation is expanding, has large gains, and considerable progress has been made in the north where trade has been stimulated by the railway. There is again an increase of 9 per

cent. in Khulna, the percentage varying from '01 in the north-east to 26 per cent. in the south-west. The most progressive thanas are those to the south-west, which owe their development to the spread of cultivation along the fringe of the Sundarbans: the least progressive are those to the north-west and north-east, which are more malarious than the rest of the district. Elsewhere there has been a fairly uniform development. The most extraordinary progress has been made in Paikgachha thana, which is now more populous by 80 per cent. than in 1881: the development of this tract is due to the driving back of the jungle and the settlement of new cultivators. Faridpur has continued to make steady progress. The gain is greatest in the Madaripur subdivision, which is a healthy locality with fertile alluvial accretions to which immigrants are attracted. The Goalundo subdivision is stationary owing to the loss sustained by one thana, but elsewhere there is a fair rate of increase. The growth of population in Backergunge was retarded during the last half of the decade, for it suffered from a failure of crops in 1905 and from floods and a cyclone in 1909. The ratio of increase is, however, very nearly the same as in 1901. There has been a rapid expansion in the Dakshin Shahbazpur subdivision, where new colonists are pouring in, and also in the Sundarbans area in Patuakhali, where cultivation is spreading; but the Pirojpur subdivision has remained stationary.

370. Two of the districts of South Bihar (Gaya and Monghyr) have added to their population since 1901, and two (Shahabad and Patna) have sustained a loss. In Patna there is a slight decrease (nearly 1 per cent.), for which the



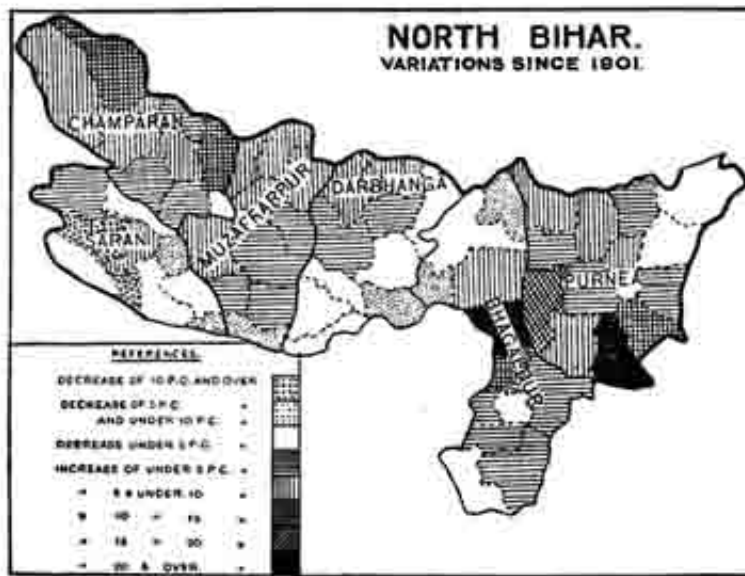
mortality due to disease is mainly responsible; the plague death-rate alone was 8.7 per mille during the decade. All parts of the district are decadent or stationary, except one thana to the south and the Barh subdivision on the east; in the latter the increase was mainly the result of an influx of labourers who came to cut crops. Gaya, which declined by 3.7 per cent. in 1901, has recovered its position, the ratio of increase being 4.8 per cent. Its advance is principally attributable to the fact that in 1901 the popu-

lation was reduced by a virulent epidemic of plague, which caused many deaths and still more desertions. There has since been a general development throughout the district, only two thanas having a decrease. Shahabad, on the other hand, which lost 4.7 per cent. of its population between 1891 and 1901, has another falling off of 4.9 per cent. In the north there is a general loss of population, and the south is practically stationary. It has suffered both from plague and endemic fever; not only has a series of bad agricultural years stimulated emigration, but the immigrant population is steadily diminishing. Monghyr has advanced by 3.1 per cent., the result of natural growth: were it not for the large number of persons who left the district during the cold weather for work elsewhere, the percentage of increase would have been far greater.

371. All the districts of North Bihar have added to their population, except Saran which has declined by 5 per cent. This district has suffered severely from persistent

NORTH BIHAR.

fever as well as from the ravages of plague, which has carried off 166,000 or

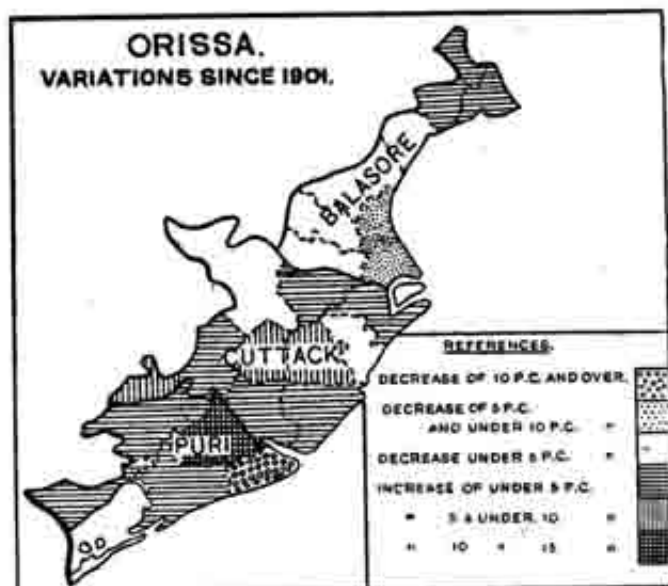


7 per cent. of the population. Emigration has, moreover, become increasingly popular; the number of those who were absent from their homes at the time of the census was no less than 292,000 or over one-eighth of the total population. Signs of over-population are apparent. The most densely populated subdivisions (Sadar and Siwan) are decadent, and

the Gopalganj subdivision, where the pressure on the soil is not so heavy, is practically stationary. The greatest advance has been made in Champaran (6·6 per cent.) and Purnea (6 per cent.), both sparsely populated districts which attract immigrants by reason of the fertile areas awaiting development and the low rents at which land can be obtained. The remainder of the districts of North Bihar lose more or less heavily by the exodus of the district born. All parts of Purnea have an increment, except the Kishanganj subdivision in the north-east, which is the most unhealthy but also the most populous part of the district, though, compared with other parts of North Bihar, the density is low. Champaran has now made good the loss caused by the famine of 1897: all parts are progressive, except one thana in the south-east (Madhubani) which is the most densely populated of all the thanas and has lost by emigration.

372. The rate of increase in Muzaffarpur is only half what it is in Champaran, but conditions in this district were not favourable to any large expansion. It suffered from severe floods in 1906, from crop failures in 1907 and 1908, and from another inundation in 1910. The volume of emigration has also been swollen by the increasing number of labourers seeking employment outside the district: at the time of the census 195,000 persons, or 7 per cent. of the total population, were away from their homes. The most progressive tract is the Sitamarhi subdivision, a fertile rice-growing area, which gains by immigration: the Sadar subdivision loses by the movements of its inhabitants and has only a small increase, while the Hajipur thana has a decline, the combined result of plague mortality and emigration. The proportional growth in Bhagalpur (2·4 per cent.) is a little less than in Muzaffarpur. Here the Banka subdivision is stationary, while the Supaul subdivision has sustained a loss owing to scarcity in 1908-09 and heavy mortality from cholera and fever. The Sadar subdivision in the centre of the district has a small increase, while the Madhupura subdivision has advanced by 9 per cent. owing to the expansion of cultivation in areas formerly swept by the Kosi. In the Darbhanga district the percentage of increase has fallen at each census since 1881, and is now under 1 per cent. The Madhubani subdivision, which is the least populous part of the district, has a small increase; the Sadar subdivision is practically stationary, and Samastipur, where the pressure on the soil is greatest, is decadent. The district suffered from two famines in the decade, but these famines do not appear to be responsible for any loss of population. The leading factor appears to be congestion of the population and consequent quickening of emigration. The number of emigrants is 58 per cent. greater than in 1901, and is little less than that returned for Muzaffarpur.

373. In 1901 Orissa recorded an advance of 7 per cent., but the percentage of increase is now reduced to 1 per cent. owing to floods, scarcity, increased emigration and epidemics of disease. The most progressive district is Cuttack, where however the rate of growth is only  $2\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. The Sadar and Kendrapara subdivisions have both developed, but there is a decline in the Jajpur subdivision, which suffered from scarcity and lost heavily by the emigration of able-bodied labourers. Owing to the facilities afforded by the railway, the exodus of the district-born in search of more remunerative employment is becoming an annual occurrence and the number of emigrants has risen rapidly: they now account for 173,000, or 8 per cent. of the district population.

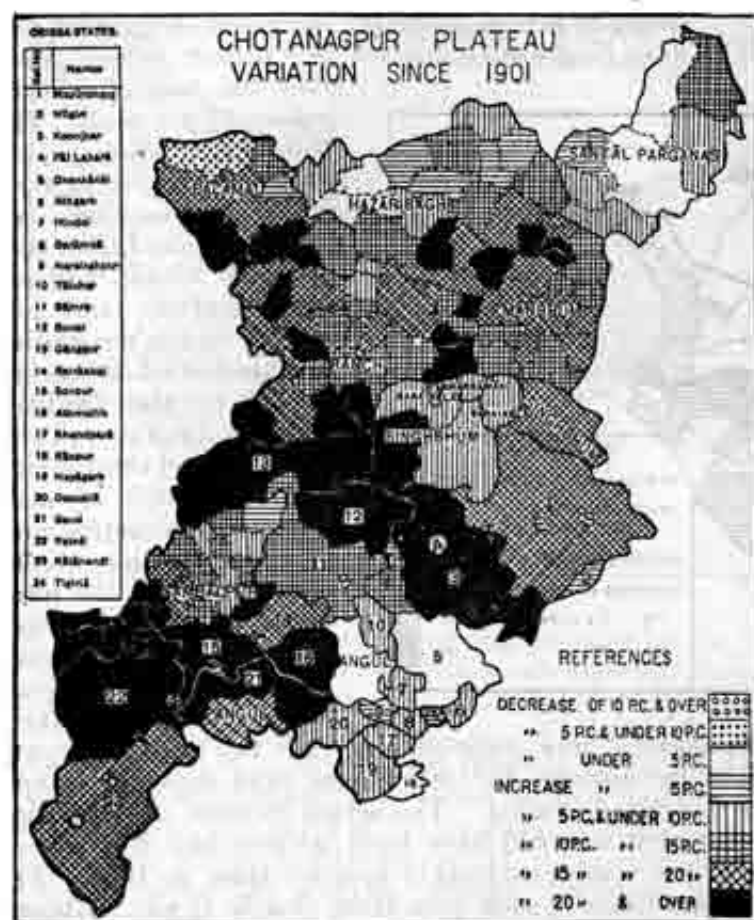


In Puri the course of the seasons was unpropitious, and the natural growth of population was checked by disease. In 1908 famine was declared in two localities, and elsewhere distress prevailed. The actual increase of population was a little over  $\frac{1}{2}$  per cent., but it would have been greater had it not been that the number of pilgrims was considerably smaller than in 1901. The effect of short crops and hard times is seen even more clearly in the Balasore district, where cholera synchronized with scarcity and the pressure of high prices stimulated emigration. There is progress in the north, but the centre of the district is stationary, and there is a loss of population throughout the south. The explanation of these variations lies in the fact that emigration is most active in the centre and south, where also the people suffered most from floods and drought, the consequent destruction of their crops, and a virulent epidemic of cholera. The north of the district had not the same calamitous seasons to face, and instead of sending out emigrants, attracted new settlers.

374. No part of Bihar and Orissa has developed so rapidly as the Chota Nagpur Plateau, which is now more populous by 14 per cent. than it was in 1901. This large increase is partly due to more complete enumeration in tracts, difficult of access, where literate enumerators are comparatively scarce, and partly to natural growth among prolific aboriginal races. They lead simple healthy lives, and are not fettered by caste restrictions, or troubled by prudential considerations regarding their ability to support offspring without inconvenience to themselves. The land, though infertile and unable to support any great population, is still very thinly peopled. There is ample room for a larger population, and the inhabitants are in any case not entirely dependent on their crops, for they subsist largely on jungle products. The greatest increase has been recorded in the Orissa States, where the population exceeds that returned in 1901 by 20 per cent. Part of the increase must be ascribed to the greater accuracy of the present census, but apart from that there has been a remarkable development owing to various causes, such as the natural fecundity of the people, recovery from famine, the influx of cultivators attracted by the low rents charged for cultivable waste or imperfectly cultivated land, and the opening up of the country by the railway. At the previous census only three States recorded a decrease, viz., Baud, Sonpur and Patna, where it was directly due to famine in 1900 and consequent emigration. All three States have now increments, viz., 27 per cent. in Sonpur, 28 per cent.



in Baud and 47 per cent. in Patna, figures which serve to show the extent



to which they lost from the famine of 1900 (by deaths, desertions and reduced fecundity), and how greatly they have expanded during a series of good years. The only States which have deteriorated since the last census are Dhenkanal and Ranpur; the former suffered from scarcity and disease in 1908, while both have lost by emigration. Mayurbhanj and Keonjhar on the north-east have advanced rapidly, and the same is the case with Gangpur and Bonai on the north-west: the phenomenal increase (52 per cent.) returned for Bonai is due partly

to improved enumeration and partly to immigration and the development of its resources. The central States and also the western States near Sambalpur have made rapid progress. The least advance has been made by the south-eastern States in the neighbourhood of Cuttack and Balasore.

375. The district of Manbhum is now more populous by 19 per cent. than it was in 1901, this large addition to its population being mainly due to the expansion of the collieries. Two-fifths of the total increase has taken place in thanas Jheria and Topchanchi, which contain most of the coal mines: in the rest of the district the ratio of increase averages 13 per cent., and is very evenly distributed. The progress made by Ranchi (17 per cent.) is all the more noticeable, because it has lost heavily by the exodus of its inhabitants to centres where employment is better paid than it is locally: the number of emigrants is now 305,309 or 22 per cent. of the total population. All parts of the district have gained ground, but the greatest advance has been made by the Gumla subdivision (in the south): the gain here is the result of a movement from the north and centre of the district to undeveloped tracts where land is available on easy terms. The percentage of increase ( $16\frac{1}{2}$  per cent.) in Sambalpur is nearly as great as in Ranchi. In 1901 this district was suffering from the effects of the famine of 1900, but it quickly recovered, and the present increase is the consequence of revived prosperity, expansion of cultivation and, in some areas, improved enumeration. Singhbhum owes its increase to the natural fecundity of its people during a series of good years, and to the development of the district by the railway and industrial enterprise; but for the number (105,634 or 15 per cent. of the total population) of the district-born that were temporarily or permanently resident outside its boundaries at the time of the census, its growth would have been greater. In Palamau the decade witnessed a recovery from the effects of famine, and the steady progress made by the district resulted in an increase of 11 per cent. There has been a decline in the north, which is more apparent than

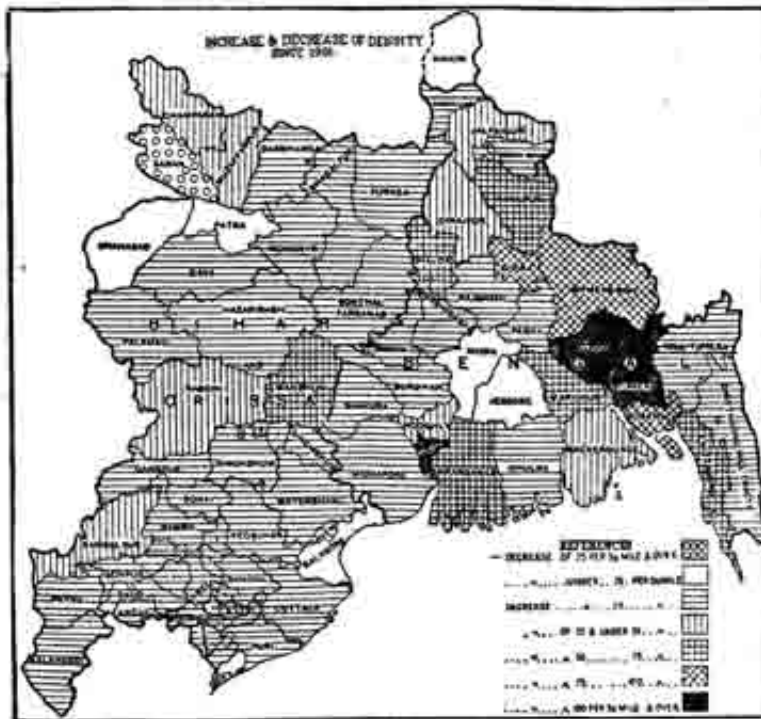
real, and a rapid expansion in the thinly peopled tracts to the south. Hazaribagh has a natural increase, to which all parts of the district contribute except two thanas to the west, which suffered from scarcity in 1908 and have declined slightly.

376. The population of the Sonthal Parganas, which grew by 3 per cent. between 1891 and 1901, has a slightly accelerated rate of growth (4 per cent.). Its inhabitants are pouring out, in ever increasing numbers, in search of employment elsewhere, and this drain, temporary though it mostly is, affects the census results very materially. The number of persons born in the Sonthal Parganas who were enumerated outside it was over one-sixth of the total population: had their number been the same as in 1901, there would have been an increase of 9·3 per cent. Angul, which was affected by scarcity in 1908, has a gain of only 4 per cent.; while there is a slight decline in the Angul subdivision, the Khondmals have developed rapidly, thus reversing the results of the last census. The Chota Nagpur States have a natural increase of 5 per cent., which calls for no remarks.

377. The State of Sikkim, which grew by 94 per cent. between 1891 and 1901, now records another addition of 49 per cent. The explanation of this large increase is partly the incompleteness of the previous census, partly continued immigration from Nepal, and partly the natural fecundity of the people, of whom three-fourths are Nepalese.

VARIATION OF POPULATION IN RELATION TO DENSITY.

378. Statistics of the variation in the population of districts since 1872 in



relation to density will be found in Subsidiary Table I at the end of this chapter, while statistics showing the variation since 1891 (both actual and proportional) of thanas classified according to density are given in Subsidiary Table IV. In Bengal it is noticeable that during the last 20 years the addition of population in the most populous areas has been greater than in the most sparsely populated. In the last decade the gain in areas

with a density of 1,050 or more has been nearly equal to that of thanas where there are under 150 persons per square mile, while in the previous decade it was 405,000 more. This is due partly to the influx of population into the cities of West and Central Bengal, and partly to natural growth in the fertile rice-growing areas of East Bengal. Here, for instance, Dacca, which in 1901 had 952 persons to the square mile, registers a gain of 12 per cent., and Tippera, which had 848, of nearly 15 per cent. To East Bengal the remarks recorded by Mr. Beverley in the Bengal Census Report of 1872 are specially applicable: "In a country like Bengal, where a large proportion of the land yields two crops a year, where the diet of the people consists almost entirely of rice, where there are no preventive checks to the increase of the

population, and where the only positive check is disease, we must expect to find a population far in excess of what we are accustomed to meet with in the West. An Indian population, indeed, would seem to be limited only by the extent of cultivable land in each district."

In Bihar and Orissa the greatest expansion of population has taken place in the most sparsely inhabited areas, *i.e.*, thanas with under 150 persons per square mile: these thanas all lie in the Chota Nagpur Plateau and have grown by 20 per cent. since 1901. The increase is due to the natural growth of the prolific and hardy races of the plateau, and to the spread of cultivation in parts where the land lay waste for want of cultivators. At the other end of the scale, *i.e.*, in thanas containing 1,050 persons or more per square mile, there was a loss in 1901 and again in 1911. Both North and South Bihar have shared in this loss, but since 1901 it has been far greater in North Bihar. In several localities in this latter tract it appears that the limit which the land can support has been reached, and that the people are transferring themselves to places where the pressure on the soil is not so heavy.

379. The stage of congestion appears to have reached in parts of three districts, *viz.*, Muzaffarpur, Darbhanga and Saran, where the dependence of the people on their harvests is not relieved by the presence of any large industries. The cultivation and manufacture of indigo formerly furnished employment to many thousands, but this industry is only a shadow of what it was. The area under indigo cultivation in these three districts was 156,400 acres in 1901, but had fallen to 51,200 acres in 1910-11, and it may be estimated that 50,000 persons had to find employment in other directions. The monopoly of agriculture and the increase of population have reduced the cultivators' holdings to a small size. In Darbhanga and Saran the settlement has shown that the average size of the cultivators' holding is only a little over  $3\frac{1}{2}$  acres which is, however, well above the area ( $2\frac{1}{2}$  acres) of a subsistence holding, *i.e.*, a holding from the produce of which an agricultural family can manage to subsist in *normal* years. The estates of the landlords are, moreover, generally exiguous, owing to the extreme length to which subdivision of proprietary interests has been pushed. These three districts are the home of petty proprietors often in little better circumstances than the cultivators, who have in many cases been forced from their lands to make room for them. In Muzaffarpur there are, on the average,  $5\frac{1}{2}$  estates to a village, each proprietor holding 12 acres, of which only 9 acres are cultivated. In Saran the average area held by a proprietor is 14 acres, but shares are so small that a fraction equal to a 59-millionth part of an estate is recognised. In Darbhanga the estates are far larger, nearly half the district being included in the property of the Maharaja of Darbhanga or other large landlords, but the average is as low as 8 acres in the Samastipur subdivision, where the proprietor is little more than an ordinary cultivator. The petty proprietor has hitherto been able to meet the wants of his growing family and the further subdivision of property it entails by raising his tenants' rents or by ousting them from their lands and bringing them under his own cultivation; but the record-of-rights which has now been prepared is rendering this process more difficult.

Fortunately the pressure on the soil is relieved by emigration. In addition to those who have permanently left the district and made homes elsewhere, large numbers migrate annually during the cold weather to work in the mills or on the roads, railways and fields elsewhere. Their remittances contribute to the support of their households while they are away, and on their return in the hot weather the family's resources are augmented by their savings. In the famine year of 1896-97 over 15 lakhs were paid by money-order in Muzaffarpur, and a very large proportion represented remittances sent by emigrants to their homes. The amount thus remitted has been more than doubled, the total value of money-orders paid in the district during 1901 amounting to 34 lakhs of rupees. The amount remitted by money-order in Saran is still greater, aggregating nearly  $51\frac{1}{2}$  lakhs in the latter year: altogether 17 lakhs, or one-third of the total, were paid in the first quarter of the year, when temporary emigration is most active, the average amount per money-order being Rs. 15.

SUBSIDIARY TABLE I.—VARIATION IN RELATION TO DENSITY, SINCE 1872.

DISTRICT AND NATURAL DIVISION.	PERCENTAGE OF VARIATION, INCREASE (+) OR DECREASE (-).				NET VARIATION, 1872-1911.	KHAN DENSITY PER SQUARE MILE.				
	1901-1911.	1891-1901.	1881-1891.	1872-1881.		1911.	1901.	1891.	1881.	1872.
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<b>BENGAL, BIHAR AND ORISSA.</b>	+ 67	+ 49	+ 75	+ 119	+ 347	433	405	386	359	321
<b>Bengal</b>	+ 80	+ 77	+ 75	+ 67	+ 335	551	510	473	440	412
WEST BENGAL	+ 28	+ 72	+ 40	- 28	+ 113	607	591	551	530	545
Durdwan	+ 04	+ 101	- 03	- 63	+ 35	373	370	317	318	372
Birbhum	+ 27	+ 139	+ 05	- 70	+ 99	334	312	334	352	388
Baokura	+ 30	+ 43	+ 27	+ 73	+ 176	434	326	408	397	370
Midnapore	+ 13	+ 60	+ 43	+ 171	+ 109	344	328	307	285	290
Hoojly	+ 39	+ 74	+ 67	- 124	- 26	310	302	370	331	342
Howrah	+ 109	+ 114	+ 131	+ 67	+ 484	1,320	1,388	1,437	1,334	1,347
CENTRAL BENGAL	+ 45	+ 52	+ 32	+ 113	+ 268	634	607	577	559	500
24-Parganas	+ 171	+ 29	+ 119	+ 69	+ 539	302	229	200	219	326
Calcutta	+ 27	+ 243	+ 114	- 23	+ 416	23,002	26,494	21,322	19,135	19,722
Nadia	- 34	0	- 12	+ 103	+ 64	360	334	369	425	636
Murshidabad	+ 39	+ 63	+ 30	+ 104	+ 130	640	622	584	572	547
Jessore	- 33	- 49	- 36	+ 333	+ 211	601	620	640	643	430
NORTH BENGAL	+ 80	+ 57	+ 41	+ 53	+ 251	522	484	458	440	418
Bajwahd	+ 14	+ 19	- 08	+ 19	+ 41	394	358	349	353	343
Dinajpur	+ 77	+ 77	+ 28	+ 09	+ 180	438	337	376	368	362
Jalpaiguri	+ 143	+ 107	+ 172	+ 390	+ 1166	309	269	252	196	143
Darjeeling	+ 86	+ 119	+ 493	+ 637	+ 1795	328	314	192	134	82
Hospur	+ 107	+ 42	- 15	- 26	+ 108	846	618	604	603	619
Boyer	+ 153	+ 119	+ 112	+ 79	+ 534	734	626	563	500	472
Jabna	+ 05	+ 43	+ 39	+ 62	+ 179	772	768	736	700	655
Malda	+ 139	+ 35	+ 142	+ 69	+ 485	439	464	430	374	326
Cooch Behar	+ 48	- 21	- 39	+ 132	+ 113	354	434	443	461	407
EAST BENGAL	+ 121	+ 105	+ 141	+ 170	+ 568	516	460	417	365	329
Khulna	+ 91	+ 84	+ 90	+ 37	+ 306	247	262	247	237	220
Dacca	+ 119	+ 106	+ 143	+ 143	+ 622	1,089	1,032	961	783	697
Mymensingh	+ 153	+ 127	+ 136	+ 239	+ 923	724	637	568	469	377
Faridpur	+ 87	+ 82	+ 99	+ 65	+ 377	634	716	716	549	394
Backergunge	+ 60	+ 84	+ 132	+ 07	+ 287	332	494	464	400	407
Tippera	+ 147	+ 189	+ 177	+ 79	+ 731	972	848	712	608	569
Noakhali	+ 140	+ 131	+ 220	- 23	+ 549	730	634	614	499	411
Chittagong	+ 110	+ 49	+ 129	+ 94	+ 378	606	543	518	444	429
Chittagong Hill Tracts	+ 323	+ 162	+ 86	+ 469	+ 1210	30	34	31	30	14
Hill Tippera	+ 393	+ 261	+ 437	+ 1717	+ 5512	96	42	34	33	9
<b>Bihar and Orissa</b>	+ 51	+ 18	+ 78	+ 164	+ 362	344	327	321	299	252
<b>NORTH BIHAR</b>	+ 19	+ 01	+ 89	+ 140	+ 232	646	634	633	598	524
Barau	- 49	- 22	+ 74	+ 103	+ 103	893	896	919	859	774
Champaran	+ 65	- 27	+ 80	+ 193	+ 325	540	507	427	408	408
Muzaffarpur	+ 22	+ 16	+ 50	+ 150	+ 286	307	308	394	551	740
Darbhanga	+ 08	+ 39	+ 83	+ 231	+ 371	672	670	627	706	634
Shahjpur	+ 34	+ 28	+ 33	+ 74	+ 172	408	494	481	468	432
Buxard	+ 60	- 26	+ 53	+ 78	+ 159	398	378	300	370	343
<b>SOUTH BIHAR</b>	+ 07	- 36	+ 27	+ 109	+ 105	515	512	531	517	466
Jains	- 09	- 34	+ 10	+ 126	+ 32	778	765	857	849	754
Gaya	+ 42	- 37	+ 08	+ 91	+ 109	485	437	454	451	412
Shahabad	- 49	- 43	+ 36	+ 149	+ 91	427	443	471	445	391
Monghyr	+ 31	+ 18	+ 24	+ 82	+ 175	344	327	519	302	463
<b>ORISSA</b>	+ 09	+ 71	+ 68	+ 177	+ 358	509	504	471	441	374
Cuttack	+ 34	+ 60	+ 79	+ 162	+ 367	677	598	550	491	422
Balaso	- 17	+ 77	+ 32	+ 227	+ 367	308	510	478	494	370
Puri	+ 06	+ 76	+ 63	+ 134	+ 323	410	407	379	356	308
<b>GHOTA NAGPUR PLATEAU</b>	+ 1401	+ 64	+ 143	+ 341	+ 561	186	163	153	134	100
Hazaribagh	+ 94	+ 17	+ 54	+ 431	+ 669	184	185	196	157	110
Ranchi	+ 168	+ 52	+ 47	+ 391	+ 706	195	167	159	149	114
Palaman	+ 109	+ 28	+ 32	+ 300	+ 622	140	126	121	112	86
Manbhum	+ 189	+ 91	+ 126	+ 290	+ 586	373	314	208	255	198
Singbhum	+ 122	+ 129	+ 207	+ 424	+ 1182	178	158	140	117	92
South Parganas	+ 40	+ 32	+ 119	+ 243	+ 493	345	331	321	297	230
Angul	+ 39	+ 124	+ 57	+ 1022	+ 1545	119	114	101	96	47
Sambalpur	+ 165	+ 32	+ 177	+ 252	+ 689	195	167	162	143	115
Orissa Feudatory States	+ 196	+ 93	+ 259	+ 411	+ 1327	131	113	102	92	54
Chota Nagpur States	+ 54	+ 91	+ 195	+ 169	+ 505	247	224	215	190	134
<b>Sikkim</b>	+ 490	+ 938	...	...	...	31	21	11	...	...
<b>CITIES--</b>										
Calcutta	+ 57	+ 243	+ 114	- 23	+ 416	23,002	26,494	21,322	19,135	19,722
Howrah	+ 126	+ 352	+ 294	+ 40	+ 1129	10,283	18,473	13,870	10,648	9,828
Coochpur-Chitpur	+ 182	+ 297	+ 193	+ 28	+ 899	14,224	12,258	9,669	8,090	7,800
Manicktollah	+ 660	+ 159	- 413	- 108	- 04	10,731	9,470	8,254	14,072	15,787
Garden Reach	+ 608	+ 19	+ 1342	+ 349	+ 3893	13,222	8,297	6,212	2,664	2,723
Dacca	+ 210	+ 109	+ 47	+ 142	+ 562	15,917	13,157	11,967	11,491	10,058
Patna	+ 10	- 184	- 23	+ 74	- 143	15,124	14,376	12,259	12,942	17,658
Gaya	- 300	- 113	+ 32	+ 142	- 253	6,240	8,911	10,048	9,852	6,353
Bhaugapur	- 19	+ 98	+ 12	+ 44	+ 137	8,261	8,418	7,678	7,362	7,364

## SUBSIDIARY TABLE II.—VARIATION IN NATURAL POPULATION.

DISTRICT AND NATURAL DIVISION.	POPULATION IN 1911.				POPULATION IN 1901.				VARIATION PER CENT. (1901-1911) IN NATURAL POPULATION. INCREASE (+) DECREASE (-)
	Actual population.	Immigrants.	Emigrants.	Natural population.	Actual population.	Immigrants.	Emigrants.	Natural population.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<b>BENGAL, BIHAR AND ORISSA.</b>	<b>84,740,935</b>	--	--	<b>84,820,761</b>	<b>79,439,033</b>	--	--	<b>79,320,977</b>	+ 6.9
<i>Bengal</i> *	<b>46,305,642</b>	<b>1,970,778</b>	<b>583,610</b>	<b>44,918,474</b>	<b>42,881,776</b>	--	--	<b>41,740,887</b>	+ 7.6
<b>WEST BENGAL</b>	<b>8,467,314</b>	<b>441,566</b>	<b>413,585</b>	<b>8,439,333</b>	<b>8,240,076</b>	<b>345,077</b>	<b>331,170</b>	<b>8,228,169</b>	+ 2.6
Bardham	1,526,371	179,500	126,336	1,495,511	1,339,710	156,347	94,414	1,488,783	+ 1.1
Birbhum	923,473	69,079	50,309	932,253	902,360	63,006	47,361	899,038	+ 3.7
Bankura	1,138,670	40,182	173,394	1,167,452	1,116,411	82,334	146,318	1,133,393	+ 2.8
Midnapore	8,221,301	73,633	171,773	8,217,261	8,785,114	40,881	134,340	8,277,488	+ 1.5
Hooghly	1,090,097	188,309	149,509	1,088,906	1,049,041	159,714	123,861	1,032,188	+ 2.9
Howrah	943,802	189,364	40,322	793,910	850,314	144,830	38,396	793,930	+ 6.9
<b>CENTRAL BENGAL</b>	<b>8,078,555</b>	<b>1,006,226</b>	<b>300,028</b>	<b>7,372,354</b>	<b>7,730,775</b>	<b>761,048</b>	<b>230,245</b>	<b>7,199,974</b>	+ 2.4
24-Parganas	2,434,104	401,633	129,246	3,171,728	3,078,339	295,387	118,060	1,971,902	+ 10.1
Calcutta	896,067	829,345	88,148	844,562	847,290	847,189	38,280	828,977	+ 5.5
Nadia	1,617,846	73,155	133,379	1,679,972	1,838,281	50,010	123,737	1,723,008	+ 2.5
Murshidabad	1,372,274	73,571	107,293	1,408,568	1,333,194	71,096	78,696	1,246,784	+ 4.7
Jessore	1,726,284	50,772	73,312	1,771,008	1,818,133	47,038	71,134	1,837,233	+ 3.6
<b>NORTH BENGAL</b>	<b>10,731,254</b>	<b>925,820</b>	<b>131,876</b>	<b>9,937,310</b>	<b>9,940,594</b>	--	--	<b>9,335,170</b>	+ 6.5
Rajshahi	1,460,587	95,087	33,726	1,424,948	1,460,584	79,179	33,613	1,406,017	+ 1.4
Dhaka	1,947,869	197,643	33,480	1,214,390	1,264,945	122,032	17,163	1,432,032	+ 4.3
Jalpaiguri	862,669	265,258	30,999	938,291	786,398	184,222	17,426	518,529	+ 7.0
Darjeeling	855,650	117,168	10,416	158,808	349,117	244,391	5,664	130,420	+ 21.8
Naogaon	2,385,230	179,490	61,333	2,268,376	2,134,116	108,416	54,169	2,086,861	+ 8.1
Bohga	883,567	63,148	32,376	948,995	838,504	27,897	18,756	831,323	+ 13.8
Pabna	1,478,296	64,900	102,667	1,466,323	1,431,399	49,046	44,805	1,426,660	+ 2.1
Malda	1,094,139	118,871	41,508	999,796	881,724	97,887	35,764	810,611	+ 14.3
Cooch Behar	392,922	55,142	36,236	374,048	368,374	44,342	32,342	324,674	+ 3.5
<b>EAST BENGAL</b>	<b>19,028,519</b>	<b>309,591</b>	<b>379,130</b>	<b>19,098,058</b>	<b>16,970,331</b>	<b>251,261</b>	<b>260,504</b>	<b>16,979,574</b>	+ 12.5
Chota	1,896,786	34,730	39,847	1,331,883	1,333,043	85,717	35,882	1,312,900	+ 11.4
Dacca	2,960,402	114,321	177,903	2,032,684	2,444,425	60,209	129,467	2,387,673	+ 12.5
Myrmongah	4,228,422	161,296	146,093	4,322,020	2,018,102	118,010	80,445	3,893,637	+ 16.4
Faridpur	2,121,914	26,323	81,469	2,107,599	1,961,945	73,483	76,810	1,994,270	+ 7.8
Backergunge	2,429,911	61,418	45,069	2,412,568	2,291,748	59,085	30,019	2,270,779	+ 8.2
Tippora	2,430,138	60,350	65,797	2,463,333	2,117,091	56,752	56,429	2,116,768	+ 16.5
Naokhal	1,302,090	22,944	48,348	1,337,334	1,141,728	19,343	23,543	1,158,966	+ 14.9
Chittagong	1,304,433	14,701	99,337	1,299,399	1,259,299	11,539	106,037	1,147,348	+ 9.2
Chittagong Hill Tracts	333,820	8,298	1,371	148,806	134,782	8,964	1,871	119,789	+ 24.2
Hill Tippera	229,513	81,663	1,372	149,222	178,232	83,394	153	129,363	+ 15.2
<b>Bihar and Orissa</b>	<b>38,435,293</b>	<b>449,712</b>	<b>11,916,706</b>	<b>39,902,287</b>	<b>36,557,267</b>	--	--	<b>37,580,090</b>	+ 6.2
<b>NORTH BIHAR</b>	<b>14,102,314</b>	<b>310,517</b>	<b>582,513</b>	<b>14,374,310</b>	<b>13,834,300</b>	--	--	<b>13,985,053</b>	+ 2.8
Saran	2,299,778	46,934	284,261	2,527,045	2,408,814	56,424	244,024	2,507,334	+ 2.7
Champarn	1,306,296	95,418	47,232	1,869,639	1,790,463	106,781	36,077	1,719,739	+ 8.2
Muzaffarpur	2,845,514	73,286	194,814	2,987,012	2,746,130	87,702	142,227	2,831,965	+ 5.1
Darbhanga	3,929,682	86,744	179,060	3,019,000	2,912,411	90,580	111,512	2,933,448	+ 2.9
Bhagalpur	2,124,516	135,907	187,887	2,171,308	2,088,933	107,338	124,305	2,100,790	+ 3.1
Purnea	1,999,637	198,889	38,448	1,829,216	1,877,329	106,003	37,418	1,899,748	+ 1.2
<b>SOUTH BIHAR</b>	<b>7,767,682</b>	<b>158,371</b>	<b>645,604</b>	<b>8,254,915</b>	<b>7,716,175</b>	<b>180,809</b>	<b>521,890</b>	<b>8,077,266</b>	+ 2.2
Patna	1,809,831	95,106	173,915	1,691,440	1,624,743	25,440	142,816	1,684,618	+ 0.4
Gaya	2,149,498	61,594	204,364	2,303,668	2,039,933	46,114	172,469	2,167,288	+ 5.3
Shahabad	1,865,680	60,607	178,296	1,961,549	1,969,696	63,012	100,712	2,028,498	+ 2.8
Monghyr	2,132,895	98,139	239,704	2,279,658	2,068,804	84,009	184,110	2,166,354	+ 5.2
<b>ORISSA</b>	<b>4,188,109</b>	<b>59,955</b>	<b>231,502</b>	<b>4,359,656</b>	<b>4,151,239</b>	<b>69,585</b>	<b>151,654</b>	<b>4,233,308</b>	+ 3
Cuttack	2,100,130	33,244	173,874	2,248,559	2,060,213	23,044	116,729	2,144,128	+ 4.9
Balasore	1,034,598	22,429	72,476	1,065,515	1,073,642	29,467	51,763	1,095,938	+ 0.2
Puri	1,023,402	43,440	35,220	1,016,483	1,017,284	43,033	28,391	992,242	+ 2.2
<b>CHOTA NAGPUR PLATEAU.</b>	<b>12,377,188</b>	<b>435,105</b>	<b>955,612</b>	<b>12,897,695</b>	<b>10,855,543</b>	--	--	<b>11,284,473</b>	+ 14.3
Hamirbagh	1,288,809	41,631	144,341	1,391,919	1,177,961	41,883	150,368	1,298,434	+ 8.2
Hanchi	1,387,210	33,648	305,309	1,639,182	1,187,925	22,078	370,351	1,431,120	+ 15.9
Palaman	687,267	95,030	37,481	688,418	610,600	28,838	32,210	612,372	+ 14.0
Manbhum	1,647,576	142,776	119,492	1,529,392	1,301,364	62,119	135,972	1,375,317	+ 10.5
Rohtas	684,204	49,858	105,634	730,170	613,579	28,890	63,330	646,819	+ 17.1
South Parganas	1,882,972	106,697	221,583	2,097,459	1,806,727	111,533	220,008	1,924,280	+ 9.0
Angul	199,441	18,646	81,117	201,200	191,911	21,322	6,478	176,457	+ 14.2
Sambalpur	744,193	43,401	173,527	874,319	838,992	47,871	30,894	872,015	+ 30.1
Orissa Feudatory States	3,796,243	290,740	73,397	3,979,190	3,173,390	231,943	35,608	2,935,048	+ 17.7
Chota Nagpur States	148,646	18,738	1,888	121,296	141,079	14,727	2,429	129,771	+ 1.8
<b>Sikkim</b>	<b>87,920</b>	<b>29,835</b>	<b>3,443</b>	<b>61,528</b>	<b>59,014</b>	<b>26,004</b>	<b>2,188</b>	<b>36,198</b>	+ 70.0

\* Column 4 includes 41,396 persons enumerated in other provinces and 30,024 persons enumerated outside India, who were returned as born in Bengal, but whose district of birth is not known.

† Column 4 includes 15,711 persons enumerated outside India, who were returned as born in Bihar and Orissa, but whose district of birth is not known.

‡ Owing to changes of area in Sambalpur, the Orissa Feudatory and Chota Nagpur States, figures for immigrants and emigrants are not available and proportional figures have had to be taken.

SUBSIDIARY TABLE III.—COMPARISON WITH VITAL STATISTICS.

DISTRICT AND NATURAL DIVISION.	IN 1901-1910 TOTAL NUMBER OF—		NUMBER PER CENT. OF POPULATION OF 1901 OF—		EXCESS (+) OR DEFICIENCY (-) OF BIRTHS OVER DEATHS.		INCREASE (+) OR DECREASE (-) OF POPULATION OF 1911 COMPARED WITH 1901.	
	Births.	Deaths.	Births.	Deaths.	Actual number.	Proportional figures.	Natural population.	Actual population.
1	2	3	4	5	6 (a)	6 (b)	7	8
<b>BENGAL, BIHAR AND ORISSA.*</b>	<b>29,351,442</b>	<b>25,373,322</b>	<b>38'10</b>	<b>33'80</b>	<b>+3,978,120</b>	<b>+ 8'30</b>	<b>+ 4,667,479</b>	<b>+4,552,293</b>
<b>Bengal†</b>	<b>15,797,344</b>	<b>13,728,298</b>	<b>37'60</b>	<b>32'67</b>	<b>+2,069,048</b>	<b>+ 4'93</b>	<b>+ 3,098,714</b>	<b>+3,312,532</b>
<b>WEST BENGAL</b>	<b>2,758,647</b>	<b>2,665,820</b>	<b>33'48</b>	<b>32'35</b>	<b>+ 92,827</b>	<b>+ 1'13</b>	<b>+ 213,164</b>	<b>+ 227,238</b>
Burdwan	494,407	214,269	32'98	33'37	- 30,182	- 1'31	+ 16,328	+ 3,633
Birbhum	323,151	309,402	33'70	33'61	+ 18,599	+ 2'05	+ 32,961	+ 35,193
Bansberia	400,898	342,418	33'98	30'67	+ 56,176	+ 8'21	+ 34,477	+ 32,559
Midnapore	831,370	878,208	33'39	31'42	+ 54,963	+ 1'97	+ 43,850	+ 32,087
Hooghly	230,248	268,064	31'49	34'30	- 35,718	- 3'41	+ 21,128	+ 41,066
Howrah	379,677	363,979	32'91	30'32	+ 16,696	+ 1'99	+ 64,620	+ 62,968
<b>CENTRAL BENGAL</b>	<b>2,615,322</b>	<b>2,652,421</b>	<b>33'83</b>	<b>34'31</b>	<b>- 37,099</b>	<b>- 0'48</b>	<b>+ 172,380</b>	<b>+ 347,780</b>
24 Parganas	666,623	667,054	32'07	27'28	+ 99,569	+ 4'79	+ 199,774	+ 335,743
Calcutta	140,199	223,723	17'72	34'98	- 143,524	- 17'16	+ 17,890	+ 48,271
Nadia	661,654	644,786	39'30	38'94	+ 3,668	+ 0'26	+ 43,026	+ 40,432
Mumtazabad	636,762	485,624	41'76	36'28	+ 73,108	+ 3'46	+ 63,502	+ 39,093
Jessore	590,965	690,214	32'54	38'41	- 70,181	- 2'87	+ 65,450	+ 64,891
<b>CENTRAL BENGAL (EXCLUDING CALCUITA).</b>	<b>2,465,123</b>	<b>2,356,688</b>	<b>35'81</b>	<b>34'24</b>	<b>+ 108,435</b>	<b>+ 1'57</b>	<b>+ 145,280</b>	<b>+ 299,509</b>
<b>NORTH BENGAL‡</b>	<b>3,789,336</b>	<b>3,398,633</b>	<b>40'43</b>	<b>36'24</b>	<b>+ 392,703</b>	<b>+ 4'19</b>	<b>+ 582,768</b>	<b>+ 764,682</b>
Rajshahi	613,340	362,074	41'99	39'63	+ 31,368	+ 2'14	+ 19,229	+ 20,003
Dinajpur	684,391	639,765	43'98	40'77	+ 44,626	+ 2'81	+ 62,366	+ 121,018
Jalpaiguri	292,590	296,234	27'23	28'96	- 4,644	- 0'59	+ 42,862	+ 110,334
Darjeeling	95,434	95,969	34'29	35'33	- 10,535	- 4'33	+ 28,368	+ 16,433
Bangur	864,339	734,523	60'31	34'11	+ 132,312	+ 0'30	+ 169,314	+ 231,919
Bogra	316,403	255,473	41'76	29'92	+ 100,932	+ 1'93	+ 114,832	+ 130,063
Patna	1476,677	147,915	33'54	24'23	+ 11,238	+ 0'79	+ 29,692	+ 7,191
Madia	411,874	218,390	36'71	33'54	+ 95,484	+ 1'17	+ 116,394	+ 122,453
Cooh Behar	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
<b>EAST BENGAL‡</b>	<b>8,834,039</b>	<b>5,613,422</b>	<b>39'79</b>	<b>30'07</b>	<b>+1,620,617</b>	<b>+ 9'92</b>	<b>+ 2,069,711</b>	<b>+1,972,832</b>
Khulna	501,600	408,420	49'02	29'59	+ 93,080	+ 7'43	+ 198,874	+ 115,723
Dacca	1,066,228	806,988	40'23	30'32	+ 259,228	+ 9'90	+ 335,061	+ 315,967
Mymensingh	1,474,961	1,006,842	37'70	23'70	+ 470,109	+ 13'00	+ 638,365	+ 604,320
Faridpur	780,741	679,181	40'90	34'90	+ 101,560	+ 3'30	+ 153,760	+ 169,971
Backergunge	992,960	792,122	40'40	34'61	+ 192,798	+ 5'79	+ 141,769	+ 137,139
Tippura	810,665	535,089	38'28	27'17	+ 277,578	+ 15'11	+ 249,707	+ 312,147
Noakhali	327,328	361,274	46'19	31'67	+ 145,754	+ 14'52	+ 171,866	+ 160,362
Chittagong	344,688	424,176	40'52	31'34	+ 120,313	+ 8'01	+ 141,611	+ 153,163
Chittagong Hill Tracts	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Hill Tippura	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
<b>Bihar and Orissa‡</b>	<b>13,854,098</b>	<b>11,645,026</b>	<b>41'01</b>	<b>35'23</b>	<b>+1,909,072</b>	<b>+ 8'78</b>	<b>+ 1,758,037</b>	<b>+1,239,761</b>
<b>NORTH BIHAR</b>	<b>5,592,915</b>	<b>4,892,069</b>	<b>40'43</b>	<b>35'36</b>	<b>+ 700,846</b>	<b>+ 5'07</b>	<b>+ 389,257</b>	<b>+ 268,014</b>
Baran	968,378	979,477	40'13	40'30	- 8,999	- 0'37	- 70,270	- 119,036
Champaran	767,180	664,389	43'63	32'68	+ 162,841	+ 10'19	+ 140,940	+ 117,992
Muzaffarpur	1,175,654	979,101	42'68	32'21	+ 200,553	+ 7'27	+ 149,077	+ 93,284
Darbhanga	1,182,742	979,263	39'99	32'40	+ 199,949	+ 6'55	+ 95,437	+ 17,071
Bhagalpur	605,633	702,902	38'56	32'63	+ 102,633	+ 4'91	+ 63,368	+ 30,585
Purnea	717,233	682,967	38'20	36'98	+ 84,266	+ 1'92	+ 22,474	+ 112,394
<b>SOUTH BIHAR</b>	<b>3,292,705</b>	<b>3,177,530</b>	<b>42'67</b>	<b>41'18</b>	<b>+ 115,175</b>	<b>+ 1'49</b>	<b>+ 177,659</b>	<b>+ 51,507</b>
Patna	680,680	771,713	40'63	47'50	- 111,633	- 6'87	+ 6,322	+ 15,111
Gaya	923,927	696,042	44'95	41'28	+ 69,885	+ 3'28	+ 113,280	+ 99,240
Shahabad	607,225	787,569	41'18	40'12	+ 19,743	+ 1'00	+ 57,147	+ 97,036
Mungryr	699,873	702,196	43'47	36'94	+ 127,177	+ 6'63	+ 112,604	+ 84,089
<b>ORISSA</b>	<b>1,624,448</b>	<b>1,515,872</b>	<b>39'13</b>	<b>36'52</b>	<b>+ 108,576</b>	<b>+ 2'61</b>	<b>+ 126,348</b>	<b>+ 36,870</b>
Cuttack	846,227	743,717	41'08	36'39	+ 98,610	+ 4'69	+ 104,431	+ 48,826
Balasore	404,776	404,719	37'98	37'70	+ 2,037	+ 0'19	+ 322	+ 18,074
Puri	371,845	361,436	36'36	33'43	+ 9,939	+ 0'97	+ 22,246	+ 9,118
<b>CHOTA NAGPUR PLATEAU‡</b>	<b>3,044,030</b>	<b>2,059,555</b>	<b>41'42</b>	<b>28'02</b>	<b>+ 984,475</b>	<b>+ 13'40</b>	<b>+ 1,049,062</b>	<b>+ 883,370</b>
Hazaibagh	548,164	378,943	46'63	32'17	+ 170,221	+ 14'45	+ 105,085	+ 110,449
Ranchi	529,194	332,740	44'53	28'01	+ 196,434	+ 16'54	+ 228,062	+ 190,591
Palamu	296,909	295,394	47'92	36'82	+ 86,593	+ 11'07	+ 60,846	+ 67,067
Manbhum	311,945	245,112	39'34	35'58	+ 166,833	+ 12'92	+ 143,075	+ 246,319
Singhbhum	237,226	139,941	37'08	32'81	+ 87,286	+ 14'22	+ 100,351	+ 50,815
South Parganna	678,927	488,258	37'92	26'98	+ 190,669	+ 10'24	+ 172,329	+ 73,236
Angul	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bambalpur	250,665	166,237	39'22	22'89	+ 164,428	+ 16'34	+ 202,304	+ 103,291
Orissa Feudatory States	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Chota Nagpur States	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

\* In the calculation for 1911 Province and natural division those areas for which figures are not available have been left out of account.

SUBSIDIARY TABLE III-A.—RATIOS OF BIRTHS, DEATHS, AND INCREASE.

YEAR.	BENGAL, BIHAR AND ORISSA.			BENGAL.			BIHAR AND ORISSA.		
	RATIO PER 1,000 OF POPULATION OF 1901.			RATIO PER 1,000 OF POPULATION OF 1901.			RATIO PER 1,000 OF POPULATION OF 1901.		
	Births.	Deaths.	Excess of births over deaths.	Births.	Deaths.	Excess of births over deaths.	Births.	Deaths.	Excess of births over deaths.
1901	392	315	+ 77	377	302	+ 75	412	321	+ 91
1902	409	327	+ 82	391	321	+ 70	421	321	+ 100
1903	397	327	+ 70	367	322	+ 45	420	326	+ 94
1904	424	329	+ 95	409	332	+ 77	460	325	+ 135
1905	400	321	+ 79	373	325	+ 48	423	322	+ 101
1906	381	323	+ 58	354	323	+ 31	415	327	+ 88
1907	381	327	+ 54	359	326	+ 33	410	329	+ 81
1908	384	321	+ 63	379	319	+ 60	391	317	+ 74
1909	395	321	+ 74	393	312	+ 81	397	322	+ 75
1910	386	325	+ 61	377	314	+ 63	423	326	+ 97
Average per annum for 10 years	397	323	+ 74	379	329	+ 50	421	321	+ 100
Average for 1905-1908	382	322	+ 60	368	328	+ 40	411	324	+ 87
Average for the remaining 6 years	404	329	+ 75	385	322	+ 63	428	329	+ 99

SUBSIDIARY TABLE IV.—VARIATION BY THANAS CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO DENSITY.

(a) ACTUAL VARIATION.

NATURAL DIVISION.	Decade.	VARIATION IN THANAS WITH A POPULATION PER SQUARE MILE AT COMMENCEMENT OF DECADE OF—								
		Under 150	150-200.	200-250.	250-300.	300-350.	350-400.	400-450.	450-500.	500 and over.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
<b>BENGAL, BIHAR AND ORISSA.</b>	1891 to 1901	+ 374,998	+ 532,342	+ 521,214	+ 599,360	+ 494,933	+ 544,012	+ 155,842	+ 449,766	
	1901 to 1911	+ 964,661	+ 508,224	+ 827,292	+ 246,343	+ 343,718	+ 280,792	+ 292,643	+ 235,110	
<b>Bengal</b>	1891 to 1911	+ 86,636	+ 251,218	+ 414,128	+ 620,486	+ 532,460	+ 463,964	+ 179,470	+ 491,743	
	1901 to 1911	+ 323,713	+ 184,005	+ 543,455	+ 260,379	+ 260,814	+ 215,916	+ 152,469	+ 317,589	
West Bengal	1891 to 1901	—	+ 24,075	+ 119,795	+ 166,777	+ 127,718	+ 9,015	+ 11,730	+ 100,677	
	1901 to 1911	—	+ 10,304	+ 23,874	+ 27,247	+ 8,170	+ 20,902	—	+ 101,462	
Central Bengal	1891 to 1901	—	+ 23,671	+ 29,810	+ 18,620	—	+ 44,426	+ 40,124	+ 229,362	
	1901 to 1911	+ 138,004	+ 23,023	+ 19,650	—	+ 37,842	+ 19,982	—	+ 72,276	
North Bengal	1891 to 1901	+ 81,758	+ 127,732	+ 96,915	+ 78,776	+ 117,874	+ 30,597	—	+ 21,140	
	1901 to 1911	+ 91,357	+ 60,120	+ 297,293	+ 110,644	+ 125,246	+ 36,700	—	+ 3,460	
East Bengal	1891 to 1901	+ 24,850	+ 65,720	+ 137,603	+ 375,311	+ 290,394	+ 388,757	+ 127,734	+ 140,364	
	1901 to 1911	+ 94,502	+ 100,339	+ 302,983	+ 160,240	+ 107,414	+ 91,023	+ 177,404	+ 149,221	
<b>Bihar and Orissa</b>	1891 to 1901	+ 288,382	+ 251,124	+ 107,088	—	—	—	—	—	
	1901 to 1911	+ 641,168	+ 324,219	+ 283,837	—	—	—	—	—	
North Bihar	1891 to 1901	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	1901 to 1911	—	+ 72,006	+ 89,670	+ 55,902	+ 47,632	+ 1,576	+ 64,233	—	
South Bihar	1891 to 1901	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	1901 to 1911	—	+ 48,659	+ 20,359	—	—	—	—	—	
Orissa	1891 to 1901	—	+ 27,824	+ 94,211	+ 34,740	+ 28,697	+ 36,610	+ 12,122	+ 30,24	
	1901 to 1911	—	+ 10,620	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Chota Nagpur Plateau	1891 to 1901	+ 388,362	+ 335,920	+ 75,264	+ 8,422	+ 17,112	—	—	—	
	1901 to 1911	+ 641,168	+ 192,725	+ 204,308	+ 17,782	+ 10,201	—	—	—	

SUBSIDIARY TABLE IV.—VARIATION BY THANAS CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO DENSITY—  
*concluded.*

(b) PROPORTIONAL VARIATION.

NATURAL DIVISION.	Decade.	VARIATION IN THANAS WITH A POPULATION PER SQUARE MILE AT COMMENCEMENT OF DECADE OF—							
		Under 150.	150—200.	200—300.	300—400.	400—500.	500—750.	750—900.	900—1,050.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<b>BENGAL, BIHAR AND ORISSA.</b>	1891 to 1901	+ 11.1	+ 6.2	+ 5.0	+ 4.3	+ 3.7	+ 4.6	+ 1.9	+ 5.8
	1901 to 1911	+ 20.6	+ 6.2	+ 7.5	+ 2.0	+ 2.3	+ 2.7	+ 2.5	+ 4.7
<b>Bengal</b> ...	1891 to 1901	+ 36.0	+ 13.1	+ 8.0	+ 6.6	+ 5.9	+ 7.4	+ 5.4	+ 11.6
	1901 to 1911	+ 22.0	+ 13.0	+ 10.4	+ 3.3	+ 2.6	+ 3.6	+ 2.6	+ 7.9
West Bengal	1891 to 1901	—	+ 4.3	+ 8.9	+ 2.7	+ 6.9	+ 2.6	+ 1.9	+ 10.1
	1901 to 1911	—	+ 4.3	+ 2.5	+ 1.2	+ 0.5	+ 2.6	+ 0.3	+ 8.2
Central Bengal	1891 to 1901	—	+ 41.0	+ 12.7	+ 0.9	+ 0.6	+ 2.3	+ 7.0	+ 15.6
	1901 to 1911	+ 14.3	+ 11.9	+ 7.4	+ 2.0	+ 1.0	+ 5.6	+ 3.9	+ 11.2
North Bengal	1891 to 1901	+ 67.4	+ 10.3	+ 4.8	+ 3.4	+ 4.3	+ 3.2	+ 0.3	+ 8.8
	1901 to 1911	+ 34.8	+ 9.1	+ 11.6	+ 5.8	+ 4.4	+ 4.7	+ 1.4	+ 2.1
East Bengal...	1891 to 1901	+ 17.3	+ 11.5	+ 12.8	+ 11.8	+ 10.3	+ 10.4	+ 5.1	+ 9.1
	1901 to 1911	+ 27.7	+ 20.7	+ 17.3	+ 11.4	+ 3.6	+ 3.1	+ 3.9	+ 8.0
<b>Bihar and Orissa</b>	1891 to 1901	+ 9.2	+ 4.2	+ 2.0	+ 0.5	+ 0.9	+ 1.4	+ 0.5	+ 4.9
	1901 to 1911	+ 20.0	+ 4.3	+ 5.0	+ 0.3	+ 2.0	+ 1.4	+ 2.5	+ 7.9
North Bihar	1891 to 1901	—	+ 0.9	+ 1.8	+ 0.2	+ 0.3	+ 1.8	+ 0.7	+ 3.9
	1901 to 1911	—	+ 10.8	+ 6.1	+ 2.3	+ 3.4	+ 0.1	+ 1.5	+ 7.3
South Bihar...	1891 to 1901	—	+ 9.5	+ 2.0	+ 3.4	+ 5.3	+ 1.5	+ 7.2	+ 11.0
	1901 to 1911	—	+ 4.3	+ 1.6	+ 3.2	+ 1.7	+ 0.2	+ 11.0	+ 14.3
Orissa	1891 to 1901	—	+ 7.1	+ 8.4	+ 6.3	+ 6.1	+ 4.9	+ 4.9	+ 7.3
	1901 to 1911	—	+ 2.3	+ 3.3	+ 0.5	+ 3.6	+ 6.7	+ 2.0	+ 13.9
Chota Nagpur Plateau	1891 to 1901	+ 9.2	+ 6.0	+ 5.4	+ 2.8	+ 7.1	—	—	+ 2.4
	1901 to 1911	+ 20.0	+ 4.1	+ 11.4	+ 5.1	+ 6.1	—	—	+ 44.9



## CHAPTER III.

## BIRTHPLACE.

380. This Chapter deals with the subject of migration and is based on the statistics of birthplace contained in Imperial Table XI. Supplementary statistics will be found in the following Subsidiary Tables at the end of the chapter :—

## INTRODUCTORY.

- Subsidiary Table I*—Shows the number of immigrants in each district.  
*Subsidiary Table II*—Shows the number of emigrants from each district.  
*Subsidiary Table III*—Gives proportional figures of migration to and from each district.  
*Subsidiary Table IV*—Shows the volume of migration between the natural divisions compared with 1901.  
*Subsidiary Table V*—Shows the volume of migration between Bengal, Bihar and Orissa, and other parts of India.  
*Subsidiary Table VI*—Shows migration to and from border districts.

381. Before proceeding to discuss the statistics, it may be explained that five different types of migration may be distinguished, viz.—

## TYPES OF MIGRATION.

(1) *Casual migration*, or the minor movements between adjacent villages. These affect the returns only when the villages in question happen to lie in different districts, being separated by some natural or artificial boundary. There is generally an excess of females in such cases owing to the fact that it is the common practice for Hindus to take a wife from another village, and that young married women often go to their parents' home for their first confinement.

(2) *Temporary migration*, due to journeys on business, visits to fairs and places of pilgrimage, and the temporary demand for labour created by the construction of new roads and railways. As an example of the manner in which this kind of migration affects the returns, it will suffice to mention the presence of a large body of pilgrims in Puri at the time when the census was held, and the collection of thousands of labourers for the construction of the Lower Ganges bridge works in the districts of Nadia and Pabna.

(3) *Periodic migration*, such as the annual migration which takes place in Bihar and Orissa. In this Province many thousands of labourers leave their homes during the cold weather in order to find employment elsewhere and rejoin their families after a few months when they have saved enough to satisfy their needs, if not their wishes. The movement may be from one part of a district to another, in which case there is no record of it in the returns. In other cases, however, the movement is from one district to another and the returns are materially affected. The number of persons who move from place to place in this way is often very large, e.g., 15,000 temporary labourers were engaged in cutting *rabi* crops in one thana of the Patna district when the census was taken.

(4) *Semi-permanent migration*—The people of one place reside and earn their living in another, but retain their connection with their own homes, where they leave their families and to which they return in their old age, and at more or less regular intervals in the meantime. This kind of migration is evidenced by the excess of males in the emigrant population, and is becoming more common as commerce and industry extend and the avenues open to labour or clerical employment grow wider.

(5) *Permanent migration*, i.e., where overcrowding drives people away, or the superior attractions of some other locality induce people to settle there.

In this case the sexes are more or less equally represented, the new colonists bringing their wives and families with them. It is most common in sparsely populated tracts, such as the Sundarbans, the Orissa States and the Brahma-putra *chars*, where there is plenty of cultivable land available at low rentals.

382. It must be clearly understood that the census merely shows the number of persons present in each locality on one day in the year. This fact is of especial importance in considering the statistics of migration, for the census is held at a time when the poorer classes, who furnish the bulk of migrants, have no special inducements to keep them at homes. By the beginning of March, when the census takes place, nearly all the crops are off the ground in Bihar and Chota Nagpur, and there is little or no work in the fields. The landless labourers and poorer cultivators begin to leave their homes in the cold weather, after the rice has been harvested, to find employment either on the land in districts where the harvest comes later, or on the roads and railways, in mines, mills, factories, docks, etc. The greatest exodus takes place in November and December, when there is a large demand for labour in reaping the winter rice crop of Bengal. Many return after December or January when that crop has been reaped, but others stay on in different kinds of employment. As a rule, there are few left after May, for they go back before the breaking of the rains to cultivate their own fields. If, therefore, the census was held in January, the number of those enumerated outside their own district would be greater, and if it was held in June it would be far smaller.

383. The movements of the people in the two Provinces dealt with in this Report present a sharp contrast, for Bengal gains largely by immigration, whereas emigration causes a heavy, though temporary, drain on Bihar and Orissa. In Bengal

the immigrants from other parts of India number 1,839,000, but it sends out only 553,000 emigrants. In Bihar and Orissa, on the other hand, there is a comparatively small influx from other Provinces, but the exodus of the native-born has attained very large dimensions. It receives an accession of only 410,000 from other parts of India, while it sends out 1,901,000 of its inhabitants. The contrast between conditions in the two Provinces is further illustrated by the marginal statement.

from which it will be seen that in Bengal immigrants are nearly four times as numerous as emigrants, while Bihar and Orissa has only 1 immigrant to every four emigrants.

384. The Bihari, swarthy aboriginal of Chota Nagpur and, to a minor extent, the Oriya are adventurous and strike far afield, but the Bengali favours neither distant provinces nor distant districts either within or outside Bengal. If we exclude those who were enumerated in contiguous districts of other Provinces, the aggregate of emigrants from Bengal is reduced to 270,000. Even within the ring-fence of his own Province, the Bengali does not care to go far away from his native village, though, wherever he goes, he enjoys much the same climate and finds himself among men of the same race and language. Those who were either temporarily or permanently resident at the time of the census in non-contiguous districts represented only 6 per mille of the population. On the other hand, in Bihar and Orissa, with its medley of races and languages and its great diversity of climate, the proportion of emigrants to contiguous districts is only about half of that returned for distant places.

385. Bengal gains no less than 1,087,000 persons by the balance of migration between it and Bihar and Orissa. The number of Bengali emigrants present in the latter Province at the time of the census was only

CONDITIONS AT THE TIME OF THE CENSUS.

GENERAL RESULTS.

	NO. PER MILE OF POPULATION.	
	Bengal.	Bihar and Orissa.
<b>IMMIGRANTS</b> ... ..	<b>43</b>	<b>12</b>
Immigrants from contiguous districts	8	7
Ditto from other places	35	5
<b>EMIGRANTS</b> ... ..	<b>13</b>	<b>49</b>
Emigrants to contiguous districts	7	18
Ditto to other places	6	31

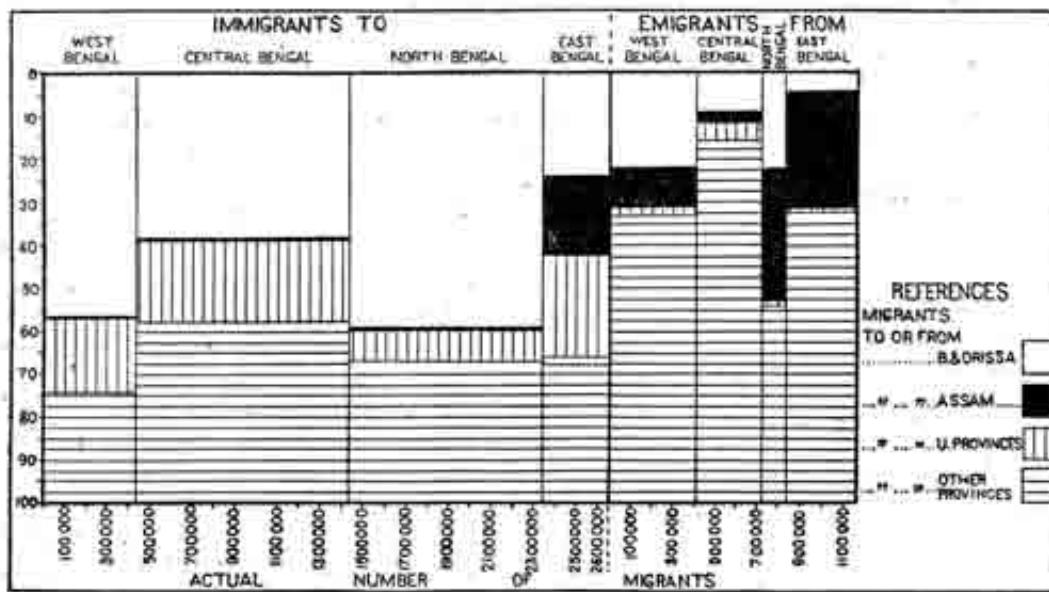
MOVEMENTS BETWEEN THE TWO PROVINCES.

165,000, of whom 133,000 were enumerated in the adjoining districts of

BORN IN	ENUMERATED IN				
	Bengal.	West Bengal.	Central Bengal.	North Bengal.	East Bengal.
<b>BIHAR AND ORISSA</b>	<b>1,252,371</b>	<b>250,294</b>	<b>386,660</b>	<b>541,395</b>	<b>74,016</b>
North Bihar ... ..	233,746	24,688	24,408	183,042	41,810
South Bihar ... ..	298,468	46,380	174,806	83,446	23,533
Orissa ... ..	123,750	37,318	77,200	5,140	4,077
Chota Nagpur Plateau ...	478,407	111,907	40,246	319,706	4,496

Purnea, the Sonthal Parganas, Manbhum, Singhbhum and Balasore. The immigrants to Bengal from Bihar and Orissa were nearly 8

times as many, amounting to 1,252,000, or one-thirtieth of the total population, among whom there were 8 males to every female. An account will be given later in this chapter of the movements to and from each natural division, but may be anticipated by the marginal statement. West Bengal receives one-fifth, Central Bengal one-third, North Bengal over two-fifths, and East Bengal only 6 per cent. of the emigrants. Of those enumerated in West Bengal, nearly half come from the Chota Nagpur Plateau, 59,000 being born in the Sonthal Parganas. Central Bengal draws mainly on Bihar, and especially South Bihar, while the great majority of the emigrants to North Bengal come from North Bihar and the Chota Nagpur Plateau, the former contributing one-third and the latter three-fifths of the total number.



386. The difference between the two Provinces is due partly to racial characteristics, partly to climate, and partly to economic and industrial conditions. The Bengali has a very different character from that of the Bihari, and in particular of the Bhojpuri people, who have been described by Sir G. Grierson as "an alert and active nationality, with few scruples and considerable abilities. Dearly loving a fight for fighting's sake, they have spread all over Aryan India, each man ready to carve his fortune out of any opportunity which may present itself to him. As fond as an Irishman is of a stick, the long-boned, stalwart Bhojpuri, with his staff in hand, is a familiar object striding over fields far from his home. Thousands of them have emigrated to British Colonies and have returned rich men; every year still larger numbers wander over Northern Bengal and seek employment, either honestly, as *palki*-bearers, or otherwise as dacoits. Every Bengal zamindar keeps a *posse* of these men, euphemistically termed *darwans*, to keep his tenants in order. Calcutta, where they are employed, and feared, by the less heroic natives of Bengal, is full of them." The second great cause of difference is the higher standard of prosperity attained by the Bengali. It is on this account that he can employ foreign labour instead of working himself. It is a commonplace that now-a-days the sons of middle class cultivators despise the manual work

which their fathers did as a matter of course, but this attitude would be impossible unless they had sufficient means to maintain it.

387. Some allowance must also be made for the weakening effects of climate. The harvesting of the great winter rice crop of Bengal takes place at the height of the fever season, and in some districts the ravages of fever are so widespread that it is difficult to procure enough local labourers.\* The combined effect of easy circumstances, the ravages of fever and, to some extent also, religious orthodoxy is that immigrants are largely recruited for two classes of labour, viz., work involving hard physical labour and tasks that are regarded as degrading. The big-boned Bihari and the small but wiry aboriginal are consequently being employed more and more as earth-workers, *palki*-bearers, scavengers and leather workers. Besides this, the up-countrymen is preferred for posts in which some power of control and physical strength are necessary, such as that of *darwan*, *chaprasi*, railway servant, etc.

388. Lastly, the industrial development of Bengal has naturally created a great demand for labour, which is not fully supplied from local sources. It is unnecessary to dwell on this aspect of the question at any length, as reference has already been made to the vast strides made in Bengal during the last decade, and to the backward condition of Bihar and Orissa. Suffice it to say, that the special industrial census shows that in Bengal industrial concerns employing 20 hands or more have a total labour force of over 606,000, whereas in Bihar and Orissa the number is only 180,000. Coal-mining is, in fact, the only industry of great importance in the latter Province; if it be excluded, the number employed in industrial concerns is only 94,000. Indigo is now only a shadow of what it was and furnishes employment to less than one-ninth of the number working on the tea gardens in Bengal, while there is no such industry as that of jute, which in Bengal requires 200,000 men to man the mills. The labour force of these large organized industries is being drawn more and more from the United Provinces, from Bihar and Orissa, and even from Madras, and the native-born Bengalis are yielding place to immigrants.

389. The extent of the movements of the people in each natural division will be sufficiently realized from the marginal statement. These figures show that the preceding remarks regarding the contrast between the two Provinces apply to every

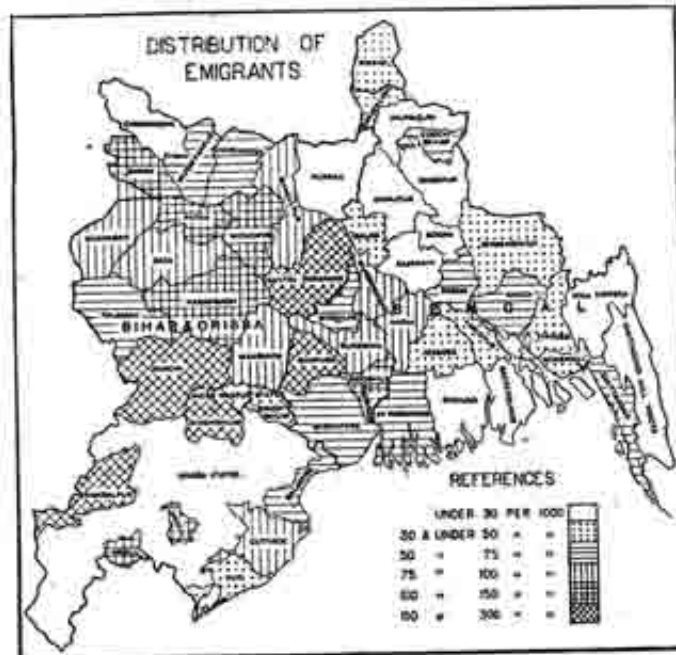
NATURAL DIVISIONS AND DISTRICTS.

NATURAL DIVISION.	NUMBER PER 100,000 OF ACTUAL POPULATION.					
	IMMIGRANTS FROM—			EMIGRANTS TO—		
	Total.	Contiguous districts.	Other places.	Total.	Contiguous districts.	Other places.
<b>BENGAL</b> ... ..	43	8	35	13	7	6
West Bengal ... ..	52	21	31	49	27	22
Central " ... ..	125	29	96	37	23	14
North " ... ..	85	24	61	12	10	2
East " ... ..	18	7	11	20	10	10
<b>BIHAR AND ORISSA</b>	12	7	5	49	18	31
North Bihar ... ..	22	15	7	41	19	22
South " ... ..	20	17	3	83	24	59
Orissa ... ..	14	8	6	56	19	37
Chota Nagpur Plateau ... ..	35	28	7	77	24	53

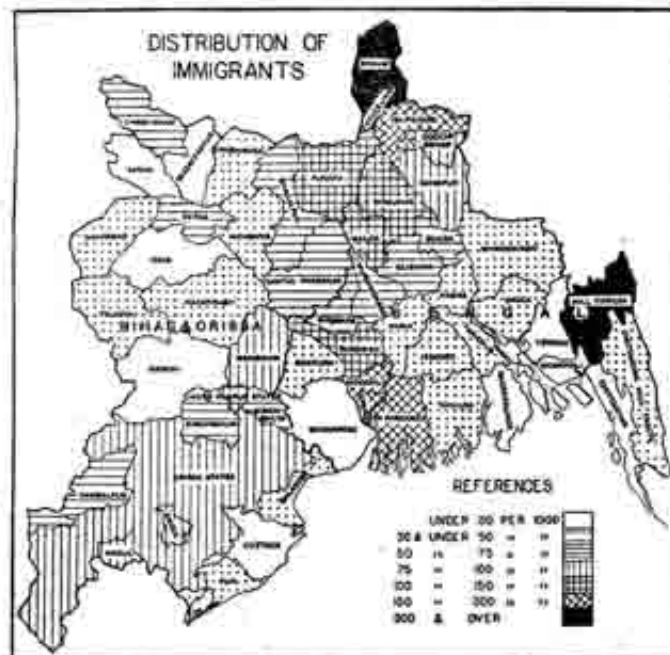
distant places in every division but East Bengal, where the numbers are equal. The exceptional position of this latter division is due to Dacca, the quick-witted inhabitants of which supply fresh recruits, year after year, to the ranks of the professional classes in distant parts of the

\* Cf. Hooghly District Gazetteer, page 170.—“There is a general complaint of the insufficiency of the supply of labour. During the winter months, the labour question often becomes acute, and instances have been known of crops rotting on the fields and looms stopping for want of workers. The difficulties caused by the deficiency of labour are further aggravated by epidemics of malarial fever that break out from November to February, reducing the number of workers and diminishing the working capacity of those who survive.” Also see Jessore District Gazetteer, page 84.—“It is said that owing to the unhealthiness of the district there has been a decline in the number of skilled labourers for some years past, and that the supply of agricultural labourers is unequal to the demand, especially during the fever season, so much so that land sometimes remains uncultivated for want of men to till it.”

country. In Bihar and Orissa, on the other hand, every division contributes more emigrants to remote areas than to adjoining districts.



390. In Bengal there are only ten districts of which the emigrant exceeds the immigrant population, viz., Bankura and Midnapore in West Bengal, Nadia, Jessore and Murshidabad in Central Bengal, Pabna in North Bengal, and Dacca, Tippera, Noakhali and Chittagong in East Bengal. The excess in these districts is greatest in the comparatively healthy district of Bankura (129,000) and least in the notoriously unhealthy district of Jessore (13,500).



Bankura is also easily first from a relative point of view, for its emigrants constitute 15 per cent. of its total population: in no other district does the proportion reach 7 per cent., and it falls to 4 per cent. in Jessore. Of the districts which benefit by immigration the greatest gainers are the 24-Parganas and Jalpaiguri, where the immigrants outnumber the emigrants by 262,000 and 245,000, respectively: the case of Calcutta, where the excess is over half a million, is exceptional. Proportionately, however, the foreign-born population

is greatest in Darjeeling, where it represents  $44\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. of the total population, and it is least in Chittagong, where it is 1 per cent. only.

391. In Bihar and Orissa there are only four districts where immigrants outnumber emigrants, viz., Manbhum, where the excess is due to the influx of labourers to the coal mines, Puri, where it is accounted for by pilgrimage to the shrine of Jagannath, and Champaran and Purnea, two sparsely populated districts which still depend on new comers from other districts for the development of their arable waste. There is also a preponderance of immigrants in the Chota Nagpur and Orissa States, the excess over emigrants (224,000) being especially great in the Orissa States, where extensive areas of cheap cultivable land are attracting colonists from adjoining areas. The actual number of immigrants in the Orissa States (300,000) is far above that returned for any district, only four having over 100,000, viz., Purnea (199,000), Manbhum (143,000), Bhagalpur (136,000) and the Sonthal Parganas (107,000). The Chota Nagpur States, however, have relatively the largest foreign-born population, viz., 13 per cent., and then Purnea with 10 per cent.; the third place is shared by Angul and Manbhum, each of which have a ratio of 9 per cent.

No district sends out so many emigrants as the Sonthal Parganas, the number born in it but enumerated elsewhere being 321,000. It is closely followed by Ranchi (305,000), after which comes Saran (284,000). Two more districts have an aggregate of over 200,000 emigrants, viz., Monghyr (240,000) and Gaya (208,000), and ten of 100,000 to 200,000. The proportion of emigrants to the total population is over 20 per cent. in Sambalpur (23) and Ranchi (22), over 15 per cent. in the Sonthal Parganas (16) and Singhbhum (15), and over 10 per cent. in Saran, Patna and Angul. It falls below 5 per cent. only in Puri (3.5), Champaran (2.5), the Orissa States (2), Purnea (1.9), and the Chota Nagpur States (1.3). No district is less dependent on others than Cuttack, where the foreign-born population represents under 2 per cent.

392. Before proceeding to discuss the movements of the people to and from other parts of India, reference may be made to three great streams of migration inside the two provinces. The first which may be mentioned is that from the Chota Nagpur

#### CHOTA NAGPUR PLATEAU.

955,000, or 8 per cent. of the total population. The main trend is in two directions, viz., into the Orissa Feudatory States and into Bengal and Assam. There is an increasing influx of new settlers into the Feudatory States, to which Ranchi and Singhbhum to the north and Sambalpur to the south-east have contributed altogether 145,000. The sexes are very evenly divided, and it is clear that the emigrants are cultivators, who have been attracted by the wide stretches of arable land to be got at cheap rates. The great majority of the emigrants, however, go to distant places, altogether 874,000 being enumerated in other provinces. Nearly all of these find their way to Bengal or Assam. Assam contains over a quarter of a million emigrants from the Plateau, and Bengal no less than 476,000. Of these latter 246,000 hail from the Sonthal Parganas, while 99,000 persons born in Ranchi are engaged in clearing land or cultivating tea in Jalpaiguri.

393. The readiness of the people of the Chota Nagpur Plateau to migrate is explained by three factors, viz., that the aboriginal inhabitants are multiplying rapidly, they pursue an uneconomic system of cultivation, and they have thriftless habits. The operation of these three factors is well explained in the report on the settlement of Ranchi by Mr. J. Reid, I.C.S., whose account of conditions in Ranchi are equally applicable to other parts of the Chota Nagpur Plateau. "It is sometimes said that the aborigines have no strong ties to bind them to their homes, and that this explains the apparent ease with which they emigrate. This view seems to me to be incorrect. Both Mundas and Oraons possess a very deep attachment for their homes and fields in this district; especially, as is often the case, if they are the pioneers, or descendants of the pioneers, who cleared the lands which they cultivate. The pride with which a Munda or Oraon tells one that he is a descendant of the original founders of the village (a *bhuinhar* or *khuntkattidar*) is unmistakable. The

aborigines, in fact, cling with remarkable tenacity to their homes and fields. It is not uncommon to find that a Munda or an Oraon will persist in cultivating the ancestral fields long after he has been ejected from them by the Courts, and I have known numerous cases in which individual aboriginals underwent imprisonment five or six times for persisting in their attempts to get back the ancestral lands. Large numbers of those who emigrate to Assam and the Duars return, if they are able to save a little money, and buy back the farms which they had lost or some land in the vicinity. This, in fact, is often the object with which they emigrate.

"Only the severest economic pressure will drive the aboriginal from his native wilds. The causes are not far to seek. The soil of the district is, on the whole, extremely poor and infertile. The methods of cultivation practised are primitive and antiquated. The needs of the Munda and Oraon are few; but he is not industrious, and is generally heedless of the morrow. He spends whatever little savings he may have in the local liquor shop, and whenever a period of stress occurs, he has no margin to fall back upon. It is true that new areas are being constantly cleared and opened up, and that the available food-supply is being constantly increased. The increase in cultivation does not, however, keep pace with the increase in the population. The primitive aboriginal does not care to cultivate more than is necessary for his own immediate needs; nor does he make provision for bad seasons by increasing the area under cultivation and thereby making up the deficiency in outturn, even if lands are available."

394. The main features of emigration from Bihar are similar to those of Chota Nagpur. Its volume is very great, there being one and a quarter million enumerated outside the districts in which they were born. The majority move to distant places; less than half a million were present in adjoining districts, whether in Bihar and Orissa or outside it. Emigration is most active in South Bihar, the emigrants from which constitute 8 per cent. of the population, a ratio double that of North Bihar. The periodic exodus of the people is growing rapidly, the number of persons absent from their districts at the time of the census being 279,000 more than in 1901. One great body makes its way to Calcutta and the metropolitan districts of Howrah, Hooghly and the 24-Parganas, where employment is found in the mills and factories. Districts which hitherto had but a small share in this movement are now contributing to it largely. For example, the number in those industrial centres hailing from the three adjoining districts of Muzaffarpur, Darbhanga and Monghyr has risen in the last ten years from 47,000 to 84,000. The other direction in which the current of migration sets is eastwards, and its volume is swelling with the facilities of intercommunication afforded by through lines of railway. Purnea, with its extensive areas of cheap cultivable land, is the first to benefit by the outflow. Even in the last ten years the number of emigrants to this district from the four districts to the west (Muzaffarpur, Darbhanga, Bhagalpur and Monghyr) has nearly been doubled, rising from 68,000 to 130,000: over two-thirds of these come from the neighbouring districts of Monghyr and Bhagalpur, and the proportion of the sexes shows that the majority are permanent settlers.

395. With this exception the exodus is mainly periodic, just as it is in Chota Nagpur. It owes its origin to different causes, however, for it cannot be said that the people of Bihar are multiplying rapidly, are careless in their husbandry or thriftless in their habits. On the contrary, the population has been stationary during the last 20 years, the cultivators are alert and industrious, and the large amounts remitted to their homes by emigrants absolve them of the suspicion of thriftlessness. There is, however, a host of landless labourers—the number of those returned at this census as dependent on agricultural labour is 4,680,000, or over one-fifth of the total population. Besides this, the holdings of a considerable proportion of the cultivators are so small that they are insufficient to support them, and they have necessarily to eke out their livelihood by labour: the settlement shows a million of landless labourers and petty cultivators in Saran and Darbhanga alone. There are no large local industries to engage the energies of this large population of workers, and agriculture requires comparatively few hands

during the greater part of the cold weather. They are thus free to emigrate, and know that good wages can be acquired during a temporary absence from their homes. Access to the labour centres is cheap and easy, there are no hardships to be undergone, and last and greatest of all, there is the knowledge that a few months of work will not only help to support their families at the slack time of the year, but also provide a reserve against hard times, and save them from reducing the standard of comfort or further subdividing their holdings. Briefly, as stated by the Collector of Saran—“The people having once acquired the habit of migrating for wages, and having found that it is easy to save money in this way, now emigrate annually as a matter of habit to supplement their incomes.”

396. The third great movement of population is taking place in East Bengal, where there is a rush for land along the Brahmaputra to the north-east and in Hill Tippera

EAST BENGAL.

to the south-east. The movement in the former area is determined by the abundance of *chkr* lands on the upper reaches of the Brahmaputra in the districts of Rangpur and Goalpara (in Assam). These cheap and fertile lands are attracting a growing number of cultivators from the lower reaches in the densely populated districts of Bogra, Pabna, Mymensingh and Dacca, where the riparian lands suffer from diluvion. Those who have lost their land by the ravages of the river, or whose holdings are reduced by subdivision to a size which means reduction in their standard of comfort, are shifting northwards to Rangpur and Goalpara, where there is abundance of land to be had on easy terms, and where the pressure on the soil does not lead to the same competition for it. Prior to 1901 the movement did not go further than Rangpur and had attained no great dimensions. Since 1901, the influx into that district has increased enormously, and the emigrants have overflowed across the provincial frontier into Goalpara. The number of immigrants from the four southern districts to Rangpur and Goalpara has risen from 35,000 to 123,000, the increase in Goalpara alone being 51,000.

In the south-east the current of migration is flowing into Hill Tippera, a sparsely peopled State which depends for development on immigrants, for the aboriginal population live chiefly by the nomadic practice of *huning* and wood-cutting. It is now being filled up by Musalmans from the adjoining district of Tippera on the east and from Sylhet on the west. The aggregate of immigrants from these two districts is 61,000, or over one-fourth of the State population, of which Tippera contributes seven-twelfths and Sylhet five-twelfths. The new-comers from the latter district promise to furnish a greater proportion of permanent colonists, for the sexes are fairly equally divided, whereas there are two males to every female among the immigrants from Tippera.

397. The number of persons born in Nepal, who were resident outside its limits at the time of the census, is 168,291, of whom 106,727 are found in Bengal, 35,954 in Bihar and Orissa and 25,610 in Sikkim. The emigrants from Nepal to Bihar and Orissa diminish

MIGRATION TO AND FROM FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

NEPAL.

in number as one proceeds from west to east, practically all being found in Champaran (13,929), Muzaffarpur (7,408), Darbhanga (8,542), Bhagalpur (3,050) and Purnea (2,709). There are two females to every one among them, a proportion which shows that the migration is casual and due to matrimonial arrangements. The Nepalese have few inducements to settle among an alien people in the closely cultivated and populous districts of North Bihar, but are colonizing the hilly tracts of Sikkim and Darjeeling, where they find a climate like that of their own country and men of their own race and language. In Sikkim the immigrants from Nepal account for over one-fourth of the population; in Darjeeling they number 70,000, or three-tenths of the population. They are attracted to the latter district not only by the prospects of agriculture, but also by the demand for labour on the tea gardens; about one-third of the total number are actual workers in tea gardens. The proportion is even higher in Jalpaiguri, where over a half of the aggregate number (34,000) are tea garden employés.

Between 1891 and 1901 the number of Nepalese immigrants decreased slightly, but since 1901 it has risen by 7,000. This increase is due almost



entirely to the greater influx into Sikkim and Jalpaiguri: in the latter district the immigrant population is nearly twice as numerous as it was ten years ago. Immigration into the border districts of Bihar and Orissa has waned, and there has been a further decline in Darjeeling, where the original settlers are dying off: though immigration still continues, the number of new comers is not great enough to fill their places. Its continuance is due to the pressure of the population on the soil in Eastern Nepal and the impoverishment of the soil there. "There is apparently in that country no forest reserved by Government. The land is in consequence over-cultivated, cattle are scarce, and the soil is insufficiently manured. In some parts fuel is very difficult to procure, and dung being burnt as fuel lessens still further the supply of manure available for the fields."\*

398. There is but little immigration from Bhutan, a country with undeveloped resources which, so far from having any surplus population, calls for colonists. There

**BHUTAN AND TIBET.**

has been no appreciable increase in the number of immigrants from that country who still number under 2,000. As no census has been conducted in Bhutan, statistics of migration from British districts and States are not available, but it is believed that it attracts a steadily growing number of colonists from the west. It is known that a certain number of Lepchas and others from Darjeeling have moved across the frontier. "Abundant forests, untrammelled by restrictions, enable them to follow their wasteful, though ancient, system of *shuming*. Any such as the grip of the money-lender presses beyond endurance can emigrate to Bhutan, which is the El Dorado of the Eastern Himalayas, now that the milder form of Government lately introduced by the Bhutanese Chiefs has induced thousands of Nepali cultivators to clear the vast and fertile jungles of that country."† Immigration from Tibet is even smaller in volume, the aggregate of immigrants being only a little over 1,500, nearly all of whom were enumerated in Darjeeling. Small as the number is, it is considerably larger than in 1901, partly in consequence of the freer intercourse with Tibet which followed the Tibet Mission and partly because the Dalai Lama was staying in Darjeeling at the time of the census.

399. The number of emigrants from Afghanistan, who are mostly itinerant hawkers, has fallen from 4,363 to 3,367, of whom 2,710 are found in Bengal and 657 in Bihar and

**AFGHANISTAN AND CHINA.**

Orissa. Nearly one-third of the total number were enumerated in Calcutta and the adjoining districts of Howrah and the 24-Parganas. There has been an increase of 668 immigrants from China, which has brought up the aggregate to 3,107. Practically the whole of the increase has occurred in Calcutta, where all but 88 of the Chinese residents were born in China. Small settlements are also found in the 24-Parganas (211), Jalpaiguri (214) and Darjeeling (162). Few bring their wives with them, and the males outnumber the females by 8 to 1.

400. The statistics compiled under the Colonial Emigration Act show that during the decade 11,667 persons were recruited for the colonies, of whom more than half

came from Bihar, 3,473 being residents of Shahabad and 1,109 of Patna. Emigration to the colonies is not apparently growing in favour, there being a decrease of 5,000 compared with the previous decade. As is well known, a considerable number of the emigrants return home with their savings after a period of labour in the colonies: the proportion of returned emigrants to outgoing emigrants during the decade was approximately one to two. Statistics of emigration to different colonies will be found in Subsidiary Table II at the end of this chapter; the marginal table shows the Colonies in which

THE COLONIES.	
Colony.	Number.
<b>Bengal.</b>	
Mauritius ...	19,691
Straits Settlements ...	3,300
Federated Malay States ...	3,059
Fiji ...	2,641
Ceylon ...	1,561†

**Bihar and Orissa.**

Natal ...	15,026
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more than 1,000 from either province were enumerated.

\* C. A. Bell, Kalimpong Settlement Report, page 8.

† C. A. Bell, Kalimpong Settlement Report, page 17.

‡ Includes 1,099 persons on vessels which put in at Colombo shortly after the census.

401. The marginal statement shows the number of persons born in the chief European countries and in Africa, America and Australasia. Nearly half of those who had their birth in Europe are temporary or permanent residents of Calcutta,

BORN IN—	ENUMERATED IN—	
	Bengal.	Bihar and Orissa.
Europe ... ..	13,503	2,801
United Kingdom ...	12,179	2,572
England and Wales ...	8,969	2,059
Scotland ... ..	2,393	314
Ireland ... ..	814	199
Germany ... ..	305	148
France ... ..	175	26
Africa ... ..	232	30
America ... ..	312	66
Australasia ... ..	306	40

7,630 being enumerated there. No district contains more than 1,000, except the 24-Parganas (1,725), Darjeeling (1,570) and Patna (1,038). Their presence in the first district is due to industrial enterprise, in Darjeeling to the tea gardens and European schools as well as to its containing a military station, and in Patna to there being a European regiment in cantonments at Dinapore. Since 1901 the number of persons born in Europe and enumerated in Bengal, Bihar and Orissa has increased by 3,032, to which Calcutta contributes 929 in spite of a large reduction in the number of European sailors and firemen enumerated in vessels lying in the port. The greatest gain has been from England, the number born there rising by 3,148, while the increase of Scotchmen hailing from Scotland is, surprising to relate, only 465. A heavy decrease of 733 is recorded for those born in Ireland, which is, however, merely due to the fact that an Irish regiment was stationed in Calcutta in 1901, and that there was no such regiment in either Bengal or Bihar and Orissa at this census.

402. Between 1891 and 1901 the number of emigrants to Assam from Bengal, Bihar and Orissa increased by 86,000. There has since been a further rise of 89,000, bringing the aggregate up to 593,000, or 42 per cent. more than in 1891. Of these, 194,000 persons were born in Bengal, which is a heavy loser by the interchange of population, for it receives only 67,000 immigrants from Assam. There are, as already explained, two inter-provincial movements in progress. Musalman cultivators are steadily moving from Dacca, Mymensingh and Pabna in quest of land along the fertile *char* lands in Goalpara, which also receives immigrants from the adjoining Bengal district of Rangpur. The number of the emigrants from these four districts is now 70,000, or 50,000 more than in 1901. The other movement is from Sylhet into the State of Hill Tippera; during the last decade the influx of these new settlers has developed considerably, and they now aggregate 26,000 or 10,000 more than in 1901. There is also an ebb and flow between Sylhet and the adjoining districts of Tippera and Mymensingh, from which Sylhet is the gainer by 12,000.

The exodus from Bengal is small in comparison with that from Bihar and Orissa, from which no less than 399,000 persons have gone to Assam. All parts of Bihar and Orissa contribute to this number, but the emigrants from the Chota Nagpur Plateau (281,000) far outnumber those from the remainder of the province. The emigrants are nearly all tea-garden coolies, for whom Chota Nagpur is the favourite recruiting ground. The drain has been greatest on Ranchi, which has sent out 92,000 emigrants. Hazaribagh has contributed 56,000, Manbhum 55,000 and Singhbhum 22,000. Outside the Chota Nagpur Plateau emigration to Assam is most active in Cuttack (27,000) and Saran (19,000).

403. Burma gains heavily from Bengal, the number of emigrants enumerated in it being 135,756, while Bengal receives only 2,600 from Burma. This is, however, not a real gain, for the emigration is merely periodic, labourers flocking southwards from Chittagong and other districts to cut the rice crops in Arakan and returning to their homes when the harvest is over. Altogether 64,000 persons born in Chittagong were present in Burma at the time of the census, and only 4,000 of them were females. Large as this number is, it is

15,000 less than in 1901, when emigration was stimulated by the scarcity and suffering caused by a cyclone and subsequent hard times. The Burma census returns furnish no information regarding the birth districts of other emigrants from Bengal.

404. Nearly half of the emigrants from Chittagong were found in the Akyab district, where, however, their number is 14,000 less than in 1901. The decrease is attributed by Mr. Morgan Webb, Superintendent of Census Operations in Burma, partly to the fact that the census was held later than in 1901, and partly to immigration being checked by the systematic assessment of the immigrants to a capitation-tax. "The later date on which the census was taken in 1911 (the 10th March, against the 1st March 1901) must have had a considerable effect in reducing the numbers recorded. The first half of March is the period when the immigrants are returning to their homes in large numbers after the completion of harvest operations. A postponement of the record by ten days in the busiest portion of the emigration season would cause a marked reduction in the number of immigrants to be entered. But this could not account for the whole of the large decrease." The principal cause of the greater portion of the decrease is in his opinion the stringent assessment of a capitation tax on agricultural labourers who find employment in Akyab. He concludes—"The migration is seasonal, and consequently the later date of the census of 1911, at a time when the immigrants were returning to their homes, resulted in a small record; it is fluctuating, so that marked changes in numbers were to be anticipated; it has been subjected in the past few years to a heavy taxation from which it had hitherto been largely exempt; its decline was foretold four years before the census was taken; and, finally, so far as the records of actual migration are available, they suggest that emigration is proceeding more rapidly than immigration. Apart entirely from a genuine decrease, it is probable that immigrants, fearing assessment to the tax, avoided being entered in the enumeration records."

405. The number of emigrants to Burma from Bihar and Orissa is 8,392, of whom 5,389 were born in Shahabad. Their presence in Burma is due to their having been recruited for the development of two estates, which were granted to private capitalists in order to stimulate migration to sparsely populated areas. One of these is an estate of 27,506 acres at Kyauktaga in the Pegu district which was leased to Mr. Mylne of the Bihia Estate in Shahabad; the other is a grant of 15,000 acres at Zeyawaddy in the Toungoo district made in 1894 to Rai Bahadur Jai Prakash Lal, c.i.e. On the Kyauktaga grant most of the settlers are agriculturists from the United Provinces, but on the Zeyawaddy grant the majority are from Bihar, Shahabad district supplying 3,494 of the total (5,065). "In both grants the immigrants live in self-contained Hindu villages, influencing but little, and influenced but little by, the Burmese life surrounding them. They have maintained their caste system and rules with greater success than the majority of Hindu immigrants into Burma, who are necessarily brought more closely into contact with the disintegrating influence of Burmese life and opinion."

406. The movements between the Central Provinces and Bihar and Orissa mainly affect contiguous districts and States. Altogether 129,000 persons who were born in the latter province were present in the Central Provinces at the time of the census, of whom nearly 100,000 were emigrants from Sambalpur, while 13,000 were inhabitants of Ranchi and Palamau, who had moved across the frontier into the adjoining Tributary States. The balance of migration is heavily against Bihar and Orissa, for the immigrants from the Central Provinces number only 53,000, of whom 19,000 were enumerated in Sambalpur and 25,000 in the Orissa Feudatory States. Sambalpur, therefore, loses 81,000 by the exchange, while the Orissa States have a gain of 22,000: the even distribution of the sexes among the immigrants to the latter shows that they are permanent settlers. The migration between Bengal and the Central

° Burma Census Report, 1911, pp. 80-1.

\* *id.*, p. 76.

Provinces calls for no special remarks. Bengal receives 21,000 persons, and its emigrants number only 6,000. The excess of immigrants is due simply to the demand for labour in a rich country with large manufactures.

407. The volume of migration to and from Madras is comparatively small, and does not extend far beyond adjoining districts and States. It is decidedly in favour of Bihar and Orissa rather than of Madras, for the latter sends 35,508 persons to Bihar and Orissa and receives only 1,428 persons in exchange. Six-sevenths of the immigrants were enumerated in the Orissa States, Puri and Angul, which lie along the border line, and all but 10,000 of them were emigrants from Ganjam. The Orissa States gain most, there being an influx of 19,000 persons, attracted by the prospects of cultivation in a sparsely peopled territory, while less than 1,000 persons left for Madras. Bengal has a net gain of nearly 8,000 from Madras, the immigrants being generally temporary absentees from their homes. They number altogether 14,343, of whom 8,000 were enumerated in the 24-Parganas and Calcutta: in Titagarh alone there were over 3,000 mill-hands from Ganjam and Vizagapatam.

408. The interchange of population in Bihar and Orissa and the United Provinces is more even, there being a balance of only 19,000 in favour of the former province. The immigrants from the United Provinces number altogether 124,000, of whom nearly two-thirds were enumerated in districts contiguous to the districts in which they were born, viz., in Shahabad (28,035), Saran (24,503), Palamau (1,592) and Champaran (26,561). The current of immigration sets more strongly into North Bihar, which contains altogether 69,000 immigrants, while South Bihar has only 38,000. Only 17,000 immigrants are found outside Bihar. The aggregate of persons born in Bihar and Orissa, but enumerated in the United Provinces, is 105,000, of whom 94,000 hail from the four border districts already mentioned. There is but little emigration except from Bihar, the aggregate number of those born in other districts (excluding the border district of Palamau) being barely 1,000. The greatest gainer by the movements of the people across the boundary is Champaran, in which the immigrants exceeds the emigrants by 19,000. The heaviest loser is Saran, from which 53,000 persons have moved to the United Provinces, while only 24,500 have come from that province. Shahabad is scarcely affected by the movements of the people across the frontier line, immigration and emigration nearly counterbalancing one another. During the last decade the emigrants from this district have decreased by nearly 12,000, while the immigrants from the United Provinces are less numerous by 14,000. There has also been a notable change in the movements of the people to and from Saran. The number of those who have found a temporary or permanent home in Ballia has fallen by 5,000, but on the other hand there has been an increase of nearly 20,000 among those who have transferred themselves to Gorakhpur: the emigrants from Saran to this latter district now outnumber the immigrants by 24,000.

409. There is not much to attract an immigrant from the United Provinces in the cultivating districts of Bihar, where conditions are much the same as in his own home, and there is not the incentive of better wages awaiting the temporary labourer. The greater number of those in quest of lucrative employment therefore make their way to Bengal, where 406,000 of them were enumerated at this census; among these there were two males to every female. More than half of the total number were found in Calcutta and the industrial districts of Hooghly, Howrah and the 24-Parganas—the cities of Howrah, Calcutta and the Suburbs alone contain 155,000, or 16,000 more than are found in the whole of North and East Bengal. Bengal makes a very poor return to the United Provinces, sending only 26,000 of its inhabitants there, so that its net gain is 380,000. The Bengali emigrants belong to two main classes, viz., persons in clerical and other employment, and pilgrims to the sacred shrines. It is on this account that females, who generally predominate in pilgrimages, outnumber the males.

Immigrants enumerated in—	Number.
West Bengal ... ..	70,634
Central " " " " " "	186,859
North " " " " " "	83,024
East " " " " " "	76,199
Total ... ..	406,696

410. Statistics of migration to and from each district will be found in Subsidiary Tables I, II and III at the end of this chapter. It is therefore not proposed to go into any detail in the account of migration between different parts of the two provinces, but to sketch briefly its main features.

411. West Bengal, from the point of view of migration, comprises two very different tracts. In Burdwan, Hooghly and Howrah there are large organized industries which call for labour, and in each of them the immigrant population is large. The remaining districts are agricultural, and contain stretches of sterile soil, inhabited to a great extent by races of aboriginal descent. These supply much of the labour required by the richer cultivators of the alluvial flats, and by the mill and factories lining the banks of the Hooghly. Both in Midnapore and Bankura the emigrant population outnumbers the immigrant, but in Birbhum, which adjoins the Sonthal Parganas and receives part of its overflow, immigrants are in excess.

412. Burdwan owes its large immigrant population of 180,000 persons to its collieries, iron foundries and other manufactures. It draws mainly on the adjoining districts, and in particular on Bankura (45,000), the Sonthal Parganas (27,000) and Manbhum (12,000). The influx from the Sonthal Parganas is double as great as in 1901, but the number hailing from Manbhum has fallen greatly owing to the rapid development of the Jheria coal-field, which wants all the labour it can get. Altogether 82,000, or about one-half of the immigrants, come from Bihar and Orissa and non-contiguous parts of other provinces, and only 11,000 from non-contiguous districts of Bengal. Half the emigrants go to contiguous districts, their movement being of the usual casual character, which is determined mainly by marriage relations; of the remainder one-third are found in Calcutta. Birbhum gains mainly from the adjoining districts, notably the Sonthal Parganas, the balance in its favour being nearly 17,000: were it not for this, the emigrants would outnumber the immigrants.

413. The emigrants from Bankura are  $3\frac{1}{2}$  times as numerous as those from Birbhum, and constitute 15 per cent. of the total population. No district in Bengal sends out such a large number in proportion to its population, and only three districts in Bihar and Orissa (Ranchi, Sambalpur and the Sonthal Parganas). The exodus is however mainly periodic, and most of it is directed to the alluvial districts of West Bengal, for which the people have a distinctive name, viz., *namal*, i.e., the lowlands. No less than 70,000, or two-fifths of the total number, are found in the adjoining districts of Burdwan and Manbhum, from which Bankura receives only 30,000 immigrants: the latter are mostly casual visitors, females being in excess by 16,000. Bankura is also a heavy loser to Hooghly to the extent of 48,000 persons. Emigration from Midnapore is growing in volume owing to the railway extensions, and the increase in the number of male emigrants since 1901 is the same as in Bankura, viz., 20,000. The current sets mainly into Hooghly, the 24-Parganas and Calcutta, which account for three-fifths of the total number. There is also a small overflow into Mayurbhanj, which gains 9,000 cultivators at the expense of Midnapore. The immigrants from outside Bengal outnumber those born in the province, there being 28,000 from Bihar and Orissa, 7,000 from the Central Provinces, 6,000 from the United Provinces and 3,000 from Madras.

414. Migration to and from Hooghly is very materially affected by its proximity to Calcutta, which draws largely on the district, and its own need of labour for agriculture as well as for industries. Its position is consequently somewhat unique, for next to Bankura and Midnapore it sends out a larger proportion of emigrants, and next to Howrah it receives a larger proportion of new-comers, than any other district in Bengal. It loses no less than 83,000 persons to Calcutta, Howrah and 24-Parganas, in which half its emigrants are found. It gains mainly from Bankura and from Bihar and Orissa. Bihar sends it 29,000, Orissa 8,000 and Chota Nagpur 13,000. The foreign-born population in Howrah now amounts to 190,000, or 4,000 more than in Hooghly. Like that district, it depends on outside sources for the labour required by its mills and factories, and it is noticeable that Bengal supplies it with less immigrants than outside provinces. No less than

109,000 persons come from outside Bengal, and the majority are Hindustanis, 39,000 coming from Bihar and 47,000 from the United Provinces: Orissa alone accounts for 14,000.

415. The difference between conditions in Calcutta and 24-Parganas, with their important commercial and industrial interests, and those prevailing in the agricultural districts of Western Bengal is strikingly exemplified in the census returns. In Calcutta and the 24-Parganas immigrants largely outnumber emigrants, while the reverse is the case in Murshidabad, Jessore and Nadia. Extraordinary as it may appear, the outflow from the latter three districts to the industrial centres is comparatively small, in spite of their proximity: only one-tenth of those enumerated outside the districts in which they were born have found their way to Calcutta and the 24-Parganas.

416. Calcutta itself may be regarded as an epitome of India, for it draws on all parts of it for its heterogeneous population. The aggregate of persons born in Calcutta and resident there is barely three-tenths of the population; if we also exclude those born in the 24-Parganas, the number contributed by the whole of Bengal (194,000) constitutes only about one-fifth. The province of Bihar and Orissa sends 10,000 more than this latter number, mostly labourers and artisans from South Bihar (109,000), North Bihar (46,000) and Orissa (41,000). Even the division last named accounts for more than all the districts of Eastern Bengal. Altogether 90,000 come from the United Provinces, or double the number from Eastern Bengal and Assam, and 21,000 from Rajputana. As many of its inhabitants come from the Punjab (9,000) as from the Chittagong Division, and double as many from Europe (7,630, as from the Rajshahi Division. Of individual districts, next to the 24-Parganas, Calcutta receives most immigrants from Hooghly (48,000), Gaya (41,000), Patna (29,000) and Cuttack (27,000). A further account of the constitution of its immigrant population will be found in the last paragraph of this chapter.

417. The foreign-born population in the 24-Parganas has increased by no less than 176,000 during the last ten years, and now amounts to 402,000 or 16½ per cent. of the total population. As in the case of Calcutta, it is recruited from far afield, 84,000 coming from the United Provinces, 57,000 from South Bihar, 34,000 from Orissa and 14,000 from the Chota Nagpur Plateau. Eastern Bengal and Assam can claim only 9,000, while Madras accounts for 5,000 and the Central Provinces for 2,000. The great majority are engaged in industrial and manufacturing concerns, but the reclamation of the Sundarbans in the south attracts a number of cultivators and labourers not only from Midnapore but also from Chota Nagpur.

418. The movements of the people in the remaining districts of Central Bengal call for only a brief notice, as conditions are much the same as in 1901 and the figures show very little change. There is, however, one new feature, viz., that the opening of the railway from Katihar to Godagari has led to a small but noticeable northward movement from Murshidabad. The number of persons from that district enumerated in Malda has risen from 12,000 to 27,000, and the movement has not stopped there but has extended to Purnea. In 1901 the latter district contained under 1,000 persons born in Murshidabad, but the number is now 5,000.

419. In all parts of North Bengal the last decade has witnessed a substantial increase in the number of immigrants, the increment ranging from 10,000 in Cooch Behar to 77,000 in Jalpaiguri, which is closely followed by Rangpur (69,000). Emigration has also developed with the extension of railway communications. The rise in the number of emigrants is shared in by all districts except Rangpur, where there is a slight falling off, but except in Bogra and Pabna it is not great. The most prominent features of migration in this part of the province are (1) the excess of immigrants over emigrants, the only exception being Pabna, where the emigrants outnumber the foreign-born population by 38,000, and (2) that immigrants from distant places are more numerous than those from contiguous localities in all but three districts, viz., Rajshahi, Pabna and Malda. Pabna is the only district from which there is any considerable emigration to non-contiguous districts, but the

distance covered by the emigrants is not great, for they merely move northwards to the Brahmaputra *chars* in Rangpur and Goalpara. Pabna has sent 24,000 emigrants to the former and 15,000 to the latter; and as the sexes are fairly well balanced, they seem to have left Pabna to set up new homes in those two northern districts. The districts which have the largest gains from distant places are Darjeeling, where  $44\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. of the population are foreign-born, and Jalpaiguri, where the ratio is 29 per cent.

420. The chief factors which cause the influx from distant places are briefly as follows. There are extensive cultivable wastes in the Barind, an elevated tract which comprises a considerable area on the confines of Dinajpur, Malda, Rajshahi and Bogra. These wastes are being steadily reclaimed, but the local labour supply is not sufficient, and is also not so expert in pioneer work as the Santals and other aboriginals from outside districts. The rich alluvial *chars* of the Brahmaputra in Rangpur and Goalpara attract Musalman cultivators from the more congested tracts along the lower reaches of the same river, where, moreover, the land is more subject to dilluvion. The districts affected by this movement are Pabna, in a major, and Bogra, in a minor, degree. Lastly, the tea industry in Darjeeling and Jalpaiguri is carried on almost wholly by foreign labour, and elsewhere the development of the jute and tobacco trade is increasing the demand for labour, which is not fully met from local sources.

421. There is a steady annual influx of labourers from Bihar and United Provinces, who find employment in different kinds of labour, *e.g.*, as domestic servants, police-constables, jail warders, railway servants, field-labourers, leather-workers, *palki*-bearers, scavengers, etc. No less than 183,000 come from North Bihar and 63,000 from the United Provinces. The largest drafts of labourers, however, are obtained from the Chota Nagpur Plateau, and in particular the Sonthal Parganas and Ranchi. The former has sent over 160,000 of its people to the four districts containing the Barind, *viz.*, Dinajpur (74,000), Malda (48,000), Rajshahi (14,000) and Bogra (4,000), and to the tea-garden districts of Jalpaiguri (20,000) and Darjeeling (4,000). Ranchi has sent 99,000 persons to Jalpaiguri and 7,000 to Darjeeling, where they find employment on the tea-gardens. Among these immigrants the sexes are fairly balanced, and the migration may therefore be regarded as semi-permanent. Many of the tea-garden coolies, it is true, leave the tea-gardens yearly for their homes, but the majority settle down and go home for an occasional visit only. The population of Darjeeling and Jalpaiguri is also largely recruited from Nepal, those born in Nepal numbering 70,000 in the former and 34,000 in the latter. Jalpaiguri has further received 27,000 immigrants from Cooch Behar, giving in return only 9,000 emigrants: as the immigrants have an excess of males and the emigrants an excess of females, it may fairly be inferred that the gain of Jalpaiguri consists largely of temporary labourers.

422. In Hill Tippera and five of the nine districts included in East Bengal, *viz.*, Khulna, Mymensingh, Faridpur, Backergunge and the Chittagong Hill Tracts, the foreign-born population exceeds the emigrant population, but except in Hill Tippera the excess is not large, varying only from 5,000 to 16,000: in Hill Tippera, where one-third of the population is foreign-born, the excess amounts to 80,000. In the division, as a whole, the immigrants from contiguous districts (86,000) are nine times as numerous as those from other parts of the province (9,000), but their aggregate is only about a third that returned for immigrants from Assam, Bihar and Orissa and the United Provinces (243,000). In Mymensingh and Chittagong only do the immigrants from distant places exceed those from contiguous places. Proportionately, the immigrants from neighbouring districts are most numerous in Khulna, which receives 34,000 persons from Backergunge and Jessore but gives them only 16,000. The causes of immigration are much the same as in North Bengal, *viz.*, the insufficiency of the local labour force for handling the jute trade, and the comparative wealth and high standard of comfort of the people, which enables them to employ imported labour.

423. There are two main currents of immigration. The first is the great influx of labourers from Bihar and Orissa and the United Provinces, from which Dacca, Mymensingh and Faridpur have received 35,000, 75,000 and 12,000

immigrants respectively. These immigrants are chiefly Hindus, the number of Musalmans who come for employment, chiefly as coachmen, cart-drivers and railway servants, being very small. The Mundas, Oraons and Santals, who figure so largely among the immigrants into North Bengal, are rare in East Bengal, and the majority of the foreign-born are functional castes, such as Chamar, Muchi, Kurmi, Kahar, Nuniya, Kandui, Mallah and sweeper castes. There has been a considerable increase in the number of immigrants from Bihar and Orissa and the United Provinces, which is shared by almost all the districts, but is specially marked in Dacca and Mymensingh. In the former, immigration was stimulated to some extent by the city of Dacca being made the capital of Eastern Bengal and Assam, and by the amount of building work in progress while it held that position.

424. The second movement is the influx of cultivators into Hill Tippera from Tippera and Sylhet, the former having sent 35,000 persons and the latter nearly 26,000 persons to that State. Tippera has sent 5 females, and Sylhet 10 females, to every 12 males, from which it appears that the immigrants from the former include a much smaller proportion of permanent settlers than those from Sylhet. The number of persons enumerated in this State but born in Tippera has increased nearly three-fold since 1901, while the immigrants from Sylhet have grown by 10,000.

425. There are only four districts in which the outflow exceeds the influx, viz., Dacca, Tippera, Noakhali and Chittagong. Emigration is least active in the Chittagong Hill Tracts and Hill Tippera, where the aboriginal inhabitants have no incentive to leave their homes. The main currents of emigration, excluding the usual movements to adjacent places, are (1) from Dacca and Mymensingh to Rangpur and Goalpara and (2) from Chittagong to Burma. Dacca and Mymensingh have sent 19,599 males and 14,317 females to Rangpur, and 22,954 and 17,142 females to Goalpara, while Chittagong has sent 60,261 males and only 3,707 females to Burma. The sex proportions show that, while the emigrants to Rangpur and Goalpara include a large proportion of permanent settlers, there are very few among those enumerated in Burma. Nor is this to be wondered at, for the emigrants to Rangpur and Goalpara are cultivators who leave their homes in the riparian tracts along the Jamuna to settle in the fertile alluvial land on the upper reaches of the Brahmaputra, whereas the emigrants to Burma are merely labourers attracted by the high wages paid for harvesting crops in Burma. In Dacca, which has the highest density in East Bengal, the excess of emigration over immigration may be attributed partly to the increasing pressure on the soil and partly to its educated inhabitants not finding sufficient remunerative employment near their homes. No less than 63,000 find employment in distant parts of Bengal as clerks, lawyers, doctors, traders, boatmen, shop-keepers, etc. Altogether, 18,000, or nearly half the total number from the whole of East Bengal, were enumerated in Calcutta and its suburbs.

426. Emigration causes a heavy drain on all the districts of North Bihar, except Champaran and Purnea to the extreme north-west and east, respectively. These are two sparsely peopled districts, with large areas awaiting reclamation or further development, which attract immigrants from the neighbouring districts in search of land on easy terms. In addition to receiving 14,000 persons from Nepal, Champaran benefits largely by immigration from the surrounding districts of Muzaffarpur, Saran and Gorakhpur: the net gain is 14,000 from Muzaffarpur, 19,000 from Saran, 17,000 from Gorakhpur and 2,000 from other districts of the United Provinces. In Purnea the foreign-born population is proportionately twice as large as in Champaran, representing 10 per cent. of the total population. The immigrants come mainly from the east, and in particular from Bhagalpur, from which it receives 72,000, Darbhanga (25,000) and Monghyr (23,000). It also receives part of the overflow from the Sonthal Parganas and gains slightly from Malda, but loses by migration to the three Bengal districts of Darjeeling, Jalpaiguri and Dinajpur. In all the other districts of North Bihar immigration is growing in volume. Nowhere, however, is it so great as in Saran, the immigrants from which number no less than 284,000 or one-eighth of the population. In the



remaining three districts the number varies from 168,000 in Bhagalpur and 176,000 in Darbhanga to 195,000 in Muzaffarpur, the percentages to the total population being 8, 6 and 7 respectively. More than two-fifths of the emigrants from Bhagalpur find their way to Purnea, and a large proportion of the remainder spread into North Bengal. This latter tract is also the favourite resort of sturdy labourers from the other districts, and contains more than half the emigrants from North Bihar who were enumerated in Bengal. An increasing number, however, are following the example of the Saran emigrants (who, as remarked in the last report, are more catholic in their choice of a temporary

BORN IN—	ENUMERATED IN—				Total.
	Hooghly.	Howrah.	24-Par-ganna.	Calcutta.	
Saran ...	8,751	7,825	26,026	14,710	57,125
Muzaffarpur ...	3,312	3,769	9,344	17,359	33,980
Darbhanga ...	1,746	1,963	2,523	3,014	15,575
<b>Total</b> ...	<b>14,009</b>	<b>13,556</b>	<b>38,223</b>	<b>41,092</b>	<b>106,680</b>

home), and find employment in the metropolitan districts. The most noticeable feature of the history of the last ten years is the extent to which temporary migration is increasing in favour, the rise in the number of emigrants varying from 44,000 in Bhagalpur to 65,000 in Darbhanga.

427. Emigration to Calcutta and the metropolitan districts is even more popular in South Bihar, three-tenths of the absentees from Patna, Gaya and Shahabad being enumerated there. The stream of migration from Monghyr is setting

BORN IN—	ENUMERATED IN—				Total.
	Hooghly.	Howrah.	24-Par-ganna.	Calcutta.	
Patna ...	3,038	7,067	13,631	29,017	54,773
Gaya ...	3,982	5,036	12,897	41,221	62,506
Shahabad ...	3,102	8,955	21,012	20,865	53,914
Monghyr ...	2,191	3,745	10,129	18,263	34,388
<b>Total</b> ...	<b>14,193</b>	<b>24,823</b>	<b>57,169</b>	<b>109,386</b>	<b>205,591</b>

steadily in the same direction, but though the number has been doubled since 1901, it is still only one-seventh of the total number of emigrants. The people of South Bihar also show greater readiness to make their homes in Assam than those of North Bihar. Altogether 36,000 emigrants from the latter division were enumerated

in Assam, of whom 19,000 were born in Saran, but as there was only one female to every five males, the great majority were obviously only temporary absentees. The number of those who have gone from South Bihar to Assam is however 46,000, and there are two women to every three men, from which it is clear that a large proportion settle down in the country. Of this number, 15,000 were born in Shahabad, 13,000 in Monghyr, 13,000 in Gaya and 5,000 in Patna. Assam and the metropolitan districts thus account for a quarter of a million of the emigrants, and the remainder are found mainly in contiguous districts. The interchange of population with the United Provinces is practically even, but is of small account, except in the border district of Shahabad; the other three districts send only 6,000 to that province and receive 10,000. Gaya loses to Chota Nagpur on the south and in particular to the adjoining districts of Hazaribagh and Palamau, while Monghyr, which has relations mainly with North Bihar, gains slightly from Darbhanga on the west, but loses heavily to Bhagalpur, Purnea and the Sonthal Parganas on the east, its aggregate loss amounting to 58,000.

428. In Cuttack and Balasore there is a large excess of emigrants over immigrants, but in Puri the foreign-born population predominates slightly. The actual excess in the last district, however, amounts only to 7,920, and special inquiries show that the total of pilgrims in the district at the time of the census was 7,139, so that the district is really unaffected by the movements of the people. The pressure of hard times in Cuttack and Balasore has led to a large number of labourers and small cultivators leaving their homes for a time in order to obtain employment elsewhere, and so supplement the resources of their families. The number of emigrants from Cuttack is 173,000 and represents 8 per cent. of the population. In Balasore the actual number, though largely increased since 1901, has not reached the same figure, but proportionately is very little less, viz., 7 per cent. The people mainly go to distant

places, more than half of the emigrants from Cuttack being found in Calcutta and its vicinity or in Assam, and over half of those from Balasore in the former locality. One-third of the emigrants from Cuttack were enumerated in Calcutta, Hooghly, Howrah and the 24-Parganas, their number having risen during the last ten years from 40,000 to 64,000. These, however, are merely temporary absentees, who return home after a period of labour in the mills and factories, or in domestic service or as gardeners or day-labourers. Those who go to the tea-gardens in Assam, however, take women with them, and settle down either as tea-garden coolies or as cultivators when their contracts have expired. No less than 27,000 of the people of Cuttack were enumerated in Assam. The inhabitants of Balasore have not shown the same readiness, or have not been considered so suitable, for recruitment for Assam, in which there were only 2,000 of them at the time of the census. They are flocking more and more to Calcutta and the metropolitan districts—the number employed there has more than doubled during the decennium, and now amounts to nearly 39,000. There is also an interchange of population with Midnapore, the balance of which is slightly against Balasore. Altogether 23,000 cultivators and others have left the district for the Orissa Feudatory States, more especially to Mayurbhanj, but only 9,000 have moved into Balasore from the Orissa States, so that the district sustains a loss of 14,000 on this account.

429. The volume of emigration from the districts of the Chota Nagpur

CHOTA NAGPUR PLATEAU.

Plateau is one of the most remarkable features of the census, the proportion of emigrants to the district population being under 10 per cent. only in Manbhum (7½) and Palamau (5½), while it varies from 10 to 17 per cent. in Angul (10·6), Hazaribagh (11), Singhbhum (15) and the Sonthal Parganas (17). The maximum is reached in Ranchi and Sambalpur, where it is 22 and 23 per cent. respectively. Emigration is proceeding along four main lines, viz. (1) to Assam, (2) to North Bengal, (3) to the Orissa Feudatory States and (4) to the Central Provinces, of which an account will be given later in the section

DISTRICT.	1911.	1901.
Ranchi	91,000	92,000
Hazaribagh	56,000	69,000
Manbhum	53,000	70,000
Sonthal Parganas	33,000	21,000
Singhbhum	22,000	18,000
Palamau	2,000	7,000

dealing with the different districts. From the marginal statement it will be seen that in some districts the tide of emigration to Assam is ebbing, but that the exodus from Singhbhum and the Sonthal Parganas has increased in volume. The small increase in the case of Palamau is probably more apparent than real, owing to the fact that in 1901 many of the emigrants returned their district

of birth as Lohardaga, the old name for Ranchi, of which it was a subdivision till 1891, and so were grouped with those born in Ranchi.

430. Large as is the number of emigrants from Manbhum, it is exceeded

MANBHUM.

by the number who have been attracted from other districts by the good wages obtainable in the coal-fields. In 1901 emigrants outnumbered immigrants by 74,000, but the immigrants are now in excess by over 27,000. During the last 10 years the emigrants have decreased by 21,000, the total now returned being 115,500. The immigrants, on the other hand, have had an addition of 81,000, or over 100 per cent., bringing up their total to nearly 143,000. Of these, 57,000 come from Bengal, nearly 26,000 being born in the adjoining district of Bankura, the immigrants from which have doubled their numbers since 1901. There are 30,000 immigrants from Bihar, and nearly all the remainder come from Chota Nagpur, chiefly from the adjoining district of Hazaribagh. The checking of emigration, which is due to the local demand for labour, is responsible for the falling off of emigration to Assam by 15,000 and for the decrease of 19,000 in the number of natives of Manbhum who were enumerated in Burdwan. Ten years ago the Raniganj coal-field drew a large number of labourers from Manbhum, but now that the Jheria field has been developed, there is no need for the coal-cutters to move far from their homes.

431. In the Orissa Feudatory States the immigrants outnumber those enumerated outside the States in which they were born by no less than 224,000, and the absence of

ORISSA FEUDATORY STATES.

any great disparity between the sexes show that the great majority of the new-comers have left their homes for good. There has been a great gain at the expense of all adjoining British districts, the balance in favour of the Orissa States being as shown in the margin. The largest gain is registered by Gangpur on the north-west, in which there are 39,000 immigrants from Ranchi and nearly 12,000 from Sambalpur. Patna and Bamra also gain at the expense of Sambalpur, which has sent 21,000 persons to the former and

DISTRICT.	Net gain.
Ranchi	43,121
Singhbhum	21,633
Sambalpur	33,797
Angul	7,922
Cuttack	12,520
Patna	3,198
Balasore	15,708
Ganjam	12,097
Visagapatam	6,327

11,000 to the latter. On the south-east Mayurbhanj gains both from Singhbhum and Balasore, 26,000 emigrants from the former and 12,000 from the latter being enumerated in it. The adjoining State of Keonjhar receives 15,000 persons from Singhbhum, nearly 4,000 from Cuttack and 2,000 from Balasore. The number of emigrants from the Orissa States aggregates only 75,000, of whom 61,000 were enumerated in the adjoining British districts shown in the marginal statement above. There is but little emigration to distant places, but 6,000 persons were enumerated in Assam, of whom 4,435 were natives of Kalahandi and 993 of Gangpur.

432. "The Santals," wrote Mr. Gait in 1901, "are spreading east and north, and the full effect of the movement is not exhausted in the districts that adjoin the Sonthal

#### SONTHAL PARGANAS.

Parganas, but makes itself felt even further away, in those parts of Dinajpur, Rajshahi and Bogra which share with Malda the elevated tract of *quasi-laterite* known as the Barind. These wanderings of the Santals have hitherto been confined to a laterite soil, and they are said to be averse to the payment of rent. In what direction they will spread when they have finished their work of reclamation in the Barind it is impossible yet to conjecture. The future alone can show whether they will then accept the inevitable and settle down as permanent rent-paying cultivators, or move further afield, overcoming their dislike to alluvial soil, or retrace their steps and rove once more in the infertile uplands of the Chota Nagpur Plateau." The outward movement has been still further accelerated during the last ten years, but it is noticeable that the Santals are now spreading southwards, as well as to the north and east, and that they are beginning to make their homes in purely alluvial tracts.

DISTRICT.	Number.	Increase since 1901.
Dinajpur	74,281	39,791
Malda	48,402	5,827
Rajshahi	12,887	7,188
Bogra	3,544	1,645
<b>Total</b>	<b>139,995</b>	<b>40,448</b>
Jalpaiguri	19,639	9,077
Darjeeling	3,641	880
<b>Total</b>	<b>23,280</b>	<b>9,757</b>
Purnea	20,453	14,820
Rangpur	5,371	1,628
Bhagalpur	18,899	6,960
<b>Total</b>	<b>42,523</b>	<b>23,308</b>
Burdwan	27,375	13,553
Birbhum	24,982	2,270
Murshidabad	14,933	3,362
Hooghly	2,000	1,221
<b>Total</b>	<b>72,593</b>	<b>20,396</b>

In Purnea, for example, there has been an increase of nearly 15,000, while 2,000 are now found in Hooghly and over 5,000 in Rangpur. The districts of the Barind contain 140,000, and the tea-garden districts of Jalpaiguri and Darjeeling 23,000. Over 42,000 have found their way to other northern districts, while more than 72,000 are found to the south-east in four districts of the Burdwan Division. The marginal statement shows the actual number enumerated in the districts included in each of these groups and the increase since 1901. There is but little emigration to the east, the districts of Manbhum, Hazaribagh and Monghyr containing only 8,000 persons born in the Sonthal

#### Parganas.

433. The movements of the people in Sambalpur are unique in character, so far as the province of Bihar and Orissa is concerned, for there is a large outflow to the Central Provinces. Out of the 174,000 emigrants,

#### OTHER DISTRICTS OF THE CHOTA NAGPUR PLATEAU.

nearly 100,000 are found in the Central Provinces, 18,000 being enumerated in Raipur. In return, however, Sambalpur receives only 19,000 from the Central Provinces, the balance against it being thus 81,000. There is also a heavy drain owing to the movements of cultivators and labourers to the Orissa

States, which receive 56,000, but return only 16,000 to Sambalpur. Of the emigrants from Ranchi, 199,000 are found in the tea gardens of Assam and Jalpaiguri; the number in the latter district has risen by 19,000 since 1901. Of the remaining emigrants, 39,000 have, as already stated, crossed the border to the sparsely populated State of Gangpur, while 5,000 were enumerated in the Central Provinces States. The volume of migration to and from Palamau is small. It loses to the Central Provinces States, especially Jashpur, and also to Mirzapur in the United Provinces, the aggregate loss being 7,000. It gains exactly the same number, however, from Gaya. The interchange of population is even smaller in the case of Angul, which loses to the Orissa States, and more especially to Athmallik: all but 2,000 of its emigrants were enumerated in the Feudatory States. The last of the districts to be mentioned is Singhbhum, in which emigration has been stimulated by the opening of the railway. There has been an increase of 42,000 immigrants, 9,000 of which is accounted for by the rise in the number of coolies enumerated in Assam. That province contains one-fifth of the emigrants, while nearly two-fifths have made their way into the adjoining States of Mayurbhanj and Keonjhar.

434. Special statistics which were compiled for the most numerous

CONSTITUTION OF THE IMMIGRANT  
POPULATION OF CALCUTTA.

castes among the immigrants to Calcutta throw an interesting light on the character of its foreign-born population. Their aggregate number is 290,000, and of the 24 districts from which they are drawn, nine are in Bengal, nine in Bihar and Orissa, four in United Provinces and two in Rajputana. The area covered is large, and the figures may be taken as typical of the immigrant population. There are only two females to every five males: two-thirds of the latter are actual workers, but only one-fourth of the females are actually engaged in any occupation. Prostitutes alone account for one-fourth of the female workers, and their number is equal to one-seventh of the female immigrants of adult age. Altogether 15 per cent. of both sexes are under 15 years of age. Half the women and two-thirds of the men are adults, *i.e.*, aged 15 to 40: at this age period there are three males to every female. Trade engages the energies of 19 per cent. of the male workers, while 14 per cent. are employed in domestic service, 13 per cent. are day-labourers and 7 per cent. are clerks. Domestic service accounts for the largest proportion of female workers, *viz.*, 42 per cent., and then come prostitutes with 25 per cent. Brahmans represent nearly one-fifth of the total number of immigrants, and the Kayasths are the next largest caste, representing about one-seventh. The aggregate of the three trading castes of Agarwala, Mahesri and Subarnabanik is equal to only 5 per cent., and is exceeded by that returned for four of the lower castes, *viz.*, Chamar, Chasi Kaibartta, Goala and Kahar. The returns for the Brahmans show to what an extent the absence of home surroundings loosens the ties of orthodoxy and tradition, for of the male workers one-fifth are traders and one-seventh are clerks—there are nearly as many Brahman clerks as there are Kayasths. Four per cent. of the priestly class are day-labourers or coolies, and only 9 per cent. returned priesthood as their occupation or means of livelihood.

SUBSIDIARY TABLE I.—IMMIGRATION (ACTUAL FIGURES).

DISTRICT AND NATURAL DIVISION WHERE ENUMERATED.	BORN IN (000'S OMITTED).																	
	District (or Natural Division).			Contiguous districts in Province.			Other parts of Province.			Ceded (non parts of other Provinces, etc.			Non-contiguous parts of other Province, etc.			Outside India.		
	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
<b>BENGAL</b> ... ..	<b>44,335</b>	<b>22,425</b>	<b>21,910</b>	—	—	—	—	—	—	<b>381</b>	<b>195</b>	<b>186</b>	<b>1,458</b>	<b>1,104</b>	<b>354</b>	<b>131</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>52</b>
<b>WEST BENGAL</b> ... ..	<b>8,026</b>	<b>3,989</b>	<b>4,037</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>246</b>	<b>178</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>
Burdwan ... ..	1,359	678	681	86	37	49	11	6	5	39	20	19	43	29	14	6	3	1
Birbhum ... ..	871	435	436	26	10	16	3	2	1	28	15	14	7	5	2	11	1	1
Baukhra ... ..	1,092	549	543	31	7	24	12	1	1	12	4	8	27	19	8	7	3	1
Midnapore ... ..	2,746	1,370	1,376	23	10	13	4	3	3	17	7	10	31	21	10	3	2	1
Hooghly ... ..	904	448	456	109	50	59	8	4	4	—	—	—	69	53	16	33	28	17
Howrah ... ..	753	373	380	70	39	31	10	7	3	—	—	—	109	79	30	1	2	2
<b>CENTRAL BENGAL</b> ... ..	<b>7,072</b>	<b>3,580</b>	<b>3,492</b>	<b>293</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>123</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>621</b>	<b>490</b>	<b>131</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>3</b>
94 Parganas ... ..	2,032	1,030	1,002	138	78	60	19	12	7	—	—	—	242	183	59	24	2	4
Calcutta ... ..	257	137	120	104	58	46	179	125	54	—	—	—	344	278	66	13	10	3
Nadia ... ..	1,545	775	770	49	20	29	8	3	3	—	—	—	17	14	3	2	1	1
Murshidabad ... ..	1,296	639	657	41	17	24	5	3	2	15	8	7	14	11	3	16	14	10
Jessore ... ..	1,698	871	827	50	23	27	4	2	2	—	—	—	6	4	1	75	37	30
<b>NORTH BENGAL</b> ... ..	<b>9,805</b>	<b>4,985</b>	<b>4,820</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>202</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>437</b>	<b>309</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>48</b>
Bajshahi ... ..	1,385	698	687	150	87	63	10	7	2	—	—	—	35	23	12	14	12	10
Dinajpur ... ..	1,490	770	720	35	19	16	18	12	6	7	3	—	136	85	51	2	18	12
Jalpaiguri ... ..	637	337	300	33	18	15	25	15	10	3	2	1	168	96	72	36	22	14
Darjeeling ... ..	148	72	73	3	2	1	3	2	1	10	3	5	27	18	9	74	40	24
Raipur ... ..	2,207	1,129	1,078	49	26	23	40	24	16	1	2	—	88	75	13	5	4	1
Bogra ... ..	921	485	456	28	13	15	7	4	1	—	—	—	27	19	8	2	1	1
Pabna ... ..	1,364	679	685	34	19	15	5	4	1	—	—	—	25	21	4	18	12	10
Maldah ... ..	885	434	451	35	17	18	4	2	1	55	28	27	24	16	8	35	34	31
Cooch Behar ... ..	538	280	258	24	11	13	7	5	2	2	1	1	21	19	2	58	34	34
<b>EAST BENGAL</b> ... ..	<b>18,719</b>	<b>9,458</b>	<b>9,261</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>127</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>4</b>
Kholna ... ..	1,312	679	633	47	23	24	3	2	1	—	—	—	4	3	1	1	1	1
Dacca ... ..	2,846	1,402	1,443	64	31	33	10	8	2	—	—	—	39	22	17	6	5	1
Mymensingh ... ..	4,365	2,229	2,137	84	39	45	7	6	1	12	6	6	77	60	17	2	18	10
Faridpur ... ..	7,025	3,518	3,507	79	42	37	5	3	2	—	—	—	12	10	2	11	10	10
Bachergunge ... ..	2,368	1,198	1,170	39	20	19	16	14	2	—	—	—	5	4	1	1	1	1
Tippah ... ..	2,359	1,204	1,155	40	20	20	3	2	1	8	4	4	10	8	2	9	7	7
Noakhali ... ..	1,279	633	646	12	6	6	10	6	4	—	—	—	7	5	2	1	1	1
Chittagong ... ..	1,459	710	749	5	3	2	6	4	2	8	4	4	7	5	2	3	3	1
Chittagong Hill Tracts ... ..	148	78	70	4	3	1	1	1	—	5	3	3	7	4	3	5	3	2
Hill Tippera ... ..	148	71	77	45	21	24	2	1	1	26	14	13	7	4	2	12	10	12

**SUBSIDIARY TABLE I.—IMMIGRATION (ACTUAL FIGURES).**

DISTRICT AND NATURAL DIVISION WHERE ENUMERATED.	BORN IN (,000'S OMITTED).																	
	District (or Natural Division).			Contiguous districts in Province.			Other parts of Province.			Contiguous parts of other Province, etc.			Non-contiguous parts of other Province, etc.			Outside India.		
	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
<b>BIHAR AND ORISSA</b>	<b>37,986</b>	<b>18,585</b>	<b>19,401</b>	—	—	—	—	—	—	<b>257</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>139</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>NORTH BIHAR</b>	<b>13,792</b>	<b>6,713</b>	<b>7,079</b>	<b>162</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>24</b>
Baran	2,243	1,002	1,191	20	4	16	13	8	7	23	6	17	3	2	1	16	1	16
Chhapara	1,813	900	913	51	21	30	2	1	1	24	12	12	4	2	1	14	5	9
Muzaffarpur	2,772	1,326	1,436	59	18	41	2	1	1	—	—	—	4	2	1	8	2	6
Darbhanga	2,843	1,268	1,437	68	18	50	6	4	2	—	—	—	4	2	2	8	2	6
Bhagalpur	2,003	992	1,011	100	42	58	20	14	6	—	—	—	13	8	5	3	2	1
Farrukh	1,791	899	892	92	49	43	74	50	24	13	6	7	16	10	6	3	2	1
<b>SOUTH BIHAR</b>	<b>7,609</b>	<b>3,753</b>	<b>3,856</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>3</b>
Patna	1,517	771	744	81	21	60	2	1	1	—	—	—	9	6	3	11	1	1
Gaya	2,098	1,029	1,069	55	18	37	2	1	1	—	—	—	5	3	2	12	1	1
Sheikhabad	1,805	886	919	28	7	21	2	1	1	26	7	19	4	3	1	3	—	—
Munghyr	2,040	1,007	1,033	79	27	52	6	4	2	—	—	—	7	5	2	—	—	—
<b>ORISSA</b>	<b>4,128</b>	<b>1,986</b>	<b>2,140</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>
Cuttack	2,076	991	1,085	26	6	20	7	5	2	—	—	—	7	4	3	10	1	1
Balsore	1,023	492	531	21	7	14	7	5	2	8	2	6	24	17	7	10	1	1
Puri	880	489	491	27	9	18	12	9	4	5	2	3	10	6	4	10	1	1
<b>CHOTA NAGPUR PLATEAU.</b>	<b>11,942</b>	<b>5,901</b>	<b>6,041</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>153</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>4</b>
Hazaribagh	1,247	606	639	34	16	18	3	3	1	—	—	—	4	3	1	12	1	1
Banchi	1,354	660	694	19	11	8	9	6	3	9	5	4	4	2	1	2	1	1
Palamu	661	328	333	21	11	10	7	4	3	3	2	1	3	1	1	5	1	1
Manbhum	1,405	706	699	45	19	26	36	20	10	23	14	9	38	24	14	2	1	1
Singbhum	644	320	324	26	9	17	9	6	3	6	3	3	9	6	3	7	1	1
South Parganas	1,776	855	921	50	20	30	14	9	5	29	11	18	13	9	4	13	1	1
Angul	181	90	91	11	4	7	18	12	6	5	2	3	2	1	1	10	1	1
Sambalpur	701	346	355	11	16	4	3	2	1	14	6	8	10	6	4	10	1	1
Orissa Feudatory States	3,497	1,740	1,757	229	106	123	10	5	5	47	23	24	13	8	5	13	1	1
Chota Nagpur States	130	64	66	18	8	10	6	4	2	—	—	—	3	2	1	—	—	—
<b>SIKKIM</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>29</b>	—	—	—	—	—	—	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>12</b>

SUBSIDIARY TABLE II.—EMIGRATION (ACTUAL FIGURES).

ENUMERATED IN (000'S OMITTED).

DISTRICT AND NATURAL DIVISION OF BIRTH.	ENUMERATED IN (000'S OMITTED).																	
	DISTRICT OR NATURAL DIVISION.			CONTIGUOUS DISTRICTS IN PROVINCE.			OTHER PARTS OF PROVINCE.			CONTIGUOUS PARTS OF OTHER PROVINCE, ETC.			NON-CONTIGUOUS PARTS OF OTHER PROVINCE, ETC.			OUTSIDE INDIA.		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
<b>BENGAL</b> ... ..	<b>44,335</b>	<b>22,425</b>	<b>21,910</b>	—	—	—	—	—	—	<b>314</b>	<b>186</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>239</b>	<b>169</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>8</b>
WEST BENGAL ... ..	<b>8,026</b>	<b>3,989</b>	<b>4,037</b>	<b>232</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>'01</b>	<b>'01</b>	—
Burdwan ... ..	1,359	678	681	62	29	33	35	21	14	7	3	4	22	14	8	'003	'003	—
Birbhum ... ..	871	435	436	26	11	15	7	4	3	12	4	8	5	2	2	—	—	—
Baokura ... ..	1,092	549	543	104	50	54	15	9	6	26	10	8	30	19	11	—	—	—
Midnapore ... ..	2,748	1,370	1,378	89	49	40	37	21	14	29	12	17	16	8	9	—	—	—
Houghly ... ..	904	448	456	84	43	41	51	25	10	—	—	—	14	10	4	'002	'009	—
Howrah ... ..	753	373	380	30	17	13	2	1	1	—	—	—	8	5	3	'008	'003	—
CENTRAL BENGAL ... ..	<b>7,072</b>	<b>3,580</b>	<b>3,492</b>	<b>194</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>'5</b>	<b>'5</b>	<b>'003</b>
24-Parganas ... ..	2,032	1,030	1,002	122	62	60	5	3	2	—	—	—	12	7	5	'004	'004	—
Calcutta ... ..	257	137	120	48	25	23	10	5	5	—	—	—	30	16	12	5	3	'003
Nadia ... ..	1,545	775	770	93	47	46	36	22	13	—	—	—	6	4	2	—	—	—
Murshidabad ... ..	1,298	639	657	74	34	40	16	10	4	8	3	3	9	5	4	—	—	—
Jessore ... ..	1,698	871	821	51	25	26	18	13	5	—	—	—	4	3	1	—	—	—
NORTH BENGAL ... ..	<b>9,805</b>	<b>4,985</b>	<b>4,820</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>5</b>	—	—	—
Rajshahi ... ..	1,385	696	687	33	16	17	3	2	1	—	—	—	3	2	1	—	—	—
Dinajpore ... ..	1,490	770	720	16	7	9	2	1	1	3	1	2	3	2	1	—	—	—
Jalpaiguri ... ..	637	337	300	17	7	10	2	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	—	—	—
Darjeeling ... ..	148	75	73	3	1	2	1	1	1	3	2	1	3	2	1	—	—	—
Rangpur ... ..	2,207	1,129	1,078	42	21	21	2	1	1	16	9	7	18	12	6	—	—	—
Bogra ... ..	921	465	456	22	11	11	8	5	3	—	—	—	2	1	1	—	—	—
Pabna ... ..	1,364	679	685	52	29	23	32	19	13	—	—	—	18	11	7	—	—	—
Malda ... ..	885	434	431	21	11	10	2	1	1	16	8	5	2	1	1	—	—	—
Cooch Behar ... ..	538	290	248	32	17	15	6	3	2	15	8	7	2	1	1	—	—	—
EAST BENGAL ... ..	<b>18,719</b>	<b>9,458</b>	<b>9,261</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>'5</b>	<b>'5</b>	—
Khulna ... ..	1,312	679	633	33	16	16	5	3	2	—	—	—	13	1	1	—	—	—
Dacca ... ..	2,846	1,403	1,443	87	55	32	63	49	14	—	—	—	27	20	7	'01	'09	—
Mymensingh ... ..	4,365	2,225	2,137	86	44	42	10	8	2	21	11	10	40	22	17	'002	'009	—
Faridpur ... ..	2,025	1,018	1,007	56	28	28	21	16	5	—	—	—	5	3	2	'01	'01	—
Backergange ... ..	2,368	1,189	1,179	29	17	12	12	9	3	—	—	—	3	2	1	'003	'008	—
Tippora ... ..	2,369	1,204	1,154	73	43	30	5	4	1	13	6	7	5	4	1	'01	'01	—
Noakhali ... ..	1,279	635	644	37	25	12	8	7	1	—	—	—	33	21	12	2	2	—
Chittagong ... ..	1,489	710	779	13	9	4	9	8	1	31	28	3	47	46	1	'1	'1	—
Chittagong Hill Tracts ... ..	148	79	70	1	1	1	1	1	1	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	—
Hill Tippera ... ..	148	71	77	1	1	1	1	1	1	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	—

\* The figures for contiguous districts of Burma are not available. The figures for Bengal in columns 14-16 include 41,396 emigrants (30,824 males and 10,571 females) who did not state the district in which they were born. These in columns 17-19 include 30,094 persons (21,820 males and 8,274 females) enumerated outside India (as noted below) who were returned as born in Bengal, but whose district of birth was not returned. All of these are, therefore, left out of account in the figures for individual districts.

	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
1. Anglo-Egyptian Sudan ... ..	1	1	—	10. Mauritius ... ..	19,601	8,436
2. Basutoland ... ..	4	4	—	11. Natal ... ..	442	166
3. Cape of Good Hope ... ..	6	6	—	12. Northern Rhodesia ... ..	4	—
4. Ceylon ... ..	562	407	155	13. Southern ... ..	24	—
5. Federated Malay States ... ..	2,069	1,784	375	14. Scotland ... ..	20	—
6. Fiji ... ..	2,641	1,601	840	15. Seychelles ... ..	11	—
7. Hongkong ... ..	25	21	4	16. Straits Settlements ... ..	2,500	339
8. Johore ... ..	312	208	104	17. Transvaal ... ..	14	—
9. Malia ... ..	2	2	—	18. Uganda ... ..	8	—

SUBSIDIARY TABLE II.—EMIGRATION (ACTUAL FIGURES).

DISTRICT AND NATURAL DIVISIONS OF BIRTH.	ENUMERATED IN ('000 OMITTED)—																	
	DISTRICT OR NATURAL DIVISION.			CONTIGUOUS DISTRICTS IN PROVINCE.			OTHER PARTS OF PROVINCE.			CONTIGUOUS PARTS OF OTHER PROVINCE, ETC.			NON-CONTIGUOUS PARTS OF OTHER PROVINCE, ETC.			OUTSIDE INDIA.		
	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
<b>BIHAR AND ORISSA</b> ... ..	<b>37,986</b>	<b>18,585</b>	<b>19,401</b>	...	...	...	...	...	...	<b>709</b>	<b>375</b>	<b>334</b>	<b>1,191</b>	<b>645</b>	<b>546</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>NORTH BIHAR</b> ... ..	<b>13,792</b>	<b>6,713</b>	<b>7,079</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>302</b>	<b>261</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>02</b>	<b>02</b>	...
Baran ... ..	2,243	1,062	1,181	44	24	20	18	14	4	50	16	35	171	150	21	02	02	...
Champaran ... ..	1,813	900	913	17	5	12	3	2	1	7	3	4	20	19	1	...	...	...
Muzaffarpur ... ..	2,772	1,388	1,384	88	23	65	22	16	6	...	...	...	85	74	11	002	001	...
Darbhanga ... ..	2,643	1,358	1,285	92	33	59	32	23	9	...	...	...	52	47	5	001	001	...
Ilamnapore ... ..	2,003	992	1,011	126	37	89	2	1	1	...	...	...	39	26	13	001	001	...
Furness ... ..	1,791	899	892	8	4	4	17	11	6	25	13	12	4	3	1	...	...	...
<b>SOUTH BIHAR</b> ... ..	<b>7,609</b>	<b>3,753</b>	<b>3,856</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>384</b>	<b>276</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>02</b>	<b>02</b>	...
Patna ... ..	1,517	771	746	83	20	63	17	10	7	...	...	...	94	65	29	01	01	...
Gaya ... ..	2,098	1,039	1,059	75	29	46	31	13	18	...	...	...	99	73	26	007	007	...
Shalabad ... ..	1,805	886	919	24	10	14	25	16	9	26	4	23	100	70	30	003	003	...
Monohyr ... ..	2,040	1,007	1,032	113	42	71	32	18	14	...	...	...	94	70	24	...	...	...
<b>ORISSA</b> ... ..	<b>4,128</b>	<b>1,988</b>	<b>2,140</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>145</b>	<b>121</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>01</b>	<b>01</b>	...
Cuttack ... ..	2,078	991	1,088	59	26	33	6	4	2	...	...	...	107	88	19	01	01	...
Balasore ... ..	1,023	492	531	28	9	19	2	1	1	9	3	6	33	20	13	...	...	...
Puri ... ..	980	499	491	24	7	17	1	0	1	04	03	01	10	8	2	001	001	...
<b>CHOTA NAGPUR PLATEAU</b>	<b>11,942</b>	<b>5,901</b>	<b>6,041</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>213</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>661</b>	<b>355</b>	<b>306</b>	...	...	...
Hazaribagh ... ..	1,247	606	639	53	22	31	3	2	1	...	...	...	88	53	35	...	...	...
Ranchi ... ..	1,354	690	664	69	32	37	12	6	6	5	3	2	230	122	107	...	...	...
Palamu ... ..	661	328	333	13	5	8	4	2	2	10	6	4	10	5	5	...	...	...
Manbhum ... ..	1,405	708	697	25	7	18	3	2	1	23	9	14	63	37	26	...	...	...
Singbhum ... ..	644	320	324	69	32	37	3	2	1	6	3	3	30	15	15	...	...	...
Southern Parganas ... ..	1,776	885	891	48	20	28	3	2	1	119	60	59	156	89	74	...	...	...
Angul ... ..	181	90	91	19	8	11	6	4	2	...	...	...	11	7	4	...	...	...
Sambalpur ... ..	701	346	355	56	27	29	25	13	6	31	15	16	84	44	40	...	...	...
Orissa Feudatory States ... ..	3,497	1,740	1,757	61	19	42	04	08	03	7	3	4	7	4	3	...	...	...
Chota Nagpur States ... ..	130	64	66	3	1	2	005	003	001	...	...	...	15	6	9	...	...	...
<b>SIKKIM</b> ... ..	<b>58</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>29</b>	...	...	...	...	...	...	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	...	...	...

The figures in columns 17 to 19 against Bihar and Orissa include 15,711 persons (10,866 males and 4,845 females) enumerated outside India (as noted below) whose district of birth is not known and who are, therefore, left out of account in the figures for individual districts:—

	Total.	Male.	Female.		Total.	Male.	Female.
1. Capc of Good Hope ... ..	190	179	11	4. Scotland ... ..	5	5	...
2. Natal ... ..	15,026	9,749	5,277	5. Transvaal ... ..	487	420	67
3. Orange Free State ... ..	3	2	1				



SUBSIDIARY TABLE III.—PROPORTIONAL MIGRATION TO AND FROM EACH DISTRICT.

DISTRICT AND NATURAL DIVISION.	NUMBER PER MILLE OF ACTUAL POPULATION OF—						NUMBER OF FEMALES TO 100 MALES.			
	IMMIGRANTS.			EMIGRANTS.			IMMIGRANTS.		EMIGRANTS.	
	Total.	From contiguous districts.	From other places.	Total.	To contiguous districts.	To other places.	From contiguous districts.	From other places.	To contiguous districts.	To other places.
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<b>BENGAL</b> ... ..	<b>43</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>40</b>
<b>WEST BENGAL</b> ... ..	<b>52</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>62</b>
Burdwan ... ..	117	41	36	82	45	37	115	37	374	63
Birbhum ... ..	69	56	11	54	41	13	143	48	154	80
Bankura ... ..	41	37	4	154	114	40	296	37	93	59
Midnapore ... ..	27	14	13	61	42	19	131	49	95	73
Hoojly ... ..	171	100	71	137	77	60	116	34	97	43
Howrah ... ..	201	74	127	43	33	10	80	39	76	63
<b>CENTRAL BENGAL</b> ... ..	<b>125</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>64</b>
24-Parganas ... ..	165	37	108	57	30	7	78	33	96	73
Calcutta ... ..	714	110	598	98	33	45	78	30	90	77
Nadia ... ..	45	30	16	84	38	26	144	37	97	57
Murshidabad ... ..	53	41	14	78	60	19	137	37	121	70
Jessore ... ..	34	28	6	42	29	13	123	37	122	24
<b>NORTH BENGAL</b> ... ..	<b>86</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>46</b>
Rajshahi ... ..	64	21	30	26	22	4	68	48	101	59
Dinajpur ... ..	117	22	92	14	11	3	91	59	184	55
Jalpaiguri ... ..	294	41	253	23	21	2	87	71	150	55
Darjeeling ... ..	441	42	392	39	35	14	83	74	81	57
Rangpur ... ..	75	21	54	26	24	2	92	39	24	35
Bogra ... ..	64	39	35	26	23	3	107	44	103	67
Pabna ... ..	45	24	21	72	37	35	77	21	20	69
Mahla ... ..	118	90	28	41	37	4	100	45	93	58
Cooch Behar ... ..	93	45	48	61	57	4	117	19	90	85
<b>EAST BENGAL</b> ... ..	<b>16</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>29</b>
Khulna ... ..	40	34	6	29	24	5	95	13	114	40
Decoa ... ..	39	22	17	60	39	31	94	22	57	32
Myensingh ... ..	36	17	19	35	24	11	69	29	94	62
Fardpur ... ..	45	37	8	38	28	12	84	25	68	38
Backergunge ... ..	25	16	9	19	12	7	49	17	71	37
Tippers ... ..	25	20	5	39	35	4	69	23	70	20
Noakhla ... ..	18	10	8	37	28	9	111	31	48	6
Chittagong ... ..	12	4	8	66	60	6	66	44	19	4
Chittagong Hill Tracts ... ..	41	31	10	6	5	...	18	35	87	57
Hill Tippera ... ..	356	314	42	6	5	1	60	69	103	43
<b>BIHAR AND ORISSA</b> ... ..	<b>12</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>41</b>
<b>NORTH BIHAR</b> ... ..	<b>22</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>127</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>16</b>
Surat ... ..	21	19	2	124	41	83	338	73	139	16
Champaran ... ..	50	39	11	25	15	19	127	130	300	11
Munshapur ... ..	26	21	5	68	31	37	225	149	376	18
Darbhanga ... ..	30	23	7	60	31	29	377	106	181	20
Bhagalpur ... ..	64	47	17	78	59	19	136	52	113	59
Purnea ... ..	100	85	15	19	16	3	90	50	100	39
<b>SOUTH BIHAR</b> ... ..	<b>20</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>164</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>146</b>	<b>45</b>
Patna ... ..	57	30	7	108	39	69	180	33	215	48
Gaya ... ..	28	25	3	95	35	60	308	56	159	47
Sehabad ... ..	33	29	4	95	38	57	275	57	204	47
Monghyr ... ..	44	37	7	112	53	59	192	33	170	44
<b>ORISSA</b> ... ..	<b>14</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>254</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>126</b>	<b>12</b>
Cuttack ... ..	16	12	4	82	28	54	319	81	126	23
Balasore ... ..	31	28	3	69	36	33	192	42	193	14
Puri ... ..	42	32	10	35	24	11	194	63	241	23
<b>CHOTA NAGPUR PLATEAU</b> ... ..	<b>35</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>86</b>
Hazaribagh ... ..	32	27	5	112	41	71	115	34	139	66
Ranchi ... ..	24	15	9	220	55	167	180	60	104	86
Palamu ... ..	38	34	4	55	35	20	89	57	110	79
Manbhum ... ..	92	44	48	75	22	53	141	37	139	98
Singbhum ... ..	72	46	26	152	104	48	176	88	114	98
South Parganas ... ..	57	43	14	171	87	84	154	59	106	90
Angul ... ..	94	84	10	106	97	9	167	24	136	60
Rambajpur ... ..	58	40	18	233	117	116	151	74	106	87
Orissa States ... ..	79	75	4	20	18	2	112	80	310	67
Chota Nagpur States ... ..	126	130	6	13	2	11	114	59	113	233
<b>SIKKIM</b> ... ..	<b>339</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>305</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>66</b>

SUBSIDIARY TABLE IV—MIGRATION BETWEEN NATURAL DIVISIONS (ACTUAL FIGURES) COMPARED WITH 1901.

**BENGAL.**

NATURAL DIVISIONS IN WHICH BORN.	NUMBER ENUMERATED (000'S OMITTED) IN NATURAL DIVISIONS.				
	West Bengal.	Central Bengal.	North Bengal.	East Bengal.	TOTAL.
1	2	3	4	5	6
<b>TOTAL</b> ... { 1911 ...	442	1,006	926	310	2,684
... { 1901 ...	154	487	318	194	1,153
West Bengal ... { 1911 ...	[n. 020]	222	6	2	244
... { 1901 ...	[7,495]	191	7	5	204
Central Bengal ... { 1911 ...	75	[7,072]	96	99	230
... { 1901 ...	69	[6,977]	74	62	195
North Bengal ... { 1911 ...	2	20	[9,800]	22	54
... { 1901 ...	1	21	[5,391]	26	47
East Bengal ... { 1911 ...	7	94	79	[18,719]	179
... { 1901 ...	5	75	43	[16,707]	123
Outside the Province { 1911 ...	358	650	745	214	1,976
... { 1901 ...	28	200	194	101	584

**BIHAR AND ORISSA.**

NATURAL DIVISIONS IN WHICH BORN.	NUMBER ENUMERATED (000'S OMITTED) IN NATURAL DIVISIONS.				
	North Bihar.	South Bihar.	Orissa.	Chota Nagpur Plateau.	TOTAL.
1	2	3	4	5	6
<b>TOTAL</b> ... { 1911 ...	311	158	60	438	964
... { 1901 ...	262	154	51	284	751
North Bihar ... { 1911 ...	[12,792]	99	502	29	128
... { 1901 ...	[12,553]	75	528	30	108
South Bihar ... { 1911 ...	131	[7,500]	776	101	233
... { 1901 ...	119	[7,555]	590	88	200
Orissa ... { 1911 ...	709	741	[4,198]	71	72
... { 1901 ...	95	797	[4,032]	69	62
Chota Nagpur Plateau { 1911 ...	26	17	28	[11,942]	81
... { 1901 ...	25	16	20	[9,493]	82
Outside Province ... { 1911 ...	145	69	3	294	450
... { 1901 ...	134	62	29	204	331

The figures within brackets show the number born in and enumerated in each natural division.

SUBSIDIARY TABLE V.—MIGRATION BETWEEN THE PROVINCE AND OTHER PARTS OF INDIA.

Total.

PROVINCE OR STATE.	IMMIGRANTS TO—					EMIGRANTS FROM—					EXCESS (+) OR DEFICIENCY (-) OF IMMIGRANTS OVER EMIGRANTS.				
	Bengal.	Bihar and Orissa.	Bengal, Bihar and Orissa.			Bengal.	Bihar and Orissa.	Bengal, Bihar and Orissa.			Bengal.	Bihar and Orissa.	Bengal, Bihar and Orissa.		
	1911.	1911.	1911.	1901.	Variation.	1911.	1911.	1911.	1901.	Variation.	1911.	1911.	1911.	1901.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	
Ajmer-Merwara ... ..	653	143	796	464	+ 332	289	112	401	225	+ 176	+	364	+ 31	+ 395	+ 69
Andaman and Nicobars ... ..	80	13	93	158	+ 65	1,279	896	3,165	2,457	+ 708	+	1,199	+ 573	+ 2,072	+ 2,399
Assam ... ..	87,089	3,142	70,231	88,296	+ 11,955	193,575	298,864	502,439	503,576	+ 1,137	-	126,486	- 205,722	- 222,206	- 455,350
Ditto States ... ..	221	20	241	...	+ 241	300	603	603	...	...	-	79	- 463	- 463	...
Baluchistan ... ..	97	19	116	...	+ 116	123	69	155	...	+ 186	-	26	- 43	- 69	...
Ditto (Agency Tracts) ... ..	19	...	19	...	+ 19	2	1	3	...	+ 2	+	17	- 1	+ 16	...
Baroda States ... ..	154	108	222	124	+ 98	231	150	482	916	+ 434	+	206	- 42	+ 250	+ 782
Bengal ... ..	...	165,333	...	...	...	...	1,353,943	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ditto States ... ..	...	61	...	...	...	...	18,429	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bihar and Orissa ... ..	1,248,401	...	...	...	...	153,600	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ditto States ... ..	2,970	...	...	...	...	11,984	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bombay (including Aden) ... ..	2,949	2,209	8,151	5,399	+ 2,752	6,377	870	7,355	5,402	+ 1,953	+	438	+ 1,336	+ 898	+ 1,293
Ditto States ... ..	2,578	1,229	8,507	1,296	+ 7,211	497	350	677	...	...	+	3,081	+ 649	+ 2,320	...
Burma ... ..	2,600	173	2,773	1,664	+ 1,109	135,766	8,292	144,168	154,998	+ 10,732	-	23,156	- 8,219	+ 14,937	+ 145,234
Central India Agency ... ..	2,161	2,610	5,771	25,110	+ 19,349	1,004	1,115	2,119	4,194	+ 2,075	+	2,157	+ 2,495	+ 4,652	+ 16,920
Central Provinces and Berar ... ..	19,375	26,450	67,533	46,734	+ 11,099	2,442	98,674	105,216	44,650	+ 60,566	+	15,836	- 60,219	+ 44,382	+ 17,020
Ditto States ... ..	1,499	14,151	15,750	15,534	+ 244	2,256	29,994	32,180	...	...	+	627	- 15,743	+ 16,400	...
Coorg ... ..	3	2	5	5	+ 3	8	2	6	18	+ 10	-	3	+ 3	+ 1	+ 13
Hyderabad ... ..	244	304	448	682	+ 234	717	77	794	290	+ 504	+	472	+ 167	+ 288	+ 372
Kashmir ... ..	292	83	375	325	+ 51	131	79	210	186	+ 24	+	165	+ 4	+ 166	+ 157
Madras (including Laccadives) ... ..	14,260	25,469	49,729	26,695	+ 23,034	6,237	1,401	7,938	9,824	+ 1,886	+	7,708	+ 24,068	+ 41,791	+ 17,225
Ditto States ... ..	103	19	122	954	+ 832	106	27	183	...	+ 1,708	-	53	- 8	+ 81	...
Cochin ... ..	46	2	51	...	+ 51	22	25	47	...	...	+	26	- 22	+ 4	...
Pondicherry ... ..	54	25	79	...	+ 70	294	2	285	...	...	-	70	+ 24	+ 26	...
Mysore ... ..	428	304	632	621	+ 11	412	59	473	415	+ 68	+	19	+ 145	+ 160	+ 206
North-West Frontier Province ... ..	1,034	351	1,385	...	+ 1,385	272	22	294	...	...	+	294	+ 262	+ 1,091	...
Ditto (Agencies and Tribal areas) ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	12	2	14	...	...	-	14	- 2	- 14	...
Punjab ... ..	17,264	4,883	22,447	10,437	+ 11,910	2,780	1,191	4,071	7,074	+ 2,903	+	12,874	+ 3,892	+ 17,476	+ 10,289
Ditto States ... ..	1,012	415	1,427	1,025	+ 402	239	254	493	...	...	+	772	+ 161	+ 934	...
Rajputana Agency ... ..	25,659	15,188	21,947	40,572	+ 11,375	732	308	1,032	884	+ 244	+	25,922	+ 14,796	+ 50,718	+ 29,688
Sikkim ... ..	2,204	12	2,366	2,186*	+ 1,178	2,002	189	2,341	...	...	+	309	- 177	+ 132	+ 2,188
United Provinces of Agra and Oudh ... ..	404,198	153,604	528,002	495,302	+ 33,199	25,859	105,061	130,720	128,991	+ 1,729	+	378,539	+ 18,743	+ 297,232	+ 267,949
Ditto States ... ..	1,468	439	1,937	1,187	+ 800	160	20	180	...	...	+	1,338	+ 419	+ 1,757	...
<b>Total British Territory</b> ... ..	<b>1,781,286</b>	<b>374,012</b>	<b>741,564</b>	<b>641,655</b>	<b>+ 99,909</b>	<b>530,595</b>	<b>1,849,487</b>	<b>992,738</b>	<b>868,584</b>	<b>+ 167,281</b>	<b>+ 1,250,691</b>	<b>- 1,475,475</b>	<b>+ 251,175</b>	<b>- 139,383</b>	
<b>Total Native States</b> ... ..	<b>55,263</b>	<b>35,763</b>	<b>87,005</b>	<b>87,546</b>	<b>+ 541</b>	<b>21,992</b>	<b>51,546</b>	<b>43,126</b>			<b>+ 33,271</b>	<b>+ 15,379</b>	<b>+ 43,679</b>		
French Settlements ... ..	1,608	80	1,688	1,012	+ 674	...	...	...	10,399	- 10,999	+	1,406	+ 80	+ 1,686	+ 9,937
Portuguese Settlements ... ..	725	9	764	690	+ 74	...	...	...	...	...	+	755	+ 9	+ 764	+ 690
India (unspecified) ... ..	108	44	150	...	+ 150	...	...	...	...	...	+	108	+ 44	+ 150	...

The figures for 1901 refer to Bengal as constituted in that year.  
 \* Excludes 24,510 persons born and enumerated in Sikkim.  
 † Figures for French and Portuguese settlements are not available.

SUBSIDIARY TABLE V.—MIGRATION BETWEEN THE PROVINCE AND OTHER PARTS OF INDIA.

British Territory.

PROVINCE OR STATE.	IMMIGRANTS TO—					EMIGRANTS FROM—					EXCESS (+) OR DEFICIENCY (-) OF IMMIGRANTS OVER EMIGRANTS.			
	Bengal.	Bihar and Orissa.	Bengal, Bihar and Orissa.			Bengal.	Bihar and Orissa.	Bengal, Bihar and Orissa.			Bengal.	Bihar and Orissa.	Bengal, Bihar and Orissa.	
	1911.	1911.	1911.	1901.	Variation.	1911.	1911.	1911.	1901.	Variation.	1911.	1911.	1911.	1901.
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Ajmer-Merwara ... ..	630	141	791	442	+ 349	280	112	401	...	...	+ 281	+ 29	+ 290	...
Andaman and Nicobar ...	80	12	98	126	+ 60	1,271	872	2,092	...	...	- 1,141	- 859	- 2,000	...
Assam ... ..	85,290	2,126	29,429	28,969	+ 10,438	191,612	292,698	584,210	...	...	- 126,272	- 329,563	- 544,835	...
Ditto State ... ..	125	20	105	...	+ 155	200	505	802	...	...	- 153	- 462	- 848	...
Baluchistan ... ..	97	15	112	...	+ 112	122	62	182	...	...	- 26	- 47	- 73	...
Ditto (agency Tracts) ...	19	...	19	...	+ 19	2	1	2	...	...	- 17	- 1	- 16	...
Baroda States ... ..	124	99	223	109	+ 114	222	120	482	...	...	- 208	- 51	- 350	...
Bengal ... ..	...	152,261	...	...	...	...	1,229,261	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ditto States ... ..	...	49	...	...	...	...	18,430	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bihar and Orissa ... ..	1,229,261	...	...	...	...	152,261	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ditto States ... ..	2,962	...	...	...	...	11,962	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bombay (including Adm) ...	2,922	1,882	7,202	5,246	+ 2,956	6,347	707	7,104	...	...	- 424	+ 1,120	+ 702	...
Ditto States ... ..	2,475	849	2,324	1,282	+ 2,034	495	862	682	...	...	+ 1,960	+ 481	+ 2,441	...
Burma ... ..	2,596	126	2,721	1,646	+ 1,105	124,999	5,292	142,277	...	...	- 122,889	- 8,227	- 160,626	...
Central India Agency ... ..	2,191	3,076	5,227	8,588	+ 3,161	1,004	1,047	2,051	...	...	+ 2,127	+ 2,029	+ 4,198	...
Central Provinces and Berar ...	18,010	19,742	27,759	24,726	+ 12,022	2,540	23,795	27,225	...	...	+ 14,476	- 74,042	- 29,565	...
Ditto States ... ..	1,599	7,622	9,422	7,196	+ 7,267	2,222	22,291	21,245	...	...	- 222	- 21,408	- 22,041	...
Coorg ... ..	2	5	2	5	+ 2	6	2	5	...	...	- 2	+ 2	...	...
Hyderabad ... ..	244	192	427	642	+ 206	717	17	724	...	...	- 472	+ 176	+ 297	...
Kashmir ... ..	292	21	274	222	+ 52	121	79	200	...	...	+ 222	+ 2	+ 164	...
Madras (including Lakshadweep) ...	12,170	16,796	29,965	20,271	+ 9,694	6,527	426	6,953	...	...	+ 6,522	+ 16,269	+ 22,022	...
Ditto States ... ..	102	19	122	266	+ 143	106	27	133	...	...	- 22	- 2	- 61	...
Cochin ... ..	45	2	57	...	+ 51	22	25	47	...	...	+ 25	- 22	+ 4	...
Travancore ... ..	54	26	70	...	+ 70	124	2	126	...	...	+ 70	+ 24	+ 56	...
Mysore ... ..	427	190	617	614	+ 2	412	29	471	...	...	+ 14	+ 121	+ 145	...
North-West Frontier Province ...	1,011	221	1,222	...	+ 1,322	272	22	294	...	...	+ 729	+ 296	+ 1,025	...
Ditto (agencies and tribal areas) ...	...	...	...	...	...	12	2	14	...	...	+ 12	- 2	+ 14	...
Punjab ... ..	17,482	4,088	21,246	18,170	+ 8,298	2,752	1,147	4,299	...	...	+ 12,720	+ 2,259	+ 16,669	...
Ditto States ... ..	1,012	270	1,282	1,001	+ 281	225	264	489	...	...	+ 777	+ 110	+ 887	...
Rajputana Agency ... ..	25,744	12,522	49,296	27,224	+ 11,471	726	298	1,124	...	...	+ 23,008	+ 12,224	+ 48,222	...
Sikkim ... ..	2,254	...	2,262	2,187	+ 1,179	2,022	169	2,241	...	...	+ 202	+ 177	+ 225	...
United Provinces of Agra and Outh ...	299,078	122,104	291,282	482,727	+ 28,945	22,278	104,923	126,271	...	...	+ 274,000	+ 17,111	+ 291,111	...
Ditto States ... ..	1,480	427	1,917	1,020	+ 897	160	20	180	...	...	+ 1,220	+ 417	+ 1,727	...
<b>Total British Territory</b> ... ..	<b>1,724,277</b>	<b>321,747</b>	<b>662,292</b>	<b>580,390</b>	<b>+ 82,902</b>	<b>527,612</b>	<b>1,822,249</b>	<b>977,530</b>	...	...	<b>+ 1,197,264</b>	<b>- 1,511,502</b>	<b>- 314,238</b>	...
<b>Total Native States</b> ... ..	<b>54,122</b>	<b>26,920</b>	<b>77,051</b>	<b>55,957</b>	<b>+ 21,094</b>	<b>21,978</b>	<b>50,825</b>	<b>42,401</b>	...	...	<b>+ 32,154</b>	<b>- 23,895</b>	<b>+ 34,650</b>	...
French Settlements ... ..	1,606	79	1,685	1,019	+ 673	...	...	...	...	...	+ 1,606	+ 2	+ 1,608	...
Portuguese Settlements ... ..	722	9	741	671	+ 70	...	...	...	...	...	+ 722	+ 2	+ 741	...
India (unspecified) ... ..	100	44	150	...	+ 100	...	...	...	...	...	+ 100	+ 44	+ 150	...

The figures for 1901 refer to Bengal as constituted in that year.

SUBSIDIARY TABLE V.—MIGRATION BETWEEN THE PROVINCE AND OTHER PARTS OF INDIA.

*Native States.*

PROVINCE OR STATE	IMMIGRANTS TO—					EMIGRANTS FROM—					EXCESS (+) OR DEFICIENCY (-) OF IMMIGRANTS OVER EMIGRANTS			
	Bengal	Bihar and Orissa	Bengal, Bihar and Orissa.			Bengal	Bihar and Orissa	Bengal, Bihar and Orissa.			Bengal	Bihar and Orissa	Bengal, Bihar and Orissa.	
	1911.	1911.	1911.	1901.	Variation.	1911.	1911.	1911.	1901.	Variation.	1911.	1911.	1911.	1901.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Ajmer-Merwara ...	2	7	5	22	- 17	...	...	...	...	...	+	5	+	2
Andaman and Nicobars ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	+	25	+	14
Assam ...	30,799	7	30,600	10,307	+ 11,499	1,043	9,165	8,129	...	...	+	29,536	+	29,577
Ditto State ...	88	...	88	...	+ 96	...	...	...	...	...	+	96	+	88
B (uchistan ...	...	4	...	...	+ 4	...	...	...	...	...	+	...	+	4
Ditto (Agency Tracts) ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	+	...	+	...
Baroda States ...	...	9	...	96	- 16	...	...	...	...	...	+	...	+	9
Bengal ...	...	11,962	...	...	...	...	3,962	...	...	...	+	...	+	...
Ditto States ...	...	2	...	...	...	...	8	...	...	...	+	...	+	...
Bihar and Orissa ...	18,420	...	...	...	...	49	...	...	...	...	+	...	+	...
Ditto States ...	8	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	+	...	+	...
Bombay (including Aden) ...	26	319	345	193	+ 192	30	119	149	...	...	+	4	+	200
Ditto States ...	103	280	463	8	+ 470	3	12	14	...	...	+	101	+	368
Burma ...	4	19	22	18	+ 4	771	...	771	...	...	+	767	+	18
Central India Agency ...	...	554	534	14,728	- 14,194	...	68	68	...	...	+	...	+	498
Central Provinces and Berar ...	1,342	18,712	20,074	21,098	- 1,024	3	6,269	4,891	...	...	+	1,360	+	12,422
Ditto States ...	...	6,208	6,328	12,241	- 7,042	4	632	537	...	...	+	4	+	2,665
Coorg ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	+	...	+	1
Hydrabad ...	...	11	11	19	- 8	...	...	...	...	...	+	...	+	11
Kashmir ...	...	2	2	3	- 1	...	...	...	...	...	+	...	+	2
Madras (including Lakshadweep) ...	1,070	18,824	19,764	6,424	+ 12,340	...	975	975	...	...	+	1,070	+	17,719
Ditto States ...	...	...	...	689	- 689	...	...	...	...	...	+	...	+	18,789
Cochin ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	+	...	+	...
Tranquebar ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	+	...	+	...
Mysore ...	1	14	18	7	+ 8	1	...	1	...	...	+	33	+	14
North-West Frontier Province ...	28	30	33	...	+ 33	...	...	...	...	...	+	...	+	30
Ditto (agencies and tribal areas) ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	+	...	+	...
Punjab ...	82	797	879	267	+ 812	28	44	72	...	...	+	24	+	751
Ditto States ...	...	...	...	4	+ 41	4	...	4	...	...	+	4	+	45
Rajputana Agency ...	918	1,626	2,461	2,647	- 186	1	...	1	...	...	+	914	+	1,526
Sikkim ...	...	...	...	1	- 1	...	...	...	...	...	+	...	+	...
United Provinces of Agra and Oudh ...	4,820	1,700	6,220	12,076	- 6,756	81	68	149	...	...	+	4,339	+	1,622
Ditto States ...	18	3	20	117	- 97	...	...	...	...	...	+	18	+	2
<b>Total British Territory—</b>	<b>56,409</b>	<b>52,265</b>	<b>78,272</b>	<b>61,265</b>	<b>+ 17,007</b>	<b>2,982</b>	<b>16,238</b>	<b>15,209</b>	...	...	<b>+ 53,427</b>	<b>+ 36,027</b>	<b>+ 63,063</b>	
<b>Total Native States</b>	<b>1,131</b>	<b>8,833</b>	<b>9,954</b>	<b>31,589</b>	<b>- 21,635</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>721</b>	<b>725</b>	...	...	<b>+ 1,117</b>	<b>+ 8,112</b>	<b>+ 9,229</b>	
French Settlements ...	...	1	1	...	+ 1	...	...	...	...	...	+	...	+	1
Portuguese Settlements ...	22	...	22	19	+ 4	...	...	...	...	...	+	22	+	22
India (unspecified) ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	+	...	+	...

The figures for 1901 refer to Bengal as constituted in that year.

SUBSIDIARY TABLE VI.—MIGRATION TO AND FROM BORDER DISTRICTS, BENGAL.

Enumerated in—	Born in the districts of the contiguous Province of—	POPULATION.			Born in—	Enumerated in the districts of the contiguous Province of—	POPULATION.		
		Total.	Male.	Female.			Total.	Male.	Female.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
MIDNAPORE	<b>Bihar and Orissa</b>	<b>26,408</b>	<b>14,610</b>	<b>11,798</b>	MIDNAPORE	<b>Bihar and Orissa</b>	<b>20,194</b>	<b>8,258</b>	<b>11,939</b>
	Contiguous Districts	15,852	8,385	7,467		Contiguous Districts	19,206	7,615	11,594
	Balesore	9,379	5,028	4,351		Balesore	8,163	3,814	4,349
	Manbhum	811	408	403		Manbhum	3,439	2,077	1,362
	Singhbhum	5,672	3,318	2,354		Singhbhum	7,604	2,731	4,873
	Other Districts	10,546	5,326	5,220		Other Districts	958	643	315
	<b>Bihar and Orissa States</b>	<b>1,559</b>	<b>804</b>	<b>755</b>		<b>Bihar and Orissa States</b>	<b>10,126</b>	<b>5,065</b>	<b>5,061</b>
	Mayurbhanj	1,058	749	309		Mayurbhanj	9,938	4,973	4,965
	Other States	531	56	476		Other States	188	92	96
BANKURA	<b>Bihar and Orissa</b>	<b>13,618</b>	<b>4,960</b>	<b>8,658</b>	BANKURA	<b>Bihar and Orissa</b>	<b>28,802</b>	<b>19,379</b>	<b>9,423</b>
	Manbhum	11,149	3,667	7,482		Manbhum	25,533	17,566	7,967
	Other Districts	1,869	1,273	646		Other Districts	3,269	1,813	1,456
BURDWAN	<b>Bihar and Orissa</b>	<b>67,867</b>	<b>39,317</b>	<b>28,550</b>	BURDWAN	<b>Bihar and Orissa</b>	<b>10,511</b>	<b>4,867</b>	<b>5,644</b>
	Contiguous Districts	38,932	20,410	18,522		Contiguous Districts	7,185	2,888	4,297
	Sonthal Parganas	15,378	12,102	3,276		Sonthal Parganas	3,539	1,431	2,108
	Manbhum	11,554	5,134	6,420		Manbhum	3,646	1,467	2,179
	Other Districts	28,935	16,907	12,028		Other Districts	3,326	1,979	1,347
BIRBHUM	<b>Bihar and Orissa</b>	<b>32,977</b>	<b>16,030</b>	<b>16,947</b>	BIRBHUM	<b>Bihar and Orissa</b>	<b>14,114</b>	<b>5,532</b>	<b>8,582</b>
	Sonthal Parganas	28,282	12,607	15,675		Sonthal Parganas	11,696	4,074	7,622
	Other Districts	4,695	3,423	1,272		Other Districts	2,418	1,458	960
MURSHIDABAD	<b>Bihar and Orissa</b>	<b>23,811</b>	<b>13,978</b>	<b>9,833</b>	MURSHIDABAD	<b>Bihar and Orissa</b>	<b>13,791</b>	<b>6,245</b>	<b>7,546</b>
	Sonthal Parganas	14,933	7,379	7,554		Sonthal Parganas	7,636	3,098	4,538
	Other Districts	8,878	6,708	2,170		Other Districts	6,155	3,147	3,008
MALDA	<b>Bihar and Orissa</b>	<b>71,613</b>	<b>39,190</b>	<b>32,423</b>	MALDA	<b>Bihar and Orissa</b>	<b>17,432</b>	<b>8,063</b>	<b>9,369</b>
	Contiguous Districts	55,317	26,163	19,154		Contiguous Districts	16,121	7,449	8,672
	Sonthal Parganas	48,402	24,973	23,429		Sonthal Parganas	6,824	3,144	3,680
	Purua	6,915	3,190	3,725		Purua	9,297	4,315	4,982
	Other Districts	16,296	11,027	5,269		Other Districts	1,311	604	707
DINAJPUR	<b>Bihar and Orissa</b>	<b>132,568</b>	<b>81,175</b>	<b>51,393</b>	DINAJPUR	<b>Bihar and Orissa</b>	<b>4,337</b>	<b>2,200</b>	<b>2,137</b>
	Purua	7,243	3,566	3,677		Purua	2,976	1,104	1,872
	Other Districts	125,325	77,609	47,716		Other Districts	1,361	1,096	265
JALPAIGURI	<b>Bihar and Orissa</b>	<b>162,452</b>	<b>91,856</b>	<b>70,596</b>	JALPAIGURI	<b>Bihar and Orissa</b>	<b>1,753</b>	<b>943</b>	<b>810</b>
	Purua	3,282	1,773	1,509		Purua	685	340	345
	Other Districts	159,170	90,083	69,087		Other Districts	1,068	603	465
	<b>Assam</b>	<b>889</b>	<b>672</b>	<b>217</b>		<b>Assam</b>	<b>1,869</b>	<b>1,025</b>	<b>844</b>
	Goalpara	320	189	131		Goalpara	1,818	994	824
	Other Districts	569	483	166		Other Districts	51	31	20

SUBSIDIARY TABLE VI.—MIGRATION TO AND FROM BORDER DISTRICTS, BENGAL—*continued.*

Enumerated in—	Born in the districts of the contiguous Province of—	POPULATION.			Born in—	Enumerated in the districts of the contiguous Province of—	POPULATION.		
		Total.	Male.	Female.			Total.	Male.	Female.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
DARJEELING	<b>Bihar and Orissa</b>	<b>28,339</b>	<b>17,700</b>	<b>10,639</b>	DARJEELING	<b>Bihar and Orissa</b>	<b>743</b>	<b>530</b>	<b>213</b>
	Purnea	7,305	4,078	3,227		Purnea	185	96	89
	Other Districts	21,034	13,622	7,412		Other Districts	558	434	124
	<b>Sikkim</b>	<b>2,974</b>	<b>1,423</b>	<b>1,551</b>		<b>Sikkim</b>	<b>2,993</b>	<b>1,555</b>	<b>1,438</b>
COOCH BEHAR	<b>Assam</b>	<b>3,293</b>	<b>1,927</b>	<b>1,366</b>	COOCH BEHAR	<b>Assam</b>	<b>1,677</b>	<b>912</b>	<b>765</b>
	Goalpara	2,615	1,351	1,264		Goalpara	1,526	795	728
	Other Districts	678	576	102		Other Districts	151	114	37
RANGPUR	<b>Assam</b>	<b>1,780</b>	<b>1,144</b>	<b>636</b>	RANGPUR	<b>Assam</b>	<b>16,691</b>	<b>9,429</b>	<b>7,262</b>
	Contiguous Districts	1,067	700	367		Contiguous Districts	15,882	8,727	7,155
	Goalpara	1,036	685	350		Goalpara	15,304	8,288	6,916
	Garo Hills	31	14	17		Garo Hills	578	339	239
	Other Districts	713	544	169		Other Districts	809	702	107
MYMENSINGH	<b>Assam</b>	<b>13,065</b>	<b>8,483</b>	<b>6,582</b>	MYMENSINGH	<b>Assam</b>	<b>58,358</b>	<b>32,410</b>	<b>25,948</b>
	Contiguous Districts	12,826	8,342	6,484		Contiguous Districts	21,485	11,455	10,015
	Garo Hills	797	480	317		Garo Hills	4,249	2,313	2,036
	Sylhet	12,029	8,062	6,167		Sylhet	17,216	9,540	7,976
	Other Districts	239	141	98		Other Districts	36,893	20,057	14,938
TIPPERA	<b>Assam</b>	<b>8,372</b>	<b>3,460</b>	<b>4,912</b>	TIPPERA	<b>Assam</b>	<b>16,281</b>	<b>8,326</b>	<b>7,955</b>
	Sylhet	8,187	3,271	4,916		Sylhet	15,153	7,549	7,604
	Other Districts	185	89	96		Other Districts	1,128	777	351
HILL TIPPERA	<b>Assam</b>	<b>27,506</b>	<b>14,660</b>	<b>12,846</b>	HILL TIPPERA	<b>Assam</b>	<b>286</b>	<b>177</b>	<b>169</b>
	Contiguous Districts	26,309	14,190	12,119		Contiguous Districts	271	166	165
	Sylhet	25,549	13,813	11,736		Sylhet	265	161	164
	Lushai Hills	760	377	343		Lushai Hills	6	0	1
	Other Districts	1,197	670	527		Other Districts	18	11	4
CHITTAGONG HILL TRACTS	<b>Assam</b>	<b>617</b>	<b>329</b>	<b>288</b>	CHITTAGONG HILL TRACTS	<b>Assam</b>	<b>804</b>	<b>425</b>	<b>379</b>
	Lushai Hills	452	205	247		Lushai Hills	803	424	378
	Other Districts	165	124	41		Other Districts	1	1	—
	<b>Burma</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>12</b>		<b>Burma</b>	—	—	—
	Northern Arakan	—	—	—		Northern Arakan	—	—	—
Other Districts	28	16	12	Other Districts	—	—	—		
CHITTAGONG	<b>Burma</b>	<b>1,028</b>	<b>508</b>	<b>518</b>	CHITTAGONG	<b>Burma</b>	<b>63,968</b>	<b>30,261</b>	<b>3,707</b>
	Akyab	845	409	436		Akyab	30,521	17,715	3,068
	Other Districts	181	99	82		Other Districts	33,447	12,546	601

SUBSIDIARY TABLE VI.—MIGRATION TO AND FROM BORDER DISTRICTS, BIHAR AND ORISSA.

Enumerated in—	Born in the districts of the contiguous province of—	POPULATION.			Born in—	Enumerated in the districts of the contiguous Province of—	POPULATION.		
		Total.	Male.	Female.			Total.	Male.	Female.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
PURNEA	<b>Bengal</b>	<b>20,819</b>	<b>10,175</b>	<b>10,644</b>	PURNEA	<b>Bengal</b>	<b>27,281</b>	<b>14,418</b>	<b>12,863</b>
	Contiguous Districts	13,143	5,760	7,383		Contiguous Districts	24,745	13,811	10,934
	Darjeeling	165	96	89		Darjeeling	7,305	4,076	3,229
	Jalpaiguri	685	369	440		Jalpaiguri	3,282	1,779	1,503
	Dinajpur	2,976	1,104	1,872		Dinajpur	7,243	3,866	3,377
	Malda	9,297	4,314	4,982		Malda	6,915	3,190	3,725
	Other Districts	7,676	4,415	3,261		Other Districts	2,536	1,807	729
SONTHAL PARGANAS	<b>Bengal</b>	<b>34,006</b>	<b>14,280</b>	<b>19,726</b>	SONTHAL PARGANAS	<b>Bengal</b>	<b>245,903</b>	<b>128,118</b>	<b>117,785</b>
	Contiguous Districts	29,695	11,067	18,128		Contiguous Districts	118,995	60,124	58,871
	Maula	6,824	3,144	3,680		Maula	48,402	24,072	24,330
	Murshidabad	7,636	3,926	4,709		Murshidabad	14,933	7,275	7,658
	Birbhum	11,696	4,074	7,622		Birbhum	28,282	12,807	15,475
	Burdwan	3,539	1,421	2,118		Burdwan	27,378	15,276	12,102
	Other Districts	4,311	2,712	1,598		Other Districts	126,908	67,964	58,944
MANBHUM	<b>Bengal</b>	<b>67,373</b>	<b>40,609</b>	<b>16,764</b>	MANBHUM	<b>Bengal</b>	<b>31,602</b>	<b>13,795</b>	<b>17,807</b>
	Contiguous Districts	32,618	21,110	11,508		Contiguous Districts	23,514	9,259	14,255
	Burdwan	3,646	1,467	2,179		Burdwan	11,554	5,184	6,430
	Bankura	25,533	17,366	7,967		Bankura	11,149	3,887	7,262
	Midnapur	3,439	2,077	1,362		Midnapur	831	408	423
	Other Districts	24,755	19,499	5,256		Other Districts	8,088	4,266	3,822
SINGHBHUM	<b>Bengal</b>	<b>11,326</b>	<b>4,763</b>	<b>6,563</b>	SINGHBHUM	<b>Bengal</b>	<b>13,505</b>	<b>6,328</b>	<b>7,177</b>
	Midnapur	7,604	2,721	4,883		Midnapur	5,672	2,304	3,368
	Other Districts	3,722	2,042	1,680		Other Districts	7,833	4,024	3,809
BALASORE	<b>Bengal</b>	<b>9,044</b>	<b>3,419</b>	<b>5,625</b>	BALASORE	<b>Bengal</b>	<b>39,793</b>	<b>31,754</b>	<b>8,039</b>
	Midnapur	8,163	3,014	5,149		Midnapur	9,379	3,623	5,756
	Other Districts	881	405	476		Other Districts	30,414	28,131	2,283
PURI	<b>Madras</b>	<b>6,322</b>	<b>2,835</b>	<b>3,487</b>	PURI	<b>Madras</b>	<b>675</b>	<b>277</b>	<b>398</b>
	Ganjam	5,558	2,417	3,141		Ganjam	42	31	11
	Other Districts	764	418	346		Other Districts	633	246	387
ANGUL	<b>Madras</b>	<b>5,289</b>	<b>2,427</b>	<b>2,862</b>	ANGUL	<b>Madras</b>			
	Ganjam	5,255	2,425	2,860		Ganjam			
	Other Districts	4	2	2		Other Districts			
SAMBALPUR	<b>Central Provinces and Berar.</b>	<b>13,687</b>	<b>6,604</b>	<b>7,083</b>	SAMBALPUR	<b>Central Provinces and Berar.</b>	<b>86,388</b>	<b>45,767</b>	<b>40,621</b>
	Balgarh	8,580	4,358	4,222		Balgarh	18,330	9,330	9,000
	Other Districts	5,107	2,246	2,761		Other Districts	68,058	36,437	31,621
	<b>Central Provinces States</b>	<b>5,066</b>	<b>1,707</b>	<b>3,359</b>		<b>Central Provinces States</b>	<b>13,045</b>	<b>5,812</b>	<b>7,533</b>
	Balgarh	1,617	579	1,043					
	Other States	3,449	1,128	2,316					



SUBSIDIARY TABLE VI.—MIGRATION TO AND FROM BORDER DISTRICTS, BIHAR AND ORISSA—concluded.

Enumerated in—	Born in the districts of the contiguous Province of—	POPULATION.			Born in—	Enumerated in the districts of the contiguous Province of—	POPULATION.		
		Total	Males	Females			Total	Males	Females
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
RANCHI	<b>Central Provinces States</b>	<b>923</b>	<b>511</b>	<b>412</b>	RANCHI	<b>Central Provinces States</b>	<b>5,218</b>	<b>2,688</b>	<b>2,530</b>
	Jagpur	844	472	372					
	Other States	79	39	40					
PALAMAU	<b>Central Provinces States</b>	<b>1,825</b>	<b>1,002</b>	<b>823</b>	PALAMAU	<b>Central Provinces States</b>	<b>7,254</b>	<b>4,188</b>	<b>3,066</b>
	Barguja	1,797	983	814					
	Other States	28	19	9					
	<b>United Provinces</b>	<b>1,577</b>	<b>877</b>	<b>700</b>					
	Mirzapur	996	475	521					
Other Districts	581	402	179						
SHAHABAD	<b>United Provinces</b>	<b>28,035</b>	<b>8,450</b>	<b>19,585</b>	SHAHABAD	<b>United Provinces</b>	<b>30,267</b>	<b>6,393</b>	<b>23,874</b>
	Contiguous Districts	25,754	8,974	16,780					
	Mirzapur	2,510	895	1,615					
	Benares	3,551	1,289	2,262					
	Ghazipur	10,169	2,731	7,438					
	Balla	9,574	2,120	7,454					
	Other Districts	2,281	1,476	805					
SARAN	<b>United Provinces</b>	<b>24,503</b>	<b>7,016</b>	<b>17,487</b>	SARAN	<b>United Provinces</b>	<b>53,099</b>	<b>17,080</b>	<b>36,019</b>
	Contiguous Districts	22,511	4,753	17,758					
	Balla	3,496	1,196	2,300					
	Gorakhpur	19,045	4,567	14,478					
	Other Districts	1,992	1,598	729					
CHAMPARAN	<b>United Provinces</b>	<b>26,559</b>	<b>13,877</b>	<b>12,682</b>	CHAMPARAN	<b>United Provinces</b>	<b>7,102</b>	<b>3,059</b>	<b>4,043</b>
	Gorakhpur	23,911	12,116	11,795					
	Other Districts	2,648	1,761	887					
ORISSA FEUDATORY STATES	<b>Bengal</b>	<b>11,514</b>	<b>6,141</b>	<b>5,373</b>	ORISSA FEUDATORY STATES	<b>Bengal</b>	<b>3,680</b>	<b>2,093</b>	<b>1,587</b>
	Midnapore	10,094	5,047	5,047					
	Other Districts	1,720	1,094	626					
	<b>Madras</b>	<b>18,687</b>	<b>9,380</b>	<b>9,307</b>					
	Contiguous Districts	17,461	8,695	8,766					
	Ganjam	12,087	6,368	5,719					
	Vizapatnam	5,374	2,827	2,547					
	Other Districts	1,226	686	541					
	<b>Central Provinces and Berar.</b>	<b>18,674</b>	<b>9,287</b>	<b>9,387</b>					
	Rajpur	13,688	6,497	6,991					
	Other Districts	4,986	2,790	2,396					
	<b>Central Provinces States</b>	<b>6,298</b>	<b>3,114</b>	<b>3,184</b>					
	Contiguous States	5,562	2,747	2,815					
Rajnagh	3,536	1,755	1,781						
Jaahpur	2,026	992	1,034						
Other States	736	367	369						

CHAPTER IV.

RELIGION.

PART I.—STATISTICAL.

435. Statistics for all religions are contained in Imperial Table VI, while Tables XVII and XVIII give figures for the denominations, races and ages of Christians. The following subsidiary tables, in which the statistics are illustrated by means of proportional figures, will be found at the end of this chapter.

*Subsidiary Table I*—Showing the general distribution of the population by religion.

*Subsidiary Table II*—Showing the strength of the main religions in each district and natural division at each of the last four censuses.

*Subsidiary Table III*—Showing the numbers and variations of Christians in each district and natural division.

*Subsidiary Table IV*—Showing the distribution of Christians by race and sect.

*Subsidiary Table V*—Showing the Christian races distributed by sect and the Christian sects distributed by race.

*Subsidiary Table VI*—Showing the distribution of the urban and rural population by religion in each natural division.

436. The general distribution of the people by religion at this and the last census is shown in the margin together with the variations which have occurred since 1901. In Bengal the Musalmans predominate, representing 52·3 per cent. of the population, and outnumbering Hindus (45·2 per cent.) by over 3½ millions. These two religions account between them for all but 2·4 per cent. of the population,

RELIGION.	BENGAL.			BIHAR AND ORISSA.		
	Number.		Variation per cent., 1901—1911.	Number.		Variation per cent., 1901—1911.
	1911.	1901.		1911.	1901.	
Hindus ... ..	20,945,379	20,150,841	+ 3·9	21,749,018	20,559,029	+ 5·9
Musulmans ... ..	24,327,229	21,947,960	+ 10·4	3,863,420	3,540,301	+ 4·0
Animists ... ..	720,790	442,594	+ 63·1	2,720,209	2,281,414	+ 19·2
Buddhists ... ..	245,968	216,508	+ 14·0	1,927	342	+ 129·8
Christians ... ..	192,748	104,596	+ 31·7	268,262	172,498	+ 55·5
Jains ... ..	4,782	2,329	+ 29·8	4,428	2,626	+ 74·2
Brahmins ... ..	2,958	2,898	+ 2·0	365	318	+ 84·0
Eikias ... ..	2,221	288	+ 760·9	2,226	81	+ 2850·9
Jews ... ..	1,908	1,914	+ 4·1	25	32	+ 32·4
Confucians ... ..	1,048	178	+ 494·4	—	—	—
Parsis ... ..	611	358	+ 71·8	25	23	+ 6·1
Aryas ... ..	20	—	—	4,082	—	—
Others ... ..	—	48	—	770	2	+ 38,400

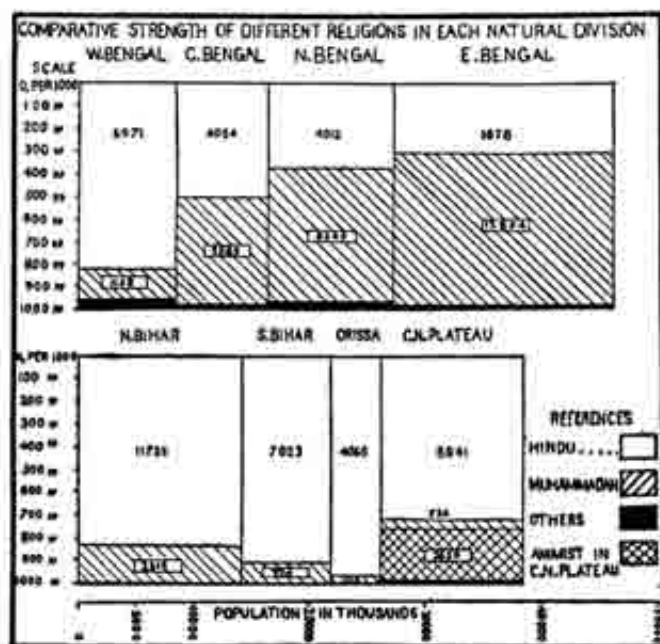
the other religions being but poorly represented. Animists, Buddhists and Christians, taken together, number only a little over 1,100,000, and the aggregate for all other religions is under 16,000. The distribution of religions in Bihar and Orissa is very different. Hindus form an overwhelming majority, representing 82·6 per cent. of the total population, and then come, *longo intervallo*, the Musalmans with 9·6 per cent. and Animists with 7 per cent. Christians account for over a quarter of million, or more than double the number found in Bengal, but no other religion has even 5,000 adherents.

437. The instructions regarding the entry of religion in the schedules were

INSTRUCTIONS REGARDING THE ENTRY OF RELIGION.

that the religion which each person returned was to be entered, and that when a person belonged to an aboriginal tribe and had no recognized religion (*i.e.*, was not a Hindu, Musalman, Christian, Buddhist, Sikh, Jain, Parsi, etc.), the name of the tribe was to be entered. All persons whose tribal name was entered in the schedules were taken to be Animists. It was specifically laid down that the answer which each man gave about his religion was to be accepted, but it is recognized that these orders were not always carried out. As Mr. Gait said in 1901, it is fashionable to call oneself a Hindu, and many semi-aboriginals lay claim to be Hindus, though Hindus scout their pretensions. In some parts Hindu enumerators refused to entertain claims which they considered preposterous, and would not enter the aspirants as Hindus. The practical difficulties which arise over this question may be realized from the report of Mr. M. G. Hallett, I.C.S., late Subdivisional Officer of Gumla in Ranchi. "One of the chief difficulties which arose in connection with the filling up of the census schedules in this part of

Chota Nagpur was in regard to the entry in the column of religion. Much



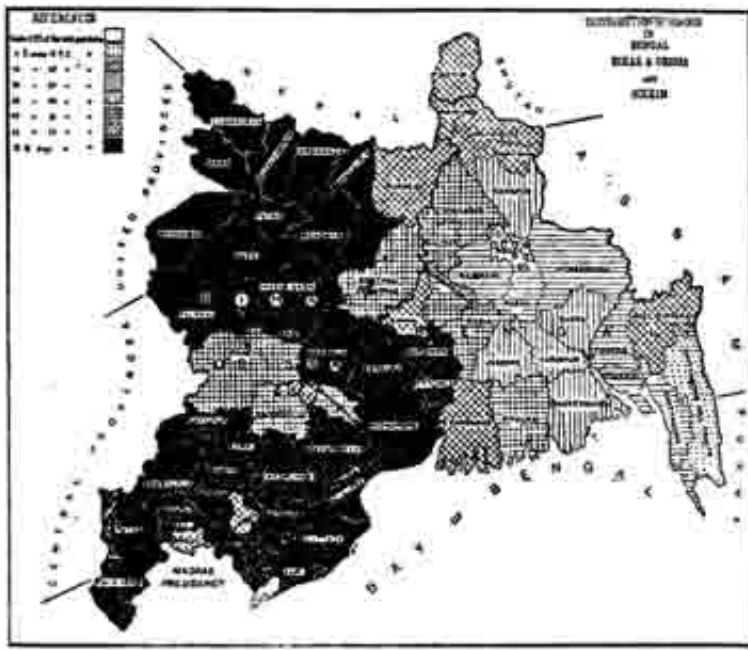
doubt was felt, and many questions were asked both by supervisors and enumerators as to whether certain castes should be classified as Hindus or Animists. The general rule issued on this point was to the effect that every person who called himself a Hindu was to be entered as such. In the case of Oraons, Kharias, Mundas, Asurs and other purely aboriginal tribes, there was no difficulty. I only came across two instances in which an Oraon claimed to be a Hindu; one was a Sub-Inspector of Police, and the other was a man who had risen above

other members of his tribe and become the proprietor of two or three villages. Such persons were naturally recorded as Hindus, but in the case of other Oraons, apart of course from the converts to Christianity, the entry was Animist. The difficulty arose in dealing with castes which are, as it were, on the border line. I allude in particular to such castes as Chik, Ghasi, Turi, Lohar, Gond, Dom and others. If you ask a person of these castes the straight question 'What is your religion,' he will probably reply that he is a Hindu, or again if you ask him 'Are you a Hindu,' he will probably reply in the affirmative. If, however, you prosecute your inquiries further, and try to find out whether he observes any of the tenets of Hinduism, you will soon discover that his first answer was given merely as the result of ignorance, and that his superstitious and religious customs are much more closely allied to the Animistic religion of the Oraon and Munda than to the religion of the Hindu. The entry in column 3 depended therefore to a large extent on the individual supervisor or enumerator. He interpreted the general order on the subject according to his own religion. The Hindus, such as they are, of these parts look down upon the border-line castes, and are not willing to admit that they are Hindus. Hence the enumerator who was a Brahman or Kayasth or Rajput would record these persons as Animists. On the other hand, when the enumerator was an educated Christian, Oraon or Munda, he would record them as Hindus, accepting their bare statement. It was thus practically impossible to secure uniformity in this entry. Nor would a uniform entry be correct. In the more out-of-the-way parts of the district these castes are undoubtedly more Animistic in their religion than in the more civilized parts, and again individuals in these castes who have risen at all in the social scale have undoubtedly more claim to be regarded as Hindus."

438. In Bengal the Hindu element steadily diminishes as one proceeds eastwards. The most distinctively Hindu districts are found in West Bengal (the Burdwan Division), where Hindus represent 82 per cent. of the total population.

In Central Bengal the proportion falls to 51 per cent., while in North Bengal it is only 37 per cent., the minimum of 31 per cent. being reached in East Bengal. West Bengal contributes one-third of the total Hindu population of the province, and East Bengal a little over a quarter, while Central and North Bengal each account for under a fifth. Proportionately, the greatest number of Hindus is found in Midnapore (88 per cent.), and the smallest in the Chittagong Hill Tracts (9 per cent.). Altogether, there are only ten districts in which Hindus outnumber Musalmans, viz., the six districts of West Bengal, the 24-Parganas in Central Bengal, Darjeeling and Jalpaiguri in North Bengal, and the Chittagong Hill Tracts: in the district last named, however, the Hindus are largely outnumbered by both Animists and Buddhists. The

Hindu community is in a majority in the States of Cooch Behar and Hill Tippera, and also in Calcutta, where it represents over two-thirds of the total population.



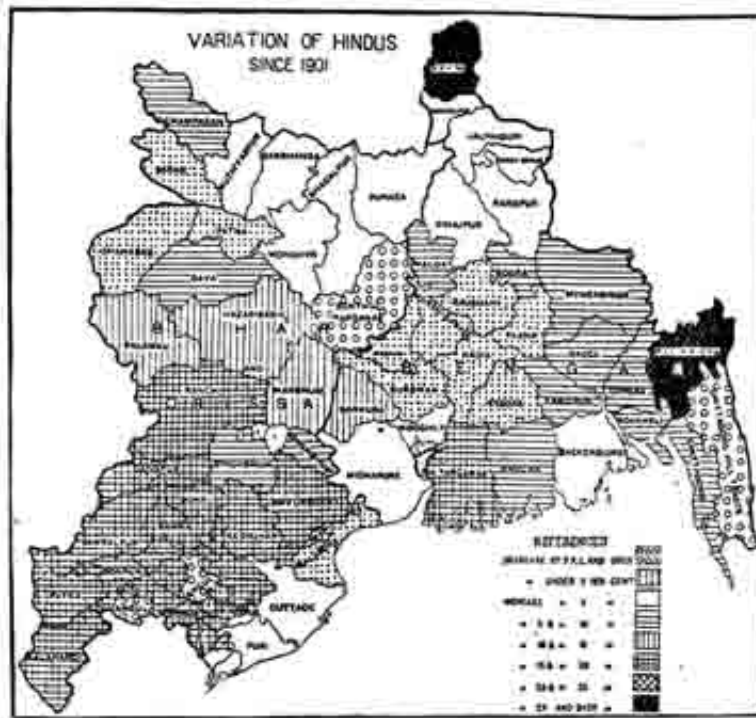
In Bihar and Orissa over one-third of the total Hindu population is found in North Bihar, where Hindus number nearly 11½ millions, or more than the aggregate for both South Bihar and Orissa. Proportionately, however, they are in greatest strength in Orissa, the holy land of Hinduism,

where 97 out of every 100 inhabitants belong to that religion. South Bihar comes next with 90 per cent., while the Chota Nagpur Plateau comes last with 72 per cent. In Ranchi and Singhbhum the Hindus are outnumbered by the Animists, but elsewhere they preponderate. Excluding these two districts, the sparsest Hindu population is found in Purnea (56.6 per cent.) and then in the Chota Nagpur States (57 per cent.).

439. In Bengal the Hindus have increased by nearly 4 per cent. since 1901, the ratio of increase being 2.3 per cent. less than it was in the preceding decade. They have made the greatest advance (6.6 per cent.) in East Bengal, where

their proportionate strength is least, but where the people generally seem

to have unusual procreative energy. Central Bengal comes next with an improvement of 5.2 per cent., and then North Bengal with a little under 3 per cent. West Bengal, where Hindus are in greatest strength, shows the least progress, the ratio of increase being under 2 per cent. In all the districts of this Division the Hindus have increased less rapidly than members of other religions, so that their proportionate representation in

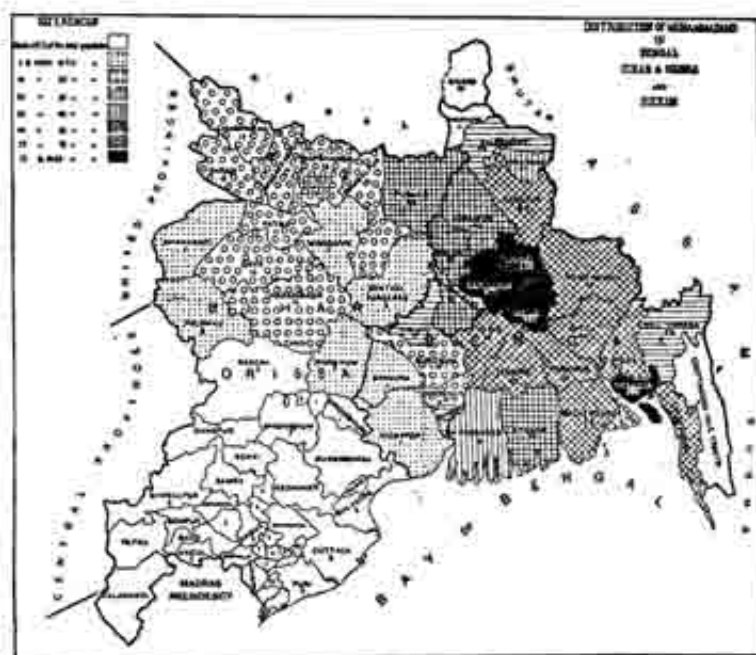


the total population has fallen since 1901.

The Hindu population of Bihar and Orissa has grown at exactly the same rate as that of Bengal. The greatest expansion is in the Chota Nagpur Plateau, where it is 12 per cent.; as will be shown later, the increase would have been even greater, had it not been that many who were entered as Hindus in 1901 were returned as Animists at this census. Elsewhere, there

has been a very slight growth, for North Bihar registers an increase of a little over 1 per cent., South Bihar of a little under 1 per cent., and Orissa of only half per cent.

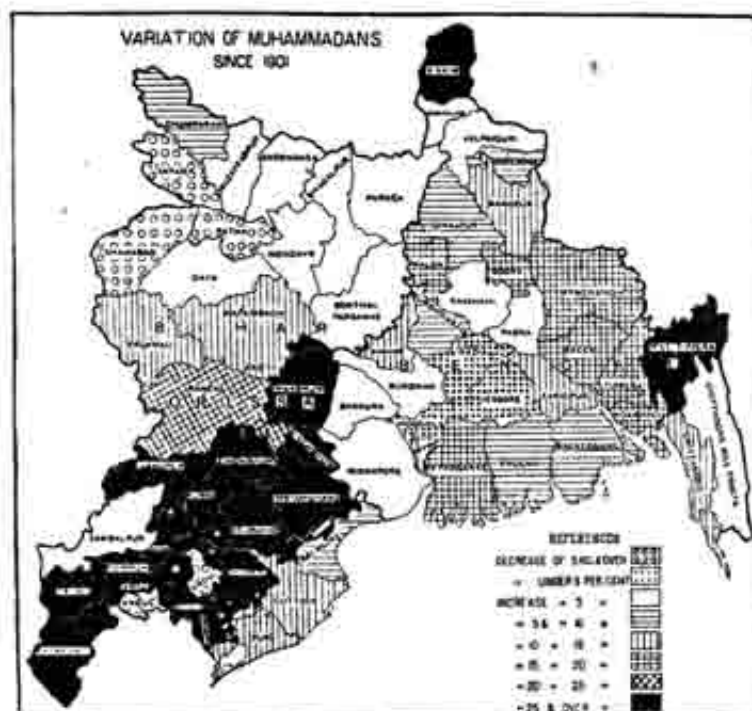
440. Musalmans predominate throughout Bengal, except in the south-west, the extreme north and the extreme south-east of the Presidency. To the south-west, in West Bengal, they constitute only 13 per cent. of the population and are in a small minority compared with Hindus: in one district (Bankura) they are outnumbered by the Animists, and in Midnapore they only slightly exceed the latter. In Central Bengal they represent 48 per cent. of the population, but if Calcutta is excluded, 50 per cent.: in this city the population is mainly composed of immigrants from outside, among whom Hindus predominate, there being



five of them to every two Musalmans. Islam prevails over Hinduism in three of the four districts of the Division, the exception being the 24-Parganas, where, however, 282,761, or nearly one-eighth of the inhabitants, are Hindu immigrants from outside. Both in Calcutta and in the metropolitan districts (24-Parganas, Howrah and Hooghly) the Hindu community is largely recruited by immigration, there being 1,009,772 Hindus, but only 346,899 Musalman immigrants: in other words, there are approximately three Hindus to every one Musalman in the immigrant population. The preponderance of Musalmans is more pronounced in North Bengal, where their proportion to the total population is 59 per cent. They are in a minority in Jalpaiguri, Darjeeling, Dinajpur and the State of Cooch Behar; in the remaining districts they account for 50 per cent. (Malda) to 82 per cent. (Bogra) of the inhabitants. In East Bengal as a whole they are more than twice as numerous as the Hindus, and in Noakhali and Chittagong they outnumber the latter by more than 3 to 1. They are in a minority in Hill Tippera and the Chittagong Hill Tracts, while in Khulna they are only slightly more numerous than the Hindus; elsewhere their distribution is fairly uniform, the proportion varying only from 63 per cent. in Faridpur to 77 per cent. in Noakhali. East Bengal contains more than half the aggregate number of Muhammadans in the whole Presidency, North Bengal a little over a quarter and Central Bengal slightly less than a sixth.

441. In Bihar and Orissa the Musalmans form a small minority. Purnea alone contains nearly a quarter of the total number: the figures for this district bring up the proportionate strength of the Musalman population in North Bihar to 16 per cent. Champaran follows next with 15 per cent., and there are only seven other districts in which the ratio is 10 per cent. or more, viz., Saran, Muzaffarpur, Darbhanga, Bhagalpur, Patna, Gaya and Hazaribagh. It is somewhat remarkable that the followers of the Prophet are relatively more numerous in North Bihar, which has been from ancient times the home of Hinduism and Brahman domination, than in South Bihar, where there are old Muhammadan centres such as Patna and Monghyr. In Orissa, where the Afghans ruled for several centuries, they cannot claim more than 2·7 per cent. of the population, which is less than the figure returned for the Chota Nagpur Plateau (4·3 per cent.). In the latter Division there are approximately 17 Hindus and 5 Animists to every Musalman. The Kishanganj subdivision of Purnea is the most distinctively Musalman part of the province, Islam being the religion of two-thirds of its inhabitants.

442. In Bengal as a whole the Musalmans have increased by 10·4 per cent. since 1901. Their advance has been greatest in the tracts where they are most numerous, viz., East Bengal, where the rate of growth is 14·6 per cent., and North Bengal, where it is 8·2 per cent. Far less progress has been made in West Bengal and Central Bengal, where the increment represents 4·9 per cent. and 3·1 per cent., respectively.



The rate of increase in Bihar and Orissa is only 4 per cent. In all parts of this Province Musulmans have progressed, except South Bihar, where there is a falling off of 20,654 or 2·8 per cent. The decline is accounted for by the losses sustained by the Musalmans

living in towns, who have decreased by 22,976, or 15 per cent., owing to epidemics of plague and other diseases. In the Chota Nagpur Plateau the Musalmans are now more numerous by 17·5 per cent. than in 1901, and in Orissa by 10·4 per cent., but in North Bihar they have increased by only a little over 3 per cent.

443. In Bengal the Musalmans are increasing more rapidly than the Hindus, the percentage of increase among them during the last decennium being nearly thrice as great as it is among their Hindu neighbours. This is no new feature, but has been in operation for the last 30 years.

RELATIVE GROWTH OF MUSALMANS AND HINDUS.

	VARIATION PER CENT. 1901-1911.		VARIATION IN PROPORTION PER MILE OF TOTAL POPULATION. 1901-1911.	
	Hindu.	Musalmans.	Hindu.	Musalmans.
<b>Bengal</b>	+ 3·9	+ 10·4	- 17·7	+ 11·5
West Bengal	+ 1·7	+ 4·9	- 2·6	+ 2·7
Central Bengal	+ 0·3	+ 3·1	+ 3·5	- 6·3
North Bengal	+ 3·9	+ 8·2	- 16·3	+ 1·9
East Bengal	+ 4·9	+ 14·6	- 16·7	+ 13·8
<b>Bihar and Orissa</b>	+ 3·9	+ 4·0	- 2·9	- 1·0
North Bihar	+ 1·2	+ 3·2	- 5·9	+ 2·3
South "	+ 0·8	- 2·8	+ 1·7	- 2·3
Orissa	+ 0·8	+ 10·4	- 3·6	+ 2·4
Chota Nagpur Plateau	+ 13·1	+ 17·5	- 12·8	+ 1·3

During that period the Hindus of Bengal have added only 16 per cent. to their numbers, while the followers of the Prophet have an addition of 29 per cent. Nowhere have the latter made such progress as in East Bengal, where they are more numerous by 50½ per cent. than they were in 1881; the corresponding ratio for Hindus is a little under 26 per cent. The only area in which the Hindus are increasing more

rapidly than the Musalmans is Central Bengal, where the balance is turned in their favour by the immigration of Hindus from up-country to Calcutta and the 24-Parganas. The causes of the relatively more rapid growth of Musalmans were examined by Mr. Gait in 1901, and his conclusion was that it was due not to conversion but to greater fecundity. The contributory causes were found to be (1) the greater frequency of widow re-marriage, (2) less disparity in the ages of husband and wife, (3) a more nutritious dietary and (4) greater prosperity.

444. In Bihar and Orissa there is practically no difference between the percentages of increase for members of the two religion since 1901, but this is partly due to the losses sustained by death among the Musalmans living in

towns. The figures for the Chota Nagpur Plateau are, moreover, misleading, for many who were returned as Hindus in 1901 are now returned as Animists. It is safer therefore to take a longer period for purposes of comparison. Taking the 30 years 1881—1911, we find that the ratio of increase among Musalmans has been 11 per cent., or only about 3 per cent. more than among Hindus. In South Bihar the adherents of Islam have decreased by over 7 per cent., whereas the Hindu community is stationary; but in every other division the growth of Musalmans has been relatively greater.

445. The most interesting points brought out by an examination of the figures for the last decennium is (1) that the growth of the Hindu population has been exactly the same in Bihar and Orissa as in Bengal and (2) that the growth of the Musalman population in Bihar and Orissa is very little greater than that of the Hindus in either Province and far below that of the Bengal Musalmans. The Bihari Musalman is in little better circumstances than his Hindu neighbour, though he has the advantage of more nourishing food. He is however a poor man compared with his co-religionist of East Bengal, and there is this further important difference that he favours early marriage, whereas the latter does not. The deleterious effects of early marriage are too well known to require explanation, and it will be sufficient to quote figures to show the difference in this respect between the Hindus and Musalmans of Bengal and the similarity between followers of those two religions in Bihar and Orissa. Out of every 100 Musalman females aged 10—15 in Bengal only 56 per cent. are married, whereas the proportion for Hindu females is as high as 67 per cent. In Bihar and Orissa, however, early marriage is nearly as common among the Musalmans as among the Hindus, the proportion of married women to the female population of this age period being 51 and 54 per cent., respectively.

446. Further light is thrown on the causes of the greater rapidity of growth among the Musalman community by the statistics for women at the child-bearing age, *i.e.*, 15 to 40. From the marginal statement, showing the percentage of unmarried, married and widowed to the total number of women at this age, it will be seen that there is a great difference between the social practices of Hindus and Musalmans in Bengal. There the number of married women among Musalmans is 11 per cent. greater than

	HINDU.			MUSALMAN.		
	Unmarried.	Married.	Widowed.	Unmarried.	Married.	Widowed.
Bengal ...	33	76	22	35	62	11
Bihar and Orissa ...	49	54	13	49	51	12

among Hindus, while there is a corresponding deficiency of Musalman widows. These differences are due to the greater prevalence of widow marriage among the followers of Islam. A very different state of affairs is found in Bihar and Orissa. In this Province there is very little difference between the proportional figures for Hindus and Musalmans, owing presumably to the greater prevalence of widow-marriage among the low castes and semi-Hinduized aboriginals, who bulk largely in the population.

To this it should be added that in Bengal the actual number of women who are married, and have therefore the power to contribute to an increase of population, is much greater among the Musalmans, whereas in Bihar and Orissa Musalman married women are an insignificant minority. In Bengal there are approximately four married Musalman women to every three married Hindu women at the child-bearing age. It

	NUMBER OF MARRIED WOMEN AT THE AGE OF 15—40.	
	Hindu.	Musalman.
Bengal ...	3,236,185	1,155,266
Bihar and Orissa ...	1,462,207	630,496

therefore follows that, if their fecundity were equal, the actual increase of the Musalmans would exceed that of the Hindus by about one-third. In Bihar and Orissa, on the other hand, the disproportion is very great, there being about 55 Hindu married women to every 6 Musalman married women. In view of their small numbers, and of the fact that the proportion per cent. of married women among them is almost exactly the same as among the Hindus, there is little prospect of the Musalmans in this Province multiplying more than the Hindu community.

447. The fecundity, however, of the Hindus is not so great as that of the Musalmans. Proof of this proposition, if any is required, is afforded by the marginal figures

showing the number of children who were under 10 years of age at the time

PROVINCE AND DIVISION.	NUMBER OF CHILDREN UNDER 10—		
	PER 100 MARRIED FEMALES AGED 15—40.		MUSALMANS (COLUMN 3) PER 100 HINDUS. (COLUMN 2)
	Muslimans.	Hindus.	
1	2	3	4
<b>Bengal</b> ... ..	<b>188</b>	<b>171</b>	<b>110</b>
West Bengal ... ..	151	158	97
Central Bengal ... ..	156	160	101
North Bengal ... ..	194	194	100
East Bengal ... ..	194	179	109
<b>Bihar and Orissa</b> ... ..	<b>176</b>	<b>165</b>	<b>107</b>
North Bihar ... ..	177	161	110
South Bihar ... ..	142	160	101
Orissa ... ..	172	141	114
Chota Nagpur Plateau ... ..	190	153	104

of the census (*i. e.*, children born between 1901 and 1911 who were living at the time of the census) per 100 married females aged 15—40. It will be seen that the proportion of children among Musalmans is higher than among Hindus in every natural division except North Bengal, where it is the same, and West Bengal, where a large number of the Hindus are of aboriginal descent. It may fairly be inferred that the relative excess of children in the Muhammadan community is due to their greater fecundity. It may be added that the Animists are far more prolific,

the number of children of the same age to 100 married females aged 15 to 40 being 200 in Bengal and 223 in Bihar and Orissa.

To sum up the main conclusions briefly, the absolute growth of Musalmans, in Bengal must be greater than that of the Hindus, because of (1) their numerical superiority, (2) their greater fecundity and (3) the larger number of married females at the child-bearing age. Their rate of growth must also be greater on account of the last two factors, and also because of social practices which favour reproduction, viz., widow marriage and, to a small extent, polygamy.

448. In order to ascertain whether there is any difference between the physique of Hindus and Musalmans which might throw light on their comparative physical powers, statistics have been compiled of the heights and weights of *healthy* prisoners, aged 20 to 45, on their admission to jail: prisoners were selected for the purpose, as there is no other means available either of getting a reliable record of age, weight and height, or of knowing that the persons examined are in good health. The result is to show that there is little difference between members of the two religions.

RELIGION.	No. examined.	MALES AVERAGE.		No. examined.	FEMALES AVERAGE.	
		Weight.	Height.		Weight.	Height.
		Lbs. oss.	Ft. in.		Lbs. oss.	Ft. in.
Hindus ... ..	746	110 11	5 4½	124	94 3 4	114
Musulmans ... ..	719	111 2	5 4½	290	94 3 4	104
Aboriginals ... ..	181	100 5	5 2½	189	94 8 4	114

The figures, however, may be of some anthropological interest and are, therefore reproduced in the margin, together with figures for aboriginal races, such as Kaudhs (Khonds) Mundas, Oraons and Santals. Briefly they show that Hindu and Musalman males are almost exactly on the same level, both as regards height and weight, but that the aboriginal is a

smaller and lighter man. Among the women, Hindus and aboriginals closely approximate, but the Musalman woman is both shorter and lighter than either.

The results for males, it may be added, are in consonance with the results of 28,000 observations made by Lieutenant-Colonel W. J. Buchanan, I.M.S., Inspector-General of Prisons, Bengal. As a result of these observations he deduced a formula showing what should be approximately the relation of weight to height in healthy adult male Bengalis and Beharis between the ages of 25 and 45. He took 100 lbs. to be the approximate standard weight of a man 5 feet high, and pointed out that the weight should increase 3 lbs. for every inch above that height up to 5 feet 7 inches.\* This standard was intended for Hindus and Musalmans and does not apply to aboriginals.

449. Animism is a term applied, for want of a better, to that amorphous form of religion of which the basis is "the belief which explains to primitive man the constant movements and changes in the world of things by the theory that every object which has activity enough to affect him in any way

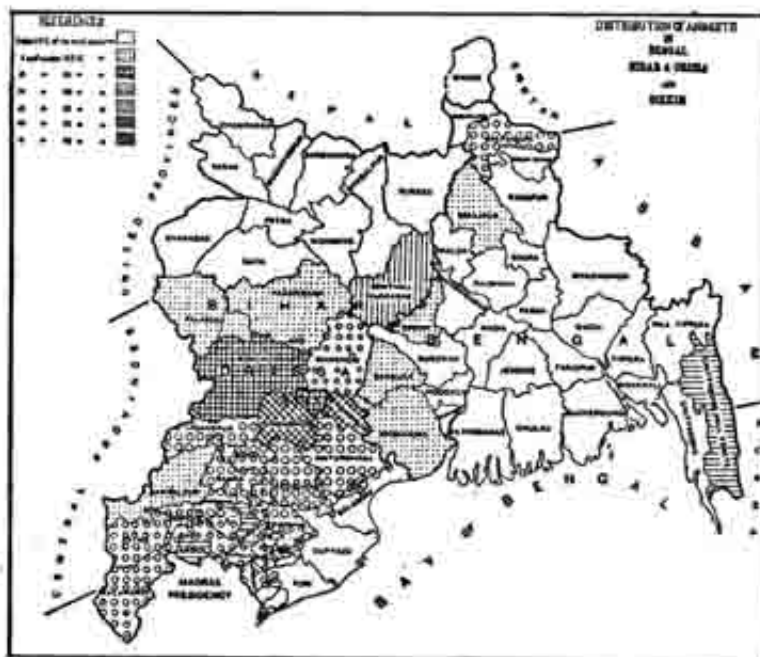
\* *Manual of Jail Hygiene*, 1900



is animated by a life and will like his own."\* It peoples the world with spirits, which have the power to influence man directly. They may be wandering spirits incapable of being represented by idols, or they may be resident in some object or body, either animate or inanimate: the latter becomes a 'fetish,' endowed with power to protect or injure man. According to Tiele, "the religions controlled by Animism are characterized first of all by a varied, confused and indeterminate doctrine, an unorganised polydæmonism, which does not, however, exclude the belief in a supreme spirit, though in practice this commonly bears but little fruit; and in the next place by magic, which but rarely rises to the level of real worship. . . . In the Animistic religions, fear is more powerful than any other feeling, such as gratitude or trust. The spirits and the worshippers are alike selfish. The evil spirits receive, as a rule, more homage than the good, the lower more than the higher, the local more than the general. The allotment of their rewards or punishments depends not on men's good or bad actions, but on the sacrifices and gifts which are offered to them or withheld."† The spirits are mostly malevolent, for the rude mind with difficulty associates the idea of power and benignity. Man lives surrounded by spirits inimical to his health and well-being, who must be periodically propitiated, either in order to ward off their hostility or to induce them to relinquish their victims. The Animist has consequently a firm belief in the functions and supernatural powers of sorcerers. The latter are not strictly priests, but merely diviners and exorcists: they do not form an organized order, nor is their function hereditary.

The number of spirits requiring proficiency is constantly being added to, and the process shows the recaptivity of the primitive mind to modern conditions. The Sauria Paharia of the Sonthal Parganas, for instance, ascribes epidemics of small-pox or cholera to evil spirits having been brought into his country by train. He exercises them by constructing a rude model of a train, which he wheels through the village into the jungle, thus symbolically casting the evil spirit out of the village. The Oraons again believe in a spirit known as Murkuri, *i.e.*, the thumper, which is believed to be imminent in Europeans. If illness or fever attacks a Oraon after he has been patted on the back by an ignorant, but sympathetic, European, he firmly believes that Murkuri has passed from the body of the European to his own.

450. Nearly half the total number of Animists in Bengal are residents of West Bengal, where nearly 300,000 (the majority of whom are Santals) are found in the lateritic districts of Birbhum, Bankura and Midnapore. The other Animistic centre



consists of Malda, Dinajpur and Jalpaiguri, where there are over 238,000. Those in Malda and Dinajpur are mostly Santals from the Sonthal Parganas, who have migrated to the Barind, which is fast being cleared away by them. In Jalpaiguri they are chiefly tea-garden coolies from Chota Nagpur. The only other districts in which Animists are found in any considerable

\* W. Crooke, Imperial Gazetteer of India (1907, Vol. I, p. 431)

† Outlines of the History of Ancient Religions, p. 10.

strength are Mymensingh and the Chittagong Hill Tracts, where they consist for the most part of Koches and Tiparas respectively.

In Bihar and Orissa the Animistic element is far stronger, the Animists numbering 2,720,288. Out of this number, however, all but 70,128 are inhabitants of the Chota Nagpur Plateau, which is a remote tract, the refuge of aboriginal races, over which neither Hindu civilization nor the Musalman power obtained any hold. They are found in greatest strength in the Sonthal Parganas and Ranchi, which between them contain nearly half the total number, but proportionately they are most numerous in Singhbhum, where they represent 56 per cent. of the population.

451. The number of Animists in Bengal has risen since 1901 by no less than 65 per cent. Here it is due almost entirely to immigration. In Hooghly, for instance, the

number of Animists has increased eight-fold, viz., from 2,766 to 21,288, but only 2,851 were born in the district and 18,437 were new-comers, the great majority being Santals from Midnapore and Bankura, and nearly all the remainder Oraons from Ranchi. In Birbhum their number has risen to 54,592, but about two-thirds of them are Santal immigrants from the Sonthal Parganas. The immigration of Santals is also mainly responsible for the large increases in Malda, Rajshahi and Dinajpur, while in Jalpaiguri the addition of 88,769 is the combined result of natural growth, immigration, and the entry of the religion of aboriginal tribes being changed from Hindu to Animist. This change also accounts for the increase in Mymensingh, where the Garos are now returned as Animists, and in the Chittagong Hill Tracts, where similar returns were made for the Murungs, Kukis and Khamis, and also, to a large extent, for the Tiparas.\*

452. In Bihar and Orissa the Animists have increased by 438,874 or 19·2 per cent. The increase is due partly to the natural growth of hardy and prolific aboriginals, and partly to variations of practice in recording their religion. The effect of these variations may be very clearly seen from the

DISTRICT.	Animists.		Hindus.	
	1901-1911.	1891-1901.	1901-1911.	1891-1901.
Hazaribagh ... ..	+ 124	+ 113	+ 173	+ 147
Palamau ... ..	+ 87	- 305	- 65	+ 286
Manbhum ... ..	+ 264	- 599	- 678	+ 202
Singhbhum ... ..	+ 993	- 1039	- 124	+ 86
Sonthal Parganas ... ..	+ 391	- 848	- 401	+ 479
Angul ... ..	+ 671	+ 2306	- 675	- 3214

marginal figures, showing the increase or decrease per mille in the proportion of Animists and Hindus to the total population of six districts in the Chota Nagpur Plateau. These figures sufficiently indicate how the results are affected by the difficulty of distinguishing Hindus from Animists, and by the different standards adopted at each census. In four of the six districts, viz., Palamau, Manbhum, Singhbhum and the Sonthal Parganas, the proportional strength of the Hindus increased in 1901, and there was a corresponding decrease among Animists: the results are now exactly the reverse. In Hazaribagh, on the other hand, Animists increased at the cost of the Hindus in 1901, but at this census the tendency was to record aboriginals or semi-aboriginals as Hindus; consequently, the Hindus have recovered their position. The only district in which the practice appears to have been uniform is Angul, where aboriginals were consistently returned as Animists both in 1901 and 1911; the result is that since 1891 the proportional strength of Animists has risen from 2 to 290 per mille, while that of Hindus has fallen from 997 to 708 per mille.

In Manbhum the Animists have doubled their numbers since 1901, the actual increment being 106,868, or nearly a quarter of the total increase for the province. All but 11,436 of them were born in the district, and the increase, which appears *prima facie* extraordinary, must be ascribed to the greater strictness of enumerators regarding the entry of religion. The increase in the Sonthal Parganas is a little under 100,000 (16 per cent.), while Ranchi and Singhbhum have additions of 11 and 15 per cent., respectively. In all three districts the census was carried out with great care, and the results must be attributed to a more correct entry of the religion of aboriginal tribes. The only district in Chota Nagpur in which there has been a decrease is Hazaribagh, where Animists have declined by

\* Altogether 16,957 Tiparas were returned as Animists in this district, but not one in Hill Tippera.

15 per cent. This decline may point to the absorption of aboriginals by Hinduism, natural in a district which borders on Bihar, an ancient home of Brahmanism, and in which the inhabitants are mostly semi-Hinduized ; more probably, however, it should be ascribed to the standard of the enumerators being different from that of 1901. Outside the Chota Nagpur Plateau, the advance of Animists is greatest in Purnea, where 29,971 were enumerated as against 295 in 1901 : one-third of these were immigrants from the Sonthal Parganas. Their growth in Bhagalpur (from 3,060 to 22,515) is little less remarkable but here it is not dependent on immigration, the number of Animist immigrants being under 3,000, of whom 2,000 came from the Sonthal Parganas.

453. A small minority of the Buddhists are Chinese, who have settled in Calcutta. Practically all the remainder are found in three widely separated tracts, viz., in the south-east of Bengal, in the extreme north of that province, and in Orissa. Their

	1911.	1901.
Chittagong Division	173,194	149,759
Bacharukone	8,498	7,220
Hill Trappers	3,297	3,099
<b>Total</b>	<b>188,019</b>	<b>162,958</b>
Darjeeling	47,300	44,044
Sikkim	26,915	20,544
Jalpaiguri	8,004	6,291
<b>Total</b>	<b>64,874</b>	<b>70,879</b>
Outback	161	2
Puri	273	—
Orissa States	1,451	712
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,885</b>	<b>719</b>

distribution is shown in the marginal statement, from which it will be seen that, so far from losing ground, Buddhism is making headway. The history of Buddhism in these three tracts is very different. In the south-eastern tract Buddhism is, to some extent, a survival of early Buddhism, which was introduced by Buddhists from Bengal or Bihar in the 10th century. When the Musalman conquest took place, a number of the Buddhists fled to the hills in the interior, where they converted the hill tribes. The majority of the Buddhists, however,

are Maghs, mostly the descendants of Arakanese pirates who settled in Bengal during the 17th and 18th centuries, or of peaceful cultivators who migrated to Chittagong and the neighbouring districts at two different periods, viz., in 1638, when a revolution took place in Arakan, and at the close of the 18th century, when Arakan was conquered by the Burmese. The descendants of these later immigrants are known as Roang (i.e., Arakan) Maghs. There is also another class known as Rajbansi or Barua Maghs, who are the offspring of Magh mothers and Bengali fathers and have followed their mothers' religion. Their Buddhism is strongly tinged both with Animism and Hinduism, but during the last half century there has been a revival, due to the preaching of Buddhist priests from Burma, and a Buddhist association has been started in order to preserve the purity of their faith.

454. The Buddhism of the northern area is also a curious mixture. Its adherents belong to three different races, viz., the Nepalese, Bhotias and Lepchas. The Buddhism of the Nepalese dates back to the days when it was the religion of Northern India, but it is overlaid with Hinduistic and Animistic beliefs and practices. The Buddhists of Nepal took over the whole body of Animistic deities, both benevolent and malignant, while from the Hindus they adopted not only Saivism but also Saktism, with Tantric mysticism and the esoteric cult of female deities. The Buddhism of the Bhotias and Lepchas was introduced by Lamas from Tibetan monasteries, who travelled south and converted the people. In it can be traced the pre-Buddhistic beliefs of the Tibetans known as the Bonpo religion, which is little more than demonolatory. "The rites of religion are chiefly valuable in averting the anger or malice of an evil spirit, and all sickness is caused by such possession. The *Bongtino* or sacrificial priest is the cunning expert who indicates the offended demon, and prescribes the proper sacrifice of cow or pig or goat or fowl needed to appease him. As a perpetual offering to ward off danger, each household keeps a little basket containing rice and a small silver coin."\* If the family's resources are so exhausted that they cannot keep the basket full, they will, in simple faith, deposit a few grains of rice, wrapped up in a leaf, as a pledge to be redeemed when better days come.

\* Rev. J. Graham D.D., *On the Threshold of Three Closed Lands.*

455. The Buddhists in Orissa are nearly all Saraks, of whom 1,833 returned their religion as Buddhism, their distribution being as shown in the margin. Attention was first drawn to the Buddhistic Saraks of Orissa by Mr. Gait in the Bengal Census Report of 1901, in which he pointed out that Sarak is derived from *Sravaka*, the Sanskrit word for "a hearer," which was used by the Buddhists for the second class of monks, who mainly occupied the monasteries. At the census of 1901 only the Saraks of Baramba were shown as Buddhists, the others being entered as Hindus, though those of Tigiria and Cuttack claimed to have the same religion as their caste fellows. The Saraks, who are also known as Saraki Tantis, are mostly weavers, though some have taken to cultivation. They worship Buddha, together with the Brahmanic deities, and eat neither flesh nor fish. They neither employ Brahman priests nor observe Hindu festivals, but have a festival of their own on the full moon day of Baisakh and Kartik, the latter being the anniversary of the day of Buddha's birth, death and attainment of Nirvana.

456. The number of Sikhs enumerated in Bengal, Bihar and Orissa is 4,499, or 13 times as many as in 1901. Of the total number 932 are immigrants enumerated in Calcutta, and 1,185 (or over half the aggregate for Bihar and Orissa) are inhabitants of Shahabad, the greater number (1,071) belonging to the town of Sasaram. An old Sikh community has been established in this town for many generations. They are Agraharis by caste and mostly traders by occupation, and have traditions pointing to migration from the Punjab, while their physique and features point to a northern origin. There has been a revival of Sikhism among them since 1901,\* as a result of which the Sikh tenets have been more strictly observed. A school has been started at which instruction is given in the Sikh scriptures, and many of their neighbours have embraced their religion. Altogether, 548 Agraharis were recorded as Sikhs, and the remainder belong mainly to castes of artificers and traders, notably Kaseras, Sonars and Kasarwanis. There is another small community of Sikhs in Patna city, where one of the sacred shrines of the Sikhs commemorates the birth-place of Guru Govind Singh. A third isolated section is found in Hazaribagh, where there is a Sikh temple (*sangat*) at Chatra, the founder of which is said to have been a descendant of a disciple of Nanak himself. A further note on the Sikhs of Bihar will be found in the second part of this chapter.

457. Since 1901 the number of Jains has risen from 7,831 to 11,411, of whom 6,782 were enumerated in Bengal and 4,629 in Bihar and Orissa. The great majority are Marwari immigrants engaged in mercantile pursuits, who leave their wives at home: there are approximately eight males to every three females. There are comparatively few indigenous Jains, though Bihar was the birth-place of their religion. Its founder, Mahavira, was born at Vaisali (the modern Basarh in the district of Muzaffarpur), spent a great part of his life in Bihar proclaiming his doctrines, and died at Apapuri (the modern Pawapuri in the Patna district). Ancient Jain shrines in Patna city, Rajgir and Pawapuri still attract Jain pilgrims, and there are small Jain colonies there and also in Hazaribagh, where the Parasnath mountain commemorates the Nirvana of Parsvanath, the 24th Jaina: nearly one-fourth of the Jains in Bihar and Orissa were enumerated in the two districts of Patna and Hazaribagh. The Jains appear once to have had a number of settlements in the neighbourhood of Parasnath, notably in Manbhum and Singhbhum. Jain traditions refer to the travels of Mahavira in the surrounding territory, and local legend also attests their presence, for the people still speak of the rule of the Sarawaks or Saraks and point to the temples they built. Jain remains are found in Manbhum, while in Singhbhum their copper mines may be seen in different parts of the country. These early Jains were the *Sravaka* or Jain laymen engaged in secular pursuits, and their descendants are still known as Saraks, though they no longer follow the Jain religion.†

\* In 1901 they were returned as Hindus.

† See Bengal Census Report of 1901, pp. 427-8, Muzaffarpur District Gazetteer, pp. 13-14, Patna District Gazetteer, pp. 20, 21, 61, 215, Singhbhum District Gazetteer, pp. 23-25, Manbhum District Gazetteer, pp. 48-52, and Notes on the Geography of Old Bengal by M. M. Chakravarti, J. A. S. B., 1908, pp. 285-6.

There are three main sects of Jains known as Digambars, Svetambars and Sthanakdwasis. The Digambars hold that all the Tirthankars went about naked and that Mahavira himself prescribed absolute nudity, at least for ascetics (*sadhvis*). They do not clothe their images and they divest themselves of their upper garments when eating: they also believe that women cannot attain Nirvana. The Svetambars, on the other hand, hold the doctrine of nudity, but assert that the use of white clothes was prescribed. They decorate their images with clothes and jewellery, and do not deny women the hope of salvation. The Sthanakdwasis (also known as Dhundias) are an offshoot of the Svetambars, who differ from them mainly in denouncing idolatry, with its accompanying ritual and ceremony, and in denying the efficiency of pilgrimages as a means of shaking off the bondage of *karma*. In their view man can only attain spiritual development and final emancipation by self control, purity of conduct and self-sacrifice.

458. The number of Brahmos in both provinces is 3,543 or only 372 more than in 1901, a fact which shows that this sect is attracting few fresh recruits. The actual numbers, however, give no idea of the extent to which the Brahmo doctrines have spread. Though they have not permeated, they have profoundly influenced the intellectual Hindus of Bengal, and many thousands are Brahmos at heart, but not in name. With the diffusion of higher ideas, for which the Brahmo Samaj is partly responsible, and with the spread of English education and more frequent intercourse with Europe and America, the modernist Hindu feels no particular necessity to secede from the main body of his co-religionists and enrol himself as a Brahmo. There is now a considerable body of persons, calling themselves or called by others Neo-Hindus, among whom there is a place for a monotheist who desires to throw off the trammels of caste and to put his views of social reform into practice. There is greater tolerance towards the heterodox, and among the latter the spirit of revolt which led to the establishment of the Brahmo Samaj is dying out. The present tendency is for Brahmos to be re-absorbed in the main body of Hindus. Those who still proclaim themselves Brahmos are mainly townsmen; only 574 Brahmos were enumerated in rural areas, and 1,529, or 43 per cent. of the total number, were inhabitants of Calcutta.

There are three sections of Brahmos, viz., the Adi Samaj, the Nababidhan Samaj and the Sadharan Samaj. The Adi Samaj, or "original association", lays greater stress on renunciation of idolatry than on social reforms, and keeps to the caste system so far as possible, *i.e.*, so far as it does not conflict with religious belief. Its members call themselves Theistic Hindus, the main differences between them and other Hindus being that they are monotheists. The Nababidhan Samaj or New Dispensation, founded by Keshab Chandra Sen, is less conservative and more eclectic. It does not find inspiration only in Hindu works, but in the scriptures of other religions. The most progressive and influential section is the Sadharan (common) Samaj, which repudiates caste distinctions and holds advanced views regarding social practices, such as the zenana system, the position of women, etc. This is, in fact, much more of a distinct sect than the other two branches, and most Brahmos belong to it. Altogether 2,444 or over two-thirds of total number of Brahmos returned their caste as Brahmo, *i.e.*, they disclaimed the Hindu caste system, and most of them may be assumed to be members of the Sadharan Samaj. Of the remainder, more than half were Kayasths, and less than one-fourth were Baidyas: the members of other castes numbered only 237.

459. The Arya Samaj is a sect which has made its appearance in the local returns of religion since the last census, and now numbers 4,085. As is well known, this sect was founded by Dayananda Saraswati, who inculcated monotheism and proclaimed the infallibility of the Vedas. The Aryas claim the latter as authority for their tenets, and their aim is to purge Hinduism of what they consider later accretions. They repudiate polytheism, idolatry and the sacrifice of animals, and, on the social side, denounce the evils of early marriage, have no objection to the remarriage of widows, and advocate the reform of the caste system. The Samaj has practically no adherents in Bengal, but has made headway in Bihar notably in Patna, where four-fifths of the total number are found. The establishment of the Samaj in this district owes its origin to Dayananda

Saraswati himself. He first visited Patna and Dinapore in 1872, and discussed religious subjects, such as the attributes of God, the worship of idols and the marriage of children, with the local Pandits. He is said to have spoken in Sanskrit and made but little impression in the limited and conservative circle he addressed. Five or six years later he revisited Dinapore and delivered a series of lectures decrying polytheism, idol-worship, infant marriage, enforced widowhood, prostitution, the use of intoxicants, the eating of flesh, gambling, litigation, dishonesty in its various forms, etc. At the same time he inculcated monotheism, salvation by one's own actions (*karma*), chastity, adult marriage, vegetarianism, total abstinence from wine, etc. This time he preached in Hindi, the local vernacular, and succeeded in winning a number of converts. An Arya Samaj was established at Dinapore, and the new doctrines thence spread to Bankipore and villages in the interior. Some schools and an orphanage called the "Dayananda Orphanage" have been established at Dinapore, but the majority of the Aryas are found in the Phulwari thana, which accounts for 2,575, or over three-fourths of the total number (3,363) in the district. Unlike the United Provinces, where the Samaj is largely recruited from the educated classes, and where the higher castes preponderate among its members, the Aryas of Patna are mostly members of the lower castes, such as Kurmis, Kahars, etc.; its doctrines have found favour with only a limited number of Hindus and Musalmans of the higher classes. The explanation is that the theory of the submergence of caste in the Arya community appeals most to the lower classes, who regard the new system as improving their position and bringing them on a level with the upper classes. Moreover, the custom of widow marriage was already an established custom with many of them, and the sanction given to this practice by the new faith was no small attraction.

460. The Kumbhipatia sect, which has hitherto not found a place in the returns for religion in Bengal, Bihar and Orissa, appears to have first attracted notice about 1874. The leader of the sect at this time was one Mukund Das, who spent some years at Puri as an Achari Vaishnava, and between 1840 and 1850 established himself at Joranda near the Kapilas hill in the Dhenkanal State. There he led a life of austerity, tending the sick pilgrims who came to the shrine. After living in retreat for many years, he appeared as the apostle of a new faith. He proclaimed that the idols worshipped by the Hindus were merely stone and wood, and that the worship of such destructible articles was of no avail. The Creator of the Universe was Alekh or Mahima, a spiritual being without form, omnipresent and omniscient, and the road to salvation lay in his worship. The former of these two names means the inexpressible or indescribable, while the latter signifies glorious. Mukund himself became known as the Mahima Guru or Mahima Swami, and his disciples as the Kumbhipatias, because they, like Mukund Das himself, used the bark (*vat*) of the *kumbhi* or yellow cotton tree (*Cochlospermum gossypium*) to cover their nakedness. He also denounced the caste system, and would eat food cooked by any one except a Raja, a Brahman, a Bhandari and a Dhoba—the Raja because he was responsible for the sins committed in the State, the Brahman because he accepted gifts from sinful persons, the Bhandari because he shaved sinners, and the Dhoba because he washed their clothes. He would not enter anybody's house, but used to take his food on the public road in a broken earthen pot. He moved about from village to village, never staying more than one night at one place. He taught his disciples and followers to bathe early in the morning and to make obeisance to Alekh at sunrise and again at sunset, turning their faces to the sun and prostrating themselves seven times in the morning and five times in the evening. He also enjoined them not to eat anything after sunset and before sunrise, and not to take any medicine in case of illness. He died in 1875 and was buried at Joranda in Dhenkanal. As he was regarded as an incarnation of the deity and believed to be immortal, his death came as a shock to his followers. Some renounced the new faith, but others remained faithful, and fresh life was given to the cult by a new leader called Bhima Bhoi.

461. Bhima Bhoi was born about 1855 and belonged to a poor Kandh (Khond) family in Sonpur, being employed as in his boyhood as a cattle herd. Though born blind and unable to read and write, he was possessed of considerable natural powers and had no small poetical ability. On attaining

maturity he began to compose verses, in the form of prayers to the deity, which his followers regarded as inspired and committed to writing. These verses are in easy flowing Oriya, and it is said that their style would do credit to a scholar. At an early age he became a follower of Mukund Das, and on his death became one of the leaders of the sect. His disciples increased rapidly, especially in Sambalpur, where men of all classes and castes, except the Brahmans, embraced the new faith: a few Brahmans also threw away their sacred threads, but such cases were exceptional. In 1880 Bhima Bhoi signalized his crusade by an outrage committed in the Jagannath temple. He was inspired by the belief that if the image of Jagannath was destroyed, it would convince the Hindus of the futility of their religion and they would embrace the true faith. In obedience to his command, a body of Kumbhipatias, mostly residents of Sambalpur, marched to Puri, and tried to break into the shrine of Jagannath. A struggle ensued, in which one of them was killed. Some of his followers fell away, partly on account of this failure and partly because of the conduct of Bhima Bhoi himself. A woman with whom he consorted became pregnant, and Bhima Bhoi endeavoured to deceive his followers by telling them that the woman would give birth to Arjun, who would root out all unbelievers. When the child was born, they found, to their surprise, that the woman had given birth to a girl. Bhima accounted for this by saying that it had been revealed to him that the child would be a female, who would destroy the unbelievers by means of her charms. The child, however, died a few days later. Bhima then gave out that she was a fairy, who quitted this world because she found it filled with vice. He was now deserted by a number of his followers, who formed a separate faction, but was still adored and honoured by the remainder. He eventually died in 1895 at Khaliapali in the Sonpur State, which is a centre of the cult.

462. The Kumbhipatias are divided into two sections, viz., the Sannyasis who are ascetics, and the Ashrikas or laymen. The former renounce the world and are celibates. Their life is modelled on that led by their master, the Mahima Swami. Like him, they beg from door to door, have no caste, and take their food only during the day-time at an open place beside a public road. They eat food cooked by people of any caste except a Raja, Brahman, Bhandari and Dhoba, and will not stay anywhere for more than a day, or beg twice from the same house. They do not bathe, have long matted hair, and wear only a girdle of bark or cloth. The Ashrikas or laymen do not renounce the world or married life, but, like certain monastic orders, wear clothes coloured with *geru* (yellow ochre). They do not observe Hindu ceremonies and will not eat anything between sunset and sunrise. They do not kill any animal for food, but eat fish, and the flesh of goat and deer, if supplied by others. They remain in caste and observe caste restrictions, except as regards eating together, for one Kumbhipatia will eat with another without distinction of caste. A Kumbhipatia may marry one of the same caste who is not a Kumbhipatia, but where their number is sufficient, the Ashrikas in each caste tend to form a separate community, having no intercourse with the other members of the caste. Their marriage ceremonies are very simple. The marriage is performed on the road outside the bride's house and is accompanied by oblations to Alekh and invocations of that sacred name. They bury their dead in a sitting posture with the face to the east. Mourning lasts ten days, and on the eleventh day the family undergoes a ceremony of purification. They change their cooking pots, and wash their whole body, including their teeth, and all their garments with water in which cowdung has been steeped; they also drink the urine of a calf mixed with cowdung water.

463. In several respects there appears to be traces of Buddhism in the cult. Bhima Bhoi himself called his *guru*, the Mahima Swami, an *avatar* of Buddha, and several indications of a Buddhist belief have been brought to light by Babu Nagendra Nath Basu in his recent book *Modern Buddhism in Orissa*. According to information gathered by him, even the attack on the Puri temple was due to the desire to bring to light the image of Buddha, and he points out that the scriptures of the sect are full of Buddhist references, such as the statement—"In the Kaliyuga the devotees are passing their lives in disguise, though they have not yet seen the form of the incarnation of Buddha, in the hope that the *gaddi* (seat) of the Sunya will be established in the Province of Bihar. The Alekh will, through his creative

power, assume the form of a human being, in the incarnation of Buddha, for the good of his devotees, who will thus attain emancipation." Briefly his conclusion is: "The Mahimadharmists of the Garhjats of Orissa are simply Buddhists. Like other Buddhists of the Mahayana School they are passing their days in the firm belief and hope that Buddha will again be incarnated." The traditions of the Kumbhipatias, as well as their present practices, point to some connection with the early Buddhists or Jains. They say that in the early ages saints, who did not cover their nakedness with so much as a rag or the bark of a tree, came to the hilly tracts of Orissa and were merciful to the sinners who lived like beasts in the forests, tending their sick and distressed: this, it will be remembered, was also the practice of Mukund Das. They, at length, gave up the cult of nakedness in obedience to a Mahima Guru, who bade his disciples wear the bark of the *kumbhi* tree. The fact that the Kumbhipatias now wear the yellow garb of the Jains and Buddhists, and, like the Jains, do not take any meal after sunset, lend colour to the conjecture that the nude sages of the tradition were Digambara Jains: Jains, as is well known, were common in parts of Chota Nagpur and Orissa at an early period.

464. It is extremely difficult to obtain reliable information regarding the esoteric beliefs of the sect, as they are revealed only to the initiated, but from the enquiries made by Mr. B. C. Mazumdar of Sambalpur, who succeeded in gaining the confidence of some Kumbhipatias, they appear to be as follows. The soul of the father is reincarnated in his son. To attain salvation, one should not be reborn. Man is sinful, because he does not repress his sexual instincts. Perfection is attained when one is free from all sexual desire. Every morning the Kumbhipatias have to give themselves up to absorbed contemplation on the organs of generation, without any feeling of such desire. For the specially initiated, strict celibacy is essential.\* Others may marry and beget children, but they must only have intercourse with their wives at periods favourable for the fertilization of the ovum. If they observe this rule, though they beget children and must therefore be born again, they will be free from sexual passion, and attain salvation at the next birth. Initiation confers a secret virtue by which man and woman are rendered incapable of procreation, even though there may be sexual union. God is an unseen power manifested by the organs of generation, but is not to be identified with them or their functions. God is, in fact, an omnipresent creative energy, but is not visible or expressible, and is therefore called Alekh. These doctrines are certainly not Buddhistic but phallic.

465. The history and practices of the sect reveal a strong antagonism to Hinduism and the Brahmans. Mukund Das appealed to the lower and middle classes, decried the caste system, and inveighed against the forms of worship practised by orthodox Hindus. Bhima Bhoi, himself of low caste, is said to have openly reviled the religious system of the Hindus, and, whatever his motive, attacked the temple of Jagannath. The Kumbhipatias do not worship the Hindu gods and goddesses, and will not eat food cooked in the house of a Brahman. Some, like the Jains, will not bathe, not because there is any fear of their inadvertently taking life, but because they declare that true purity is purity of mind, and Brahmanic ablutions are of no avail. They do not cremate their dead, as they do not believe in the purity of fire, but bury them. Men of all castes are admitted into their ranks. Though they only marry within their castes, they do not observe other caste restrictions among themselves.

466. The total number of Kumbhipatias who returned their religion as such at the census was only 755, of whom most were residents of Sambalpur, Angul and the States of Athgarh, Keonjhar and Dhenkanal. There is reason, however, to believe that their number is much greater than would appear from the returns. From Balasore it is reported that Alekh worship has spread among the lower class Oriyas. A number of monasteries (*maths*) of the sect are also said to be in existence in Cuttack, as well as in a number of the Orissa States, viz., Mayurbhanj, Keonjhar, Dhenkanal, Baud, Daspalla, Talcher, Sonpur, Pal Lahara, Athmallik, Rairakhol and Kalahandi. The total number of Kumbhipatias has, in fact, been estimated at not less than 25,000.†

\* Bhima Bhoi himself had two children (both still alive), a boy and a girl, and explained to his horrified followers that he brought them into the world in order to create an ideal man and an ideal woman.

† Nagendra Nath Basu, *Modern Buddhism in Orissa* (1911), pp. 170-2.



The chief centre of pilgrimage is Joranda, where the Mahima Guru died and was buried. Here an annual gathering is held on the full moon-day of Magh, when the faithful Mahimas and also orthodox Hindus make offerings at his tomb. The offerings chiefly consist of money, tobacco, cigars, *ghi* and coconuts. The Guru was very fond of smoking, and hence tobacco and cigars are considered the most acceptable offerings. The cigars, after being offered, are distributed to the votaries, who smoke them as *prasad*.

467. The members of the sect belong to a number of different Oriya castes, the most strongly represented being Chasas, Koltas, Khairas, Gandas and Gonds: only three Brahmans returned themselves as Kumbhipatias. The cult is known indiscriminately as Alekh, Mahima or Kumbhipatia, the meanings of which have already been explained. The term Kumbhipatia, however, is, in some places, a misnomer. The Mahima Guru is said to have told his 64 disciples that they could wear cloth instead of bark. After his death the followers of Bhima Bhoi and Gobind Das (another disciple) took to clothes dyed yellow, while others kept to the old custom. Others again wore the yellow robe, but put a bark girdle round the waist.

468. One section, also called Alekh, which is reported from Puri, is said to be distinct from other sections, but their doctrines seem much the same. Their founder is said to have been one Artratan Das, who flourished about 60 years ago. Like Bhima Bhoi, he preached the doctrines of Alekh, the formless one, and denounced idolatry. He similarly composed religious poems, besides giving utterance to mysterious sayings (*malika*). When disease, drought, etc., come, the people refer to these sayings as prophetic. His immediate followers were given a staff and long conical cap to wear, and these insignia are worn by their modern successors. He set up a number of *gadis* or seats of the formless deity, which appear to consist merely of shapeless mounds of earth. Offerings made there were eaten together by his disciples without regard to caste distinctions, and this practice is still kept up to some extent.

469. The Birsaits form, according to the census returns, a microscopic sect in Chota Nagpur, but there is reason to believe that their number is really greater, for in one district, at least, those Mundas who described themselves as Birsaits were entered in the schedules as Animists. The founder of the cult was one Birsa, a Munda, who was educated in the German Mission School at Chaibasa. He was apparently at first a Lutheran Christian, but apostacized: as will be shown later, he derived a number of his ideas from the Christian teaching he had received. In 1895, while still a youth, he appeared in Ranchi as the preacher of a new faith, and his doctrines, which were largely political, spread rapidly owing to the agrarian unrest prevalent among the Mundas. For many years the latter had been seething with discontent in consequence of the encroachments of Dikkus, *i.e.*, foreigners (Hindus or Musalmans), who ousted them from their lands and robbed them of cherished rights. There had been persistent agitation among them, as a result of which they put forward claims extending to the absolute proprietorship of the soil, subject only to payment of Government revenue. Their rights, it was urged, were those of the first-comers inherited from their forefathers, the transmission of such rights being exemplified in the story of Abraham. This agitation—the *Sardari Larai*, as it was called—was at its height when Birsa came on the scene. By representing himself as divine, he obtained unbounded influence, and under his control the movement assumed a two-fold character, political and religious. He tried to stem the progress of Christianity among the aboriginals by forming a new religious sect or caste, to include, among others, perverts from Christianity. The main object of the movement however remained the same, *viz.*, the assertion of the supposed ancient rights of the aborigines in the soil and over the jungles, the motive idea being that by an organised revolt they would be able to upset the authority of Government, and, by the institution of a reign of terror, compel submission to their demands.

470. Birsa took advantage of a violent thunderstorm, when lightning struck the ground near him, to declare that he had received a divine message—an idea prompted, no doubt, by his memory of God speaking to the Israelites from Mount Sinai amid thunder and lightning. He followed this up by

various tricks which invested him with a reputation for supernatural powers. He shut himself up in his house and gave out that he ate only once in eight days, being sustained miraculously from heaven. He said that he was going up to heaven and would not be seen again on earth for so many days, during which, of course, he hid himself. He next proclaimed himself an incarnation of the deity (Bhagwan), who had come as the saviour of all persons who joined his standard; those who did not join him were doomed to destruction. As a visible proof of his pretensions, he painted himself with turmeric and showed himself at a window in the dusk, after which it was given out that his body frequently changed into the colour of gold, this being supposed to be a sign of divinity. He also claimed divine powers of healing. A mother brought him her sick child; Birsa mumbled some prayers and laid his hand on the child's head. The child actually recovered, though not immediately, and the mother declared that it was caused by Birsa's prayer—in fact, that he had performed a miracle. People flocked in from all parts, bringing their sick, and in many cases their dead, but Birsa performed no more miracles; to account for his failure, he told the people that their faith was too weak. In a few months the bulk of both the Oraon and Munda population in Ranchi were convinced Birsaits, and Christians even became disciples of the new redeemer.

471. His preaching was a strange medley of admonitions in favour of purity and asceticism, and of injunctions to his followers to defy the Government and its officers. The worship of idols and devils must be abandoned. There is but one God, he said, and to him alone worship is due. This doctrine appealed to the Mundas, as they said it was an economical religion, saving them the expense of sacrifices. Thursday (Brihaspati, which he translated as the birthday of Birsa) was set aside for the worship of God, and work was forbidden, as on the Christian Sunday. Birsa had no definite ritual, but prayed to God in a style based on his recollections of Christian prayers. His followers had to wear a sacred string, the *paitha*, as a distinctive mark, men round the neck and women in their hair. When questioned by his followers on the subject of marriage, he said that they could not have more than one wife, but took two wives himself. He inveighed against the sins of stealing, lying, murder, etc., and ordained that white pigs and white fowls were unclean; when he issued a proclamation that they should be destroyed, his orders were obeyed in the Munda households throughout the district. He also foretold a deluge which would destroy all but those round him. It was wasted labour therefore to continue to weed the crops, and as the people would have no further need of cattle for ploughing, etc., they should turn them all loose. The Government money would be turned to water, and it was useless to keep it: the people should therefore at once spend all they had in purchasing clothes. In consequence of these instructions cultivation among the Mundas was stopped, thousands of cattle were turned loose into the jungles, and all the clothes available at local markets were rapidly bought up.

472. His teaching became gradually more and more political and incendiary, its refrain being that the people were to rise, drive out or slay all foreigners, and establish the Munda Raj. Birsa would lead them to victory: if the Government tried to oppose him, its guns would be turned into wood, and its bullets into water. No one in future was to obey the Government, but Birsa; no one was to pay rent any more, as all land was to be rent-free. He was arrested, tried and convicted to 2½ years' imprisonment. On the night he went to jail an incident occurred which was regarded as an omen and did much for his cause. It was raining heavily, and an old tool shed in the jail compound collapsed. This was taken to be a sign of God's anger at Birsa's incarceration, and the news spread like wildfire. By the time it got to Birsa's own part of the country, rumour had it that the jail walls had fallen in and that Birsa was coming back to his people. He was released in 1897 on the occasion of the Jubilee of Queen Victoria, and promptly resumed his campaign. He gathered some of his followers at the old Hindu temple in Chutia, a suburb of Ranchi, desecrated the images in the temple, and held a dance in its precincts. Some of his men were captured by the police, but Birsa managed to escape, and for some time kept to the jungles in the south of Ranchi and in Singhbhum. Meetings were held

by night in the jungle, always in different places, and with every precaution against surprise. The final outbreak took place on Christmas Eve, 1899, when the Christians were attacked simultaneously in various places from Ranchi to Chakradharpur. The Birsaits burnt their houses and in the glare of the fires shot down with their arrows those who came out; they were even bold enough to attack the European missionaries at various mission stations. The authorities took prompt action and the revolt was quickly suppressed, Birsa having, however, some skirmishes with the troops before he took to flight. There were a large number of women among his followers, who did good work in the fighting line. Birsa himself showed no lack of courage, but was never hit. On one occasion, he painted his face with gold saying that he was the Messiah, and exposed himself on a rock during heavy rifle fire to show that he could not be killed. Whenever any of his followers was struck, he invariably told them that it was due to the weakness of their faith. Birsa was eventually tracked down and captured, but, before his trial was concluded, died in prison in June 1900 at the early age of 22 or 24.

473. [The Mundas had, and have, a firm belief in his supernatural powers. While he was in jail, no Munda believed he was really confined. They alleged that he had gone up to heaven, and that the authorities had only a clay figure in jail, which they pretended was Birsa. When, after his release from jail, he disappeared for about nine months, it was given out that he had left the earth for a time, but would return again. Some Mundas even now do not believe that he is really dead, and steadfastly expect his return. There is said to be a movement to induce his younger brother to revive the cult, but the latter has not the enterprise or enthusiasm of Birsa, and the Birsa religion seems doomed to die of inanition.]

474. A similar movement in the Sonthal Parganas is that known as the Kherwar movement. Kherwar, according to the Santals, was their original name, and the aim of the movement is a return to the golden age when the Kherwars worshipped God (Chando) only and were undisputed lords of the soil. It appears to have been first noticed in 1871, when a Santal named Bhagrit (Hinduized as Bhagirath) set up as a religious teacher, exhorting the Santals to give up eating pigs and fowls, as well as the drinking of liquor, and to abandon the worship of Marang Buru for that of the one true God. The burden of his preaching, however, was that the land belonged to the Santals, and no rent should be paid for it. He used to have a tray loaded with grain carried round at his meetings and would ask who made the grain. The reply would be Chando or God. He would next ask "Who cultivated the grain?" The answer would be "We cultivated the grain." Bhagirath then would say: "If we cultivated the grain and God made it, why should we pay rent?" His adherents were to be known as Kherwars or Safahor (clean men), and were to rise at a given signal and drive all non-Kherwars, *i.e.*, foreigners of all kinds, out of the land. After this he would reign over them, his subjects being called upon to pay a plough tax of one anna per plough and no rents or taxes. He was eventually arrested, convicted and imprisoned, and the movement collapsed. It has, however, been revived more than once, and from time to time new *babajis* have sprung up, who are credited with thaumaturgic powers, such as the power of curing disease, procuring offspring for the childless, etc. There are still many Safahor in the district, who will not eat pigs and fowls or drink intoxicating liquor, but worship Mahadeo and never kill animals except in sacrifice. In this and other respects there is a decided tendency to adopt Hinduistic practices, but many of the *babajis* have been pervert Christians and their teaching shows traces of Christian influences. The movement is especially apt to revive in times of scarcity when the people attribute their misfortunes to their having fallen from a state of pristine purity when they worshipped only one God.\*

475. There are altogether 2,018 Jews in the two provinces, of whom 1,919 are resident in Calcutta. They consist of two main classes, *viz.*, domiciled Jews and Asiatic immigrants. Among the former a certain number are European Jews, some of

\* Further details will be found in the Sonthal Parganas Gazetteer, pp. 145—157.

whom are Sephardim, *i.e.*, descendants of the Spanish Jews that were driven out of Spain by the Inquisition. The higher classes are Anglicized, and some of their members have risen to distinguished positions in the world of commerce or in the service of the State. The latter are mostly new-comers from Arabia or Asiatic Turkey, who when they arrive are ignorant of English. Nearly one-third of the Jews in Calcutta returned their language as English, and practically all the rest spoke either Hebrew or Arabic. Three-fifths were born in Calcutta, and one-sixth in Arabia.

476. The other religions have comparatively few representatives and are foreign to Bengal, Bihar and Orissa. The Zoroastrians consist of Parsi traders from the west of India. The Confucians are Chinese who have come to Bengal in increasing numbers since 1901. Nearly all the latter are found in Calcutta, where there is a growing Chinese colony composed mainly of boot-makers and carpenters. In this city the Chinese aggregate 2,560, who are nearly equally divided between Buddhism and Confucianism.

### RACES AND SECTS OF CHRISTIANS.

477. In Bihar and Orissa 6,224 persons were returned under the head of Europeans and allied races (*i.e.*, Australians, Americans, etc.), the number of Armenians and Anglo-Indians\* being 92 and 3,405 respectively. In Bengal all three communities are much more strongly represented, there being 24,388 persons who are Europeans or members of allied races, 1,063 Armenians and 19,833 Anglo-Indians. Their greater strength in the Presidency is due to Calcutta, which accounts for 55 per cent. of the Europeans and allied races, 77 per cent. of the Armenians and 71 per cent. of the Anglo-Indians in Bengal. Bihar and Orissa contains more than thrice as many Indian Christians as the latter Province.

478. The number of Europeans is artificially inflated by Anglo-Indians returning themselves as Europeans. Special inquiries were made in selected towns where there is a considerable Anglo-Indian community, and it was ascertained that three-tenths of the persons who called themselves Europeans, were really Anglo-Indians. The returns in railway settlements were far more accurate, there being a misdescription of race in only one-tenth of the entries. This greater degree of accuracy is probably the effect of the railway authorities keeping a register in which their employes are classified as Europeans and East Indians,† and also to the fact that the census staff is composed of railway officers whom the Anglo-Indian subordinate has no chance of deceiving.

479. Nine-tenths of the Europeans are British subjects, and among them the most numerous are the English. The marginal statement shows the strength of the chief European nationalities in Bihar and Orissa and in Calcutta: figures for Bengal are not available as statistics of European nationalities were not compiled in Eastern Bengal. In the two provinces 14,751 persons, or nearly half the total number of Europeans, were born in the United Kingdom, and of these 11,028 returned England or Wales as their birth-place. There are no less than 5,007 children of European parentage under 12 years of age, representing one-sixth of the total number of Europeans, but, fortunately for the vigour of the race, the number between 12 and 15 who have had to be kept out in this country is very small, the aggregate being only 769.

480. In both provinces the Anglican communion is most strongly represented among the European community, 56 per cent. in Bengal and 64 per cent. in Bihar and Orissa being members of it. One-fifth in Bengal and a little over one-fifth

RACE.	Bihar and Orissa.	Calcutta.
English	4,374	9,215
Irish	817	990
Scotch	373	1,394
German	184	290
French	73	212

\* For the meaning of "Anglo-Indian," see paragraph 51 below.

† This is another term for "Anglo-Indians."

in Bihar and Orissa are Roman Catholics, while Presbyterians account for one-tenth in the former and for 7 per cent. in the latter province.

481. The designation Anglo-Indian is used, under the orders of the Government of India, for the community of mixed descent hitherto known as Eurasians. From the preceding remarks it will be seen that their number is really greater than that shown in the returns owing to persons who had no title to that designation entering themselves as Europeans. On the other hand, there is reason to believe that a small number of Indian Christians returned themselves as Anglo-Indians. In some cases the names by which they are baptized, *e.g.*, David or Samson, lend themselves to such deception, but in other cases it is not easy to pass themselves off as Anglo-Indians under the scriptural names given them by missionaries. There is consequently a tendency to abandon names like Job, Benjamin, etc., and to assume European (especially Scotch) names. Since 1901 the number of Anglo-Indians in the two provinces has risen by 10 per cent., though there has been a small decrease in Calcutta.

482. The Roman Catholic Church has by far the greatest number of Anglo-Indian adherents in either province, the proportion being 58 per cent. in Bengal and 55 per cent. in Bihar and Orissa. The Church of England follows next with a percentage of 32 and 37 per cent., respectively; nearly all the remainder are either Baptists, Methodists or Presbyterians. Compared with 1901 the Church of Rome has a gain of 1,779 persons among this community, while the English Church has lost 670. This change is mainly accounted for by Calcutta, where Roman Catholics are more numerous by 1,240 and Anglicans are less numerous by 1,229 than

	Bengal.	Bihar and Orissa.
Roman Catholic ...	12,180	1,664
Anglican Communion ...	8,705	1,228

they were ten years ago.

483. The figures for Anglo-Indians include the Feringis of Eastern Bengal, who number 1,202 and are mostly resident in Backergunge, Noakhali and Chittagong: all but 14 were returned as Roman Catholics. They are descendants of the Portuguese pirates and adventurers, who either swept the seaboard in their own galleys or were retained as gunners in the service of the Nawabs of Bengal. They intermarried with the women of the country, and their descendants are now scarcely distinguishable from their native neighbours. In some parts they relapsed into paganism, and were only reconverted about half a century ago. In Noakhali they have given up marrying non-Christians and retain their Portuguese names, though these have become corrupted, *e.g.*, Manuel is now Manu and Fernandez is Fernan. In Chittagong they form connections with Magh and Musalman women, but do not marry them unless they are baptized. The children inherit the names of their fathers, whether they are the offspring of concubines or not; if illegitimate, public acknowledgment by the parents entitles them to aliment and recognition. In manners and habits they resemble natives, and they are even darker in colour. Their religion, dress and names are practically the only things that distinguish them from their neighbours. They adopt English Christian names, but the surnames are still Portuguese, such as DeBarros, Fernandez, DeSouza, DeSilva, Rebeiro, DeCruz, DaCosta, Gonsalvez, etc.

484. There is another small community of Feringis near Geonkhali in the Midnapore district, who are descendants of some Portuguese gunners whom the Raja of Mahisadal brought from Chittagong in the latter half of the 18th century to protect his property against Maratha raids. These soldiers of fortune settled on some rent-free land which the Raja gave them, and intermarried with the women of the country. Their descendants relapsed into paganism and acquired an evil reputation as thieves and robbers, though visited occasionally by Roman Catholic priests. In 1838 they were visited by the Revd. J. Bower and Mr. R. Hamfray, the former of whom described them as "nominal Christians with scarcely any sign of Christianity except a few images of the Virgin Mary and Saints, no public worship or prayer, no scriptures, no sacraments." A

number were baptized by Mr. Bower and became Protestants: at present some of them are Protestants and some Roman Catholics. They bear both Bengali and Portuguese names, such as DeCruz, Rosario, and Lobo, but they are Bengalis in everything but name and religion. This community numbers 129.

485. The Armenians have been established in Bengal, Bihar and Orissa for nearly three centuries. They appear to have made their way across India as pioneers of foreign trade and had formed a settlement in Sutanuti (the site of the modern Calcutta) at least 60 years before the foundation of Calcutta by Job Charnock.\* Tombstones in the old town of Bihar point to their having settled there in the first half of the 17th century, and from 1645 onwards there was an Armenian community at Chinsura, at the head of which was the wealthy family of merchants known as the Margars. In 1665 the Armenians obtained a *farman* from Aurangzeb giving them permission to form a settlement in Saiyadabad, the commercial suburb of Murshidabad, and in 1688 they received charters from the East India Company granting them free trade in the Company's territory with full liberty in the exercise of their religion. The Company, indeed, went further, for it undertook to give a site for a church, and to defray the cost of building one of timber, in any of its settlements in which there were 40 or more Armenians. At this period trade appears mainly to have engaged their energies, but they also had considerable political influence: it was largely due to the Armenian merchant Khojah Sarhad, who accompanied the embassy of 1715 to the court of Farrukhsiyar, that the British obtained the right of free trade from the Mughals. Others rose to high office under the native rulers of Bengal; Gurgin Khan (Khojah Gregory), originally a cloth seller, became Commander-in-Chief under Mir Kasim Ali, and a number of Armenians were officers in the army under him.†

486. The number of Armenians returned at this census is 1,155 or only 74 more than in 1901: all but 92 were enumerated in Bengal, and four-fifths of the total number were residents of Calcutta. A considerable number are new arrivals from Persia, and in particular from Julfa: when they land, they are ignorant of English, but they learn the language quickly and rapidly assimilate European ways. Calcutta being regarded as a good place at which to give Armenian boys a start in life, and the knowledge of English a valuable commercial asset, they are constantly being sent there from Persia to receive an English education. Half the number of Armenian males in Calcutta were born in Persia, but the number of females hailing from that country was insignificant: over one-fourth of those born in Persia were under 15 years of age. Three-fourths were returned as members of the Armenian Church and less than three-eighths as speaking Armenian, the remainder using English habitually.

487. The marginal statement shows the advance made by the principal Christian Missions since 1901, and also the total addition to the number of Indian Christians.

There has been an increase of no less than 50 per cent., but the rate of progress is far slower in Bengal than in Bihar and Orissa, where numerous conversions are being made among the aboriginal tribes. While the total number of Christians in Bengal has risen by only 23,150 or 21·7 per cent., there is an increase of 95,767 or 55·5 per cent. in Bihar and

DENOMINATION.	Bengal.	Bihar and Orissa.	Total, 1911.	Total, 1901.	Increase, 1901-11.
Roman Catholic	26,892	112,257	142,142	90,299	51,843
Lutheran	978	89,276	100,252	68,294	30,958
Anglican	18,005	22,242	40,247	25,299	14,948
Baptist	22,902	10,402	33,256	20,207	13,049
Presbyterian	4,112	1,074	5,186	3,023	2,163
Methodist	3,027	1,169	4,206	2,668	1,538
Congregationalist	2,226	12	2,238	1,918	320
ALL DENOMINATIONS	51,260	258,544	341,804	227,763	114,041

Orissa. Nearly the whole of the increase in the latter Province has taken place in the Chota Nagpur Plateau, where an addition of 93,969 has been registered, of which Ranchi claims 52,397 and the adjoining State of Gangpur

\* A tombstone over the grave of an Armenian lady, the wife of "the late charitable Sookess," in the churchyard of St. Nazareth, Calcutta, has an inscription of which the date corresponds to 1630 A. D.

† M. J. Seth, *History of the Armenians in India* (1897), pp. 34-80.

31,934. In Ranchi the proportional growth since 1901 has been 42 per cent., and the converts now number 177,112 or 13 per cent. of the population: there are, in fact, more than twice as many Indian Christians in this district as in the whole of Bengal.

488. All the three missions at work in Ranchi have shared in the increase, but the greatest advance has been made by the Roman Catholic Church, the members of which now outnumber the Lutherans, as shown in the margin. The spread of Christianity in the adjoining State of Gangpur is perhaps even more remarkable. In 1901 there

Denomination.	1911.	1901.
Roman Catholic	77,544	54,401
Lutheran	70,281	37,468
Anglican	23,286	12,075

were only 1,758 Christians in the State, but the number has now risen to 33,692, and, next to Ranchi, is greater than that returned by any district or State in either Province. The work in this State is mainly an extension of that carried on in Ranchi; two-thirds of the converts are Roman Catholics, nearly all the remainder being Lutherans.

489. As a rule, persons converted to Christianity were returned as "Native Christians," and their caste of origin was not entered in the schedules. In the case of converts,

RACES OF INDIAN CHRISTIANS.

however, recruited from among the Himalayan races or from aboriginal tribes

CASTE OR TRIBE.	Number of persons.	CASTE OR TRIBE.	Number of persons.
<b>DARJEELING.</b>		<b>RANCHI—concluded.</b>	
Lepcha	1,240	Kharia	19,273
Jinudiar	215	Kamar and Lohar	374
Kami	164	Asur	264
Orson	155	Chik	220
Murmi	125	Pañ	127
Limbū	104	Kurmi	75
Nawar	102	Bhuiya	49
Mangar	65	Turi	30
Gurung	71	Unspecified	547
Khas (Bhatri)	54	Others	264
-Dandi	40		
Bhotia	37	<b>PALAMAU.</b>	
Munda	34	Orson	7,340
Sunwar	33	Munda	234
Sarki	16	Bhuiya	127
Ghurli	13	Unspecified	37
Unspecified	1,397	Others	38
Others	102		
<b>SONTHAL PARGANAS</b>		<b>SINGBHM.</b>	
Sonthal	1,037	Munda	4,202
Sauria Paharia	407	Ho	1,197
Mahli	291	Orson	443
Muchi	47	Kamar and Lohar	72
Kamar and Lohar	43	Unspecified	336
Jadupatta	42	Others	179
Doti	28		
Bhuiya	17	<b>ORISSA STATES.</b>	
Mai Paharia	17	Orson	16,251
Unspecified	1,741	Kharia	9,184
Others	71	Munda	8,190
		Unspecified	4,711
		Others	38
<b>RANCHI.</b>			
Orson	89,647		
Munda	86,992		

in Chota Nagpur and the Sonthal Parganas, the name of the caste, tribe or race is commonly retained, and there was no objection to its being entered in the schedules. The marginal statement gives details of the numbers so returned, from which it will be seen how largely the aboriginal races bulk among the converts. In Bihar and Orissa the Christian community includes 112,738 Oraons, 80,508 Mundas, 28,400 Kharias and 7,896 Santals, and these four races between them account for nearly nine-tenths of the Indian Christians. In Darjeeling the Lepchas have shown the greatest readiness to accept the Christian faith, but little progress has been made in winning

over the Nepalese races. In addition to the 1,240 persons who returned themselves as Lepchas by race, there were 1,598 persons recorded simply as Native Christians whose language was Lepcha, thus giving a total of 2,838 Lepchas or more than two-thirds of the total number of Indian Christians in the district.

490. One reason why the aboriginal tribes are more receptive of Christianity than other communities is that a convert to Christianity is not so completely cut off from his

relations and friends. In parts of Ranchi, for instance, where the Christian community is strongly represented, not only have their heathen brethren no objection to eating with the Christians, but a renegade Christian can be re-admitted into his original tribe. A further attraction is the hope of obtaining assistance from the missionaries in their difficulties and protection against the coercion of landlords. Keenly attached to their land and having few interests outside it, they believe that the missionary will stand by them in their agrarian disputes, and act as their legal advisers. It must not be imagined that Christian missionaries hold out such offers as an inducement

CAUSES OF CONVERSION.

to the aboriginals to enroll themselves in the Christian ranks, but the knowledge that the missionaries do not regard their duties as confined to the cure of souls, but also see to the welfare of their flock, has undoubtedly led to many conversions. To their credit, be it said, the missionaries have not failed in their trust, and the agrarian legislation, which is the Magna Charta of the aboriginal, is largely due to their influence. Unfortunately this belief also leads to a certain amount of desertions, self-interested converts going from one denomination to another in the hope that a change of pastors will further their interests. A number of these converts, moreover, have, before now, apostacized on finding out that conversion failed to secure the temporal benefits they expected, as the missionaries declined to support preposterous claims. Perverts from Christianity have been prominent among agrarian agitators, and have displayed bitter animosity against their former pastors.

It may be noted here that Christianity has had some effect on the tribal customs even of those who have not embraced it. "There is, I believe," wrote the Deputy Commissioner of Ranchi in 1903, "no question that a generation or two back, the Mundas invariably burnt their dead; but with the spread of Christian customs and with the diminution of the fuel supply, for the last generation or so, burial has almost entirely superseded cremation, and there are very few Mundas now who can say what the ancestral custom was. The Christmas festival is now generally recognized among even the heathen Mundas as the *Paus Parab*, and I have no doubt that in another ten years it will be confidently claimed as a traditional Munda festival."\*

491. Among the Hindus of the plains, Christian converts are mostly drawn from among the lower classes, to whom Christianity means an accession of respectability as well as a cleaner and purer life. Those ranking higher in the social scale have more to lose, for conversion means excommunication. If his family do not turn the convert out, they themselves will be outcasted. The result is that he loses his home and his share in the land, and is left without friends or means of livelihood. Their helplessness in these circumstances is one of the economic difficulties the missionaries have to face. A social difficulty is often presented by the low origin of the converts, for, though caste is alien to Christianity, the influences of immemorial tradition still persist. In Nadia, for instance, one of the problems which the missionaries have long had to solve is the treatment of Muchis who become converts. Their customs, e.g., eating flesh of cattle that have died and been thrown outside the village, are repugnant to other Christians, as well as to Hindus, and the Muchis have long been regarded as scarcely within the pale. Even the lapse of 30 years appears to have made little difference in their position. In 1878 one of the missionaries wrote regarding these Muchi Christians, as they were called. "Their Christian brethren have ever regarded them with loathing and animosity. Besides personal dislike, a selfish consideration actuated the other sections in their treatment of these brethren. They found that by denouncing the Muchis, they obtained perfect toleration, and even caste recognition, among their neighbours: but to own the Muchis and treat them as brethren in Christ would have severed the dubious tie which they wish to maintain with the outer circle. Accordingly, for all these years their effort has been to ostracise those poor brethren, and even to drive them beyond the pale of Christianity. If a native pastor ventured to baptise a Muchi infant, he was threatened with desertion by the rest of his people; when a poor Muchi brother ventured into a church, the congregation indignantly protested; if they presumed to approach the holy table, the other communicants declared they would withdraw."† A recent account states:—"The Church, even at the present time, finds it hard to receive them in a whole-hearted way, sometimes even refusing to eat or smoke with them; and it is an uncommon thing for inter-marriages to take place with other Christians, though there are cases on record. The problem of how to get the Bengali Church to receive the *Bhratrigan*‡ in the same way in which they receive Christians from Mahomedanised or from ordinary Hindu castes, has vexed all right-thinking Christians for many years. In former years feasts were given, and all were invited.

\* H. C. Streetfeild, *Variations in Tribal Practices and Belief*, J. A. S. B., Part III, 1903.

† Nadia District Gazetteer, p. 140-1.

‡ A name, meaning "Brethren", now given to the Christian Muchis.



and were more or less forced to eat together, but such harsh methods were not entirely crowned with success. The more successful way has been to try by education to raise the social status of the Bhratrigan."<sup>9</sup> With this laudable object, they have been forbidden to carry on their old industry or to eat the flesh of animals that have died: they have been taught to weave coarse cloth, to keep their houses clean, and to send their children to school.

492. The pioneers of Christian missionary enterprise in Bengal, Bihar and Orissa were friars or priests belonging to the Augustinian, Jesuit and Capuchin orders. Both the Augustinians and Jesuits appeared on the scene in the second half of the sixteenth century and made their headquarters in Hooghly or at Bandel in its neighbourhood. From this centre the Jesuits sent out several missionaries. One penetrated the Sundarbans, and another went to Chittagong, where he was put to death. By 1603, however, a mission had been established in the latter district, while in 1620 a branch was set up at Patna, where the Mughal Viceroy of Bihar secretly embraced Christianity. In 1632, Hooghly was captured and sacked by the Mughals, one of the reasons assigned for the attack being their anger at the success of the missionaries in proselytizing. Some of the priests were slain, and others carried off captive to Agra, but the Augustinians returned a few years later and have since lived at Bandel. The Capuchins, to whom Tibet and Nepal were assigned as a mission field, made Chandernagore their headquarters in 1703. Within a few years they extended their operations first to Patna, then to Patan in Nepal, and finally to Lhasa itself. The missionaries at Lhasa were driven out in 1745, and fell back on Patan, where they had received grants of land from the Newar Kings and succeeded in making a number of converts. They were not long left in peace, for in 1769 they were expelled by the less tolerant Gurkhas, who had overcome the Newars and made themselves masters of Patan, Katmandu and the whole Nepal valley. They then retired with their surviving converts to Bettiah, where the Capuchins had been in residence since 1745; one of them had obtained the favour of the Raja of Bettiah by curing his wife of a serious illness and had received a grant of land. The Raja gave the refugees an asylum and allowed them to settle both in Bettiah and Chuchari, where the mission has maintained its existence till the present day.

493. Protestant missionaries did not appear in Bengal till about two centuries after the Jesuits and Augustinians began their labours. The first Protestant missionary was Kiernander, who settled in Calcutta in 1758, and the first organized mission was that started by the Baptist Missionary Society, which in 1793 sent out Carey and Thomas to Bengal. The success of this mission is sufficiently attested by the fame and achievements of the faithful band who laboured at Serampore, then a Danish settlement. They were the first to translate the Christian scriptures into the different languages of India. They established the first schools for non-Christian children in the north of India, and the first college for the education of native catechists, published the first native newspaper in India and printed the first books in Bengali. In 1796 the London Missionary Society was started, and two years later its first missionary appeared at Chinsura, which was under Dutch rule. The Church of England did not attempt direct missionary work till the next century, for till 1813 missionaries were prohibited from residing in the Company's territory, and it was not till 1814 that the episcopal see of Calcutta was founded. From that time the work of the Church of England developed steadily, its chief agencies being the Church Missionary Society, which sent out its first representative in 1814, and the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, which in 1820 started by sending out Dr. Mill as head of the Bishop's College at Calcutta. The first missionary of the Church of Scotland was Alexander Duff, who in 1844 devoted himself to the evangelization of rural districts, such as Nadia and Hooghly. Next year a Lutheran mission, known as Gossner's Mission, was started in Ranchi.

494. The limits of space preclude an account of the subsequent development of mission work, but one feature may perhaps be alluded to here, viz.,

<sup>9</sup> North of India Church Missionary Gleaner, November 1909.

the fact that many of the pioneers of Christianity have been of non-British origin. The Augustinians were Portuguese, the Jesuits were mostly Portuguese, Italians and French, the Capuchins were Italians. Kiernander was a Swede; Gossner's Mission, now known as the German Evangelical Lutheran Mission, was manned by Germans; the first Protestant missionaries in the Himalayas were Moravians, while the Scandinavian Lutheran Mission among the Santals of the Sonthal Parganas was founded by a Dane and a Norwegian.

495. The principal bodies now at work in the two Provinces are as follows:—(1) The Roman Catholic Church, in which the missions come within the following ecclesiastical jurisdictions. The Archbishop of Calcutta exercises control over practically all Bengal as well as Chota Nagpur, Bhagalpur and Orissa, and is assisted by Suffragan Bishops at Dacca and Krishnagar. The Diocese of Krishnagar comprises the districts of Nadia, Jessore, Khulna, Murshidabad, Faridpur, Dinajpur, Bogra, Malda, Jalpaiguri, Rangpur, Rajshahi and Cooch Behar: within these districts the Milan Mission is at work. The jurisdiction of the Bishop of Dacca extends over Dacca, Noakhali, Mymensingh, Pabna, Chittagong and Comilla. Bihar is under the Archbishop of Agra and his Suffragan Bishops of Allahabad and Bettiah: the latter place is the headquarters of the Prefecture Apostolic of Bettiah and Nepal, which is the sphere assigned to the Capuchins of the Tyrolese Province. In addition to these, there is the Portuguese Mission, which is administered by the Bishop of Mylapur, who is subordinate to the Archbishop of Goa. This mission owns churches at Calcutta, Bandel and Chinsura, and also in the Dacca and Backergunge districts. (2) The Anglican Communion is represented by the Church Missionary Society, the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, the Oxford Mission and the Dublin University Mission, besides the Church of England Zenana Mission. (3) The Lutheran bodies are the German Evangelical Lutheran Mission, which is mainly concentrated in Chota Nagpur and the neighbouring States, and the Scandinavian Lutheran Mission, which has its headquarters in the Sonthal Parganas. The latter is also known as the Indian Home Mission to the Santals, because it was the intention of its founders to raise in India all the funds required for its maintenance. (4) The chief Baptist missions are the London Baptist Missionary Society, the American Free Baptist Mission, the American Church of God Mission and several Australasian missions, viz., South Australia, Victoria, New South Wales, Queensland, West Australia and New Zealand. (5) The Presbyterians mostly belong to the Church of Scotland Mission, which also includes the Guild Mission (so called from its being supported by the Guilds of the Church), and the Universities Mission, which is supported by the Scottish Universities. Other Presbyterian missions are the United Free Church of Scotland Mission, and the Presbyterian Church of England Mission. (6) The Methodists maintain the American Methodist Episcopal Mission, the Methodist Episcopal Church Mission, and the Wesleyan Mission, while (7) the Congregationalists keep up the London Missionary Society. Other minor missions are mostly undenominational: among them may be mentioned the Regions Beyond Mission, the Open Brethren, the Hephzibah Faith Mission, the Bengal Evangelistic Mission, the Disciples of Christ, the Church of Christ Mission, and the Church of God.

496. Since 1901 the number of Indians who have become Roman Catholics has risen from 90,299 to 142,142, *i.e.*, by 52 per cent. Only about one-fifth of the total number are found in Bengal, where they are most numerous in Dacca. Altogether, there are over 11,000 Indian Roman Catholics in this district, which is followed *longo intervallo* by Calcutta with 4,000, by Nadia and the 24-Parganas with about 3,000 each, and by Midnapore with 1,200. In no other district of Bengal does their number come up to 1,000.

The chief centre of Catholic missionary enterprise in Bihar and Orissa is Ranchi, where a mission has been established since 1874. During the last 10 years the number of converts in this district has increased by 23,443 or 43 per cent., but even greater success has been obtained in Gangpur, where the members of the communion now aggregate 22,382. The mission had no stations in that State in 1901, but one has since been started and work is also carried on from adjoining stations in Ranchi. In Palamau, where a

Jesuit mission was started at Mahuadand in 1895, the number of converts (7,703) has fallen off slightly during the last decade, but Champaran, with 2,358 Indian Christians, shows a slight advance. The only other district with over 1,000 converts is Singhbhum, where work has been carried on by the Jesuits for over 40 years: here the Church of Rome has made no headway during the last 10 years.

497. The Lutherans come next to the Roman Catholics in numerical strength, but their distribution is far more localized, all but about 1,000 being found in Bihar and Orissa.

LUTHERANS.

In this Province two-thirds (75,581) are inhabitants of Ranchi, where the German Evangelical Lutheran Mission has been established since 1845. It was originally known as Gossner's Mission, but in 1869 it was split up into two sections, one of which joined the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel. During the last 20 years it has had remarkable success in proselytizing. The number of its converts increased from 19,000 in 1891 to thrice that number in 1901, and since then there has been an addition of 18,000 or 33 per cent. The operations of the mission have also been extended to Gangpur, where there are now 11,000 converts. Nearly 5,000 Lutherans are found in the Sonthal Parganas, where the Scandinavian Lutheran Mission was established in 1867. There is also a community of Lutheran Christians numbering 4,000 in Singhbhum, while 2,000 are found in Manbhum.

498. The number of Indian Christians belonging to the Anglican Church is only half that of the Lutherans and rather more than a third of the number of Roman Catholics.

ANGLICAN COMMUNION.

Since 1901 they have increased by 14,648 or 41 per cent., and the increase would have probably been greater had it not been for a change of classification. At the last census persons who returned themselves simply as Protestants without specifying any particular denomination, and whose denomination could not be traced by subsequent inquiries, were grouped with members of the Anglican Communion, it being thought that the majority of persons who returned themselves as Protestants were members of the Church of England. It was however ascertained that this was not the case, and that many Dissenters also use this vague designation. Accordingly, at this census, they have been classified under the head "Protestant (Unsectarian or sect not specified)".

499. In Bengal, the Indian members of the Anglican Communion are most numerous in Nadia (5,746), the 24-Parganas (4,774), Calcutta (2,908) and Jalpaiguri (2,128): the aggregate for the rest of the Presidency is under 2,500. There has been a slight growth in the 24-Parganas, but the Christian community is stationary in Nadia, while Calcutta shows a decrease. In Jalpaiguri however, the Anglican Christians have increased by 27 per cent., mainly as the result of a Christian colony which was established for Santals in the Western Duars about 20 years ago. The area reserved for this colony is 14 square miles, which was at first covered with dense reed jungle and infested by wild beasts. It is now divided into ten villages, each of which has a headman chosen by the villagers. The affairs of the colony are managed by a council of headmen, presided over by the native pastor. At the present time there are about 1,500 Christian and 500 other colonists, all of whom are Santals. Those who are not Christians sign a pledge to abstain from intoxicating drink and heathen sacrifices, and to abide by the rules of the colony. Every acre of available land is under cultivation, the people are prosperous, and the colony is self-supporting\*.

500. There are comparatively few converts in Bihar and Orissa outside the districts of Ranchi, the Sonthal Parganas, Singhbhum and Hazaribagh, which between them contain 30,000. Five-sixths of this number are aboriginals in Ranchi, where there has been a growth of nearly 11,000 or 82 per cent. since 1901: the ratio of increase is far in excess of that attained by any other mission in this district. The number of converts has also been nearly doubled in the Sonthal Parganas, where the Church Missionary Society has been established since 1862, and it has been more than doubled in Hazaribagh, where the Dublin University Mission started work in 1892. In Singhbhum, which is under the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, the number of the Christian is very

\* Jalpaiguri District Gazetteer, pp. 44-45.

little greater than in 1901, but this may possibly be due to the emigration of converts to the tea gardens and elsewhere.

501. Though not so strongly represented, the Baptists have converts in every district of Bengal. They have made most progress in Eastern Bengal, where their missionaries have laboured among the Namasudras. In the Dacca Division their number (11,251) has risen by 3,000 since 1901, while in the Rajshahi Division it has risen from 886 to 2,418. In the 24-Parganas they now number 2,785, or nearly double as many as in 1901: here they are called *Dubit*, i.e., those who are immersed in water, in contradistinction to members of the Church of England, who are dubbed *Chhutan* or sprinklers, in allusion to their method of baptism.

In Bihar and Orissa nearly all the Baptists are Oriyas, 6,143 being enumerated in the Orissa Division and 3,759 in the Orissa States: in the former division all but 1,000 of the Indian Christian community belong to the Baptist Church. The mission has now been at work for nearly a century, and though its adherents are still far from numerous, it has done an immense amount of indirect good. The Baptist missionaries were the first to start properly conducted schools, while the Cuttack Mission Press, which has the distinction of being the oldest press in Orissa, has sent forth a stream of civilizing literature.

502. Half the total number of Presbyterians are found in Darjeeling, where missionaries of the Church of Scotland are spreading the Gospel among the hill tribes, especially the Lepchas. Since 1901 the number of their converts in Darjeeling has risen from 1,775 to 2,563, or 65 per cent. of the total number of Indian Christians in the district. The census figure, however, falls short of the real number, for 1,002 persons did not return any denomination but called themselves simply Christian without specifying any denomination. Assuming that 65 per cent. of these were converts of the Church of Scotland, the total comes to 3,213, which almost exactly tallies with the number (3,207) borne on the books of the mission. The affairs of each Christian community are managed by its own *nanchayat* or Presbytery, and the branches established in the various villages are self-supporting, building their own churches and paying partially for their pastors. The sphere of the mission operations also extends to the Duars, and there is a body of 831 converts in Jalpaiguri, chiefly tea garden coolies.

503. Since 1901 the number of Indian Methodists has increased by 1,640 or 64 per cent. They now aggregate 4,206, of whom nearly half are found in Burdwan and Bankura. Since 1901 their number has risen from 306 to 828 in the latter district, where educational and evangelistic work is vigorously carried on, especially among the Santals, while a college has been established at the head-quarters station.

504. The Congregationalists are found in greatest strength in the 24-Parganas, where the number of converts has risen from 1,277 to 1,815 since 1901. Outside that district there are only 533 Indian members of the denomination.

## PART II—GENERAL.

### HINDUISM.

505. THE question has often been asked "What is a Hindu," but it cannot be said that the answers have been altogether satisfactory. The term itself appears to be of Persian origin and to have been originally geographical, designating the people who lived on the further side of the Indus.\* Its connotation has in the course of centuries been widely extended, and, as pointed out by

\* Yule and Burnell, *Hobson-Jobson* (1886).

Sir Alfred Lyall, it signifies not exclusively religion, but also a country and to a certain extent a race. "When a man tells me he is a Hindu, I know he means all three things taken together—religion, parentage and country. Hinduism ..... means a civil community quite as much as a religious association. A man does not become a Hindu, but is born into Hinduism."<sup>\*</sup>

506. The definitions which have, from time to time, been propounded lay stress on one or other of these three aspects.

DEFINITIONS OF HINDUISM.

Elsewhere, Sir Alfred Lyall virtually defines Hinduism as the employment of Brahman priests—"A man is not a Hindu because he inhabits India, or belongs to any particular race or state, but because he is a Brahmanist". Barth, again writes: "The sectarian or neo-Brahmanic religions, which we embrace under the general designation of Hinduism, constitute a fluctuating mass of beliefs, opinions, usages, observances, religious and social ideas, in which we recognise a certain common ground-principle, and a decided family likeness indeed, but from which it would be very difficult to educe any accurate definition. At the present time, it is next to impossible to say exactly what Hinduism is, where it begins and where it ends. Diversity is its very essence, and its proper manifestation is "sect," sect in constant mobility, and reduced to such a state of division that nothing similar to it was ever seen in any other religious system."<sup>†</sup> In this passage Barth lays stress on the religious aspect of Hinduism, but elsewhere he emphasizes its social system as its characteristic feature. "In sectarian India at present, and since the appearance of foreign proselytising religions, caste is the express badge of Hinduism. The man who is a member of a caste is a Hindu; he who is not, is not a Hindu. And caste is not merely the symbol of Hinduism; but, according to the testimony of all who have studied it on the spot, it is its stronghold. It is this, much more than their creeds, which attaches the masses to these vague religions, and gives them such astonishing vitality."<sup>‡</sup>

One Hindu writer describes Hinduism as a collective name for a group of religions, but points out that obedience to its social laws is the real criterion. "The path pointed by Vaishnavism is different from the path pointed by Saivism; both of these, again, differ from the path pointed by Vedantism. Yet all who follow these and other paths are Hindus. There is probably no religion in the world which allows so much freedom of religious conviction.....Hinduism, in fact, is more a social than religious organisation. It includes all shades of faith—monotheism, pantheism, agnosticism, atheism, polytheism, and fetishism. So long as a Hindu conforms to the customs and practices of his society, he may believe what he likes."<sup>§</sup> Sir William Hunter similarly defined Hinduism as being a social league and a religious alliance. "As a social league, it rests upon caste, and has its roots deep down in the race elements of the Indian people. As a religious alliance, it represents the union of the Vedic faith of the Brahmans with Buddhism on the one hand, and with the ruder rites of the non-Aryan peoples on the other .....Hinduism is not only a social league resting upon caste; it is also a religious alliance based upon worship. As the various race elements of the Indian people have been welded into caste, so the simple old beliefs of the Veda, the mild doctrines of Buddha, and the fierce rites of the non-Aryan tribes, have been thrown into the melting-pot, and poured out thence as a mixture of precious metal and dross, to be worked up into the complex worship of the Hindu gods."

507. Since the first census of 1872 attempts have been made by the census authorities in Bengal to evolve a definition of Hinduism, but without much success.

THE CENSUS AUTHORITIES AND DEFINITIONS.

In 1872, Mr. Beverley wrote:—"It is difficult to say where the line should be drawn which is to separate the pure Hindu from the low castes which have adopted some or other form of Hinduism. The problem can only be satisfactorily solved by a clear definition of what we mean

<sup>\*</sup> Asiatic Studies, Vol. II, p. 288.

<sup>†</sup> The Religions of India (1882), p. 153.

<sup>‡</sup> The Religions of India (1882), Preface p. XVII.

<sup>§</sup> Hindu Civilization under British Rule, Vol. I, pp. 77, 87.

|| Brief History of the Indian Peoples, pp. 96, 98.

by Hinduism, and no one has ventured as yet to lay any such definition. What is to be the test of faith which is to distinguish the real Hindu from the semi-Hinduised aboriginal? Which of the gods in the Hindu pantheon shall be made to step down and decide between them? Shall a belief in Krishna or in Durga constitute a pure Hindu? Or shall those only be classed as Hindus from whose hands a Brahman will receive water? Shall the disposal of the dead be made the test, and the various castes be distributed according as they practise cremation or burial? Or shall some form of creed be extracted from the Sastras which we may make those subscribe to who are henceforth to enjoy the dignity of being styled Hindus. Some practical shibboleth of the kind is required, it is clear. Without some such test no two men will agree in the classification of the numerous aboriginal tribes and castes in India who profess Hinduism in some or other of its multifarious forms. This difficulty of classification is one of peculiar force in Lower Bengal. Here we have a great variety of aboriginal or semi-aboriginal tribes who have been brought into contact with the Aryan Hindus and have been partially civilised by them. Living for centuries side by side, the two communities have acted and reacted on each other. On the one hand, the savage tribes have renounced their barbarism and adopted many of the rites and customs of the invaders; on the other, the Hindu religion has itself been debased from the Vedic monotheism of the Middle-land. . . . And just as we find in the present day tribes in every stage of civilization, so does the Hindu religion in Bengal assume a Protean form, from the austere rites practised by the shaven pandits of Nadia to the idol-worship of the semibarbarous Buna. The Bauris, Bagdis, and Chandals of the lower delta; the Kochs and Paliyas of Dinajpur and Rangpur; the Dosadhs and Musahars of Behar, with many others, are probably all of aboriginal extraction, but have adopted as their religion a form of Hinduism, and can scarcely be classed as other than Hindus."

508. In 1881, again, Mr. (now Sir J.) Bourdillon, the then Census Superintendent, wrote: "The Sikhs and Muhammadans, the Jews and Parsis, have an individuality which it is impossible to mistake; the Christians profess a faith which separates them from all other classes of the community; and the Buddhists and Jains, though they have been said to possess much in common, differ from each other, and from the people who surround them, in dogma, ritual and manners. Here, however, tangible definition ceases, and the remaining religions shade into each other by such imperceptible gradations, and are separated by such impalpable partitions, that it is impossible to say where one ends and the other commences: so that the border land between each one and the next is a misty valley now widening and now narrowing but always thick with the exhalations of ignorance and the fogs of doubt. 'What is a Hindu?' asked Mr. Beverley and the question has often been asked before and since without eliciting any satisfactory reply. No answer, in fact, exists: for the term in its modern acceptation denotes neither a creed nor a race, neither a church nor a people, but is a general expression devoid of precision, and embracing alike the most punctilious disciple of pure Vedantism, the Agnostic youth who is the product of Western education, and the semi-barbarous hillman, who eats without scruple anything that he can procure and is as ignorant of the Hindu theology as the stone which he worships in times of danger and sickness."

509. An attempt was made at this census to ascertain whether it was possible to lay down any criterion by which Hindus might be distinguished from non-Hindus, and the opinion of representative Hindu gentlemen and associations was invited on the subject. They were asked to state which of the following tests, proposed by the Census Commissioner, could be applied, and whether there were any others which should, in their opinion, be substituted for them:—(1) Do the members of the caste or tribe worship the great Hindu gods? (2) Are they allowed to enter Hindu temples or to make offerings at the shrine? (3) Will good Brahmans act as their priests? (4) Will degraded Brahmans do so? In that case, are they recognised as Brahmans by persons outside the caste, or are they Brahmans only in name? (5) Will clean castes take water from them? (6) Do they cause pollution, by touch or by proximity?

The result was an extraordinary divergence of opinion, the views expressed varying according as Hinduism was regarded as connoting religion,

social system or race, or a combination of any two or all three. There was, however, a general admission that no one test was possible and that the last five questions, while referring to religious, as well as social, disabilities, were merely matters of social practice.

Owing to the composite character of the Hindu pantheon, the worship of the great Hindu gods was generally considered to be insufficient to distinguish a Hindu from a non-Hindu. It was realized that such a test would exclude from the pale of Hinduism many who were recognized as belonging to it, *e.g.*, low castes worshipping minor Hindu deities, the Arya Samaj, etc., and that no such limit was feasible. As was pointed out by more than one of those consulted—"A Hindu may be monotheist; he may or may not believe in a personal god; he may worship some of the minor deities, or he may be a worshipper of ghosts and spirits or any natural phenomenon. An atheist, a polytheist, a believer in evil spirits, a monist and a dualist, all are Hindus." It would, moreover, be impossible to decide what deities come under the category of the great Hindu gods. The gods regarded as great in one locality or by one section are, as often as not, relegated to a secondary position in a different locality or by a different community. Apart from this, it would be impossible to distinguish between Hindus and Buddhists, for the Hindu gods and the gods of later Buddhism coalesce, Kali being worshipped by Hindus and Buddhists alike, while Narayan and Siva are often worshipped by Buddhists as *Lokeswar*, *Jagannath* and *Sayambhu*.

510. A number of Hindus would, however, accept worship as the criterion of Hinduism, if it meant worship of any of the gods or goddesses of the Hindu Pantheon. On this point it need merely be remarked that their number is legion and that it is impossible to say which is or is not a Hindu god. "The Pantheon is formed of heterogeneous elements in which all the religious systems which have arisen in the course of centuries have left their several contributions."\* It includes gods representing natural phenomena, *e.g.*, the sun, earth, moon, mountains and rivers; gods of the imagination, such as beneficent or evil spirits and deities of disease; ghost-gods, such as the spirits of the dead; man-gods, such as living heroes and saints; and animal-gods, such as snakes, cows, etc.† Inanimate objects also are personified and worshipped: the writer worships his pen, the trader his weights and measures, the cultivator his plough, etc. A stone, according to the *Hitopadesa*, becomes a god when set up by priests.

The number of gods is, moreover, constantly being added to. The latest recruit appears to be the goddess of plague, who has been apotheosized in Gaya under the name *Plague Mai* or *Bombai Ka Mayan*: the latter designation is due to the fact that plague first appeared in Bombay. In some villages this new goddess has been given a place in the *Devi Mandap* and receives offerings like *Sitala*, the older goddess of epidemic disease. Recently also there appears to be a tendency to apotheosize India as a whole, and we are informed that "the motherland is the synthesis of all the goddesses that have been and are still being worshipped by Hindus."‡

511. The other tests proposed were rejected almost unanimously, on the ground that they would deny the title of Hindu to many who were universally recognized as Hindus. The right to enter Hindu temples and make offerings at the shrine cannot be regarded as a criterion. Only the clean castes are allowed to enter the majority of temples, and this privilege does not confer on them a monopoly of the title of Hindu. The worship of the gods and making of offerings are, in any case, carried on by proxy. A man of low caste will not be allowed to enter the temple of which he is the owner, that right being reserved to the Brahman whom he employs to perform ceremonies in it. Even non-Hindus may make offerings to Hindu gods. It is reported that offerings have before now been made at *Kalighat* by Christians, and that there is a temple of *Kali* in *Bowbazar Street* which is known as *Firinghi Kali*, the priest of which, a good Brahman, augments his income from the offerings of Eurasians. It is well known that certain castes are not allowed to

\* Barth, *Religions of India*, page 252.

† E. W. Hopkins, *India Old and New*, 1901.

‡ *Siccaraj* 1st April 1900 [cf. "The mother they all worship is India—the India which stretches from the Himalayas to the southernmost part of Ceylon. This is the India of their religion," Ramsay Macdonald, *Attack on India*, page 307.]

enter the temple of Jagannath at Puri, but these castes are recognised as Hindus and are allowed to perform ceremonies outside the temple.\* Similarly, at Gaya certain castes, known as Patit Hindus, viz., Chamars, Dhobis, Doms and Muchis, are not allowed to enter the Vishnupad temple or the Akshayavata shrine when performing *sraddha*, though they may make offerings at other *vedis*. Briefly, the low castes are excluded from the temples simply because they are unclean castes and not because they are not Hindus. A man may rank so low in the social scale that he cannot be allowed to participate actively in worship, but he is a Hindu all the same.

512. The general tendency of the Hindu gentlemen consulted was to regard Hinduism as a matter of belief rather than of social or even religious practice. The Pandits, on the other hand, considered that Hinduism consisted in the observance of the customs and usages prescribed in the Vedas,† recognition of the hierarchy of caste, and acknowledgment of the supremacy of the Brahmans. The majority of the laymen were liberal in their views; some, indeed, went so far as to treat it as faith "all-tolerant, all-complaint, all-comprehensive, all-absorbing" saying that there was no reason why any one in the world, whatever his race, should not be recognised as a Hindu by religion, if he simply professed to be one. They would not acknowledge, however, that any one not a Hindu by birth could be a member of Hindu society. This seeming tolerance is due to the heterogeneous character of Hinduism as a religion. "Within its pale we have sects as divided from each other as members of the Society of Friends are from Roman Catholics. We have followers of the Vedas, of Brahmanism, of Buddhism and of the polydaemonistic tribal cults of the aboriginal populations and of eclectic schools, religious and philosophical, of every kind and class"‡. At one end of the scale is the monotheist or cultured pantheist, at the other end is the ignorant peasant, whose religious beliefs and practices are scarcely distinguishable from Animism pure and simple.

513. In spite of their divergencies, however, the Hindus have a common religion, of which there are two salient features, viz., (1) religious objection to the slaughter of cows and (2) veneration, or at least acknowledgment of the supremacy, of Brahmans. The latter again is closely connected with the institution of caste with the Brahman holding pride of place at its head. The Hindu castes constitute Hindu society, the distinguishing feature of which is its hierarchical basis. "The only uniting tie between these sharply differentiated bodies is a certain amount of common tradition, a common language for a number of them, and for all a common religion, which consists in being disciples of the Brahmans".§ Though a man may be a Hindu by belief or, to be more precise, entertain Hinduistic beliefs he cannot be a member of Hindu society unless he is member of a recognized caste. Briefly, there is a clear distinction between religion and social system: the former is a matter of belief, the latter of custom. From the religious aspect Hinduism is all embracing, but socially it is a close corporation.

514. There is similar uncertainty about the modern meaning of the word Mlechcha. Manu contrasted Aryas with Mlechchas, the latter living in a different country and speaking a different language. The land of the Aryas was the region between the Himalayas and the Vindhya mountains: outside this lay the country of the Mlechchas or barbarians, i.e., mostly the aboriginal races. According to this definition, the Deccan was comprised in the Mlechcha country, but other writers, such as Vasishtha, imposed no such limitation. In classical works the nations to the west were called Mlechchas, but not those to the east or north. The Chinese, Burmese and other eastern nations are never spoken of

\* In Section 7 of Regulation IV of 1809 the following are mentioned as persons of low caste who were not permitted to enter the temple of Jagannath at Puri—(1) Loli or Kasbi, (2) Kalai or Sanri, (3) Machhua, (4) Namasandra or Chandai, (5) Ghuski, (6) Gazar, (7) Bagdi, (8) Jogi or Nurbaf, (9) Kahar-Bauri and Dulia, (10) Rajbansi, (11) Pirali, (12) Chasnar, (13) Dom, (14) Pan, (15) Tiyar, (16) Bhuimali, and (17) Hari. The same list is given in Regulation XI of 1810 except that the Piralis do not appear in it. If entering the temple constituted a claim to recognition as Hindus, the Piralis would be Hindus one year and non-Hindus the next.

† One Pandit, however, informed me that, in his opinion, if Vedic practices only were considered, the European who ate beef and drunk wine had a good claim to be considered a Hindu.

‡ E. T. Atkinson, Notes on the History of Religion in the Himalaya of the N. W. P., pp. 2-3.

§ S. V. Ketkar, The History of Caste in India (1909), p. 16.



as Mlechhas, but the Muhammadans are often so described. In modern Bengali the word Mlechcha is a term of abuse for those who do not adopt the rules of cleanliness (*achara*) of the Hindus. In other words, it has lost its geographical meaning and distinguishes Hindus on the basis of religious practice. It is still also used as a designation for foreigners, but there appears to be some difference of opinion as to how far it should be applied to such races as the Chinese and Japanese. On the whole, the general view appears to be that the term is confined to the Western nations. While those who go to Europe and America are liable to excommunication, voyages to China and Japan involve no such penalties.\*

515. While the educated Hindus regard Hinduism as a matter of religious belief rather than of religious or social practice, the vast majority of Hindus will not admit that a man is a Hindu unless he conforms to certain standards—in short, does what a Hindu does. He, in fact, takes the definition given by Mr. Gait in 1901—“Hinduism is not so much a form of religious belief as a social organization, and a man’s faith does not greatly matter so long as he recognizes the supremacy of the Brahmans and observes the restrictions of the Hindu caste system.” Even if we accept the religious criterion of belief, it is obvious that there are many grades of Hindus, the Brahmans being at the top and those now generally known as “the depressed classes” or “untouchable” at the bottom. As regards the position of the latter a modern Bengali writer remarks—“It is all the same to the Brahmans whether they call themselves Hindus or not. They are just as much untouchables as they were before. Their adoption of Hindu religion causes some amount of amusement, and sometimes gives rise to a certain amount of indulgent contempt. No Brahman will, however, minister to these classes. If a Brahman is found to do so, he becomes instantly degraded, and his position is considered even lower than that of the new proselytes. The luckless minister becomes at once one of the great ‘untouchables.’ So much for the new proselytes. The fate of those who have adopted Hinduism for a much longer period is not materially different after thousands of years. They are still untouchables. To a Brahman it makes no difference whether the man is a Santal or Naga, Hari or Bagdi. They are all equally unclean. Their touch means contamination, water touched by them is polluted. Their religion of Hinduism makes no difference. But the Brahmans are not the only class that holds itself aloof. A Kayasth, Baidya or a member of the Navasakh class will hold himself equally aloof and consider himself polluted by any association with the class, just as a Brahman will do. Here, as in many other things, the Brahman leads and the others follow.” The utter contempt in which these pariahs are held may be gathered from the same writer’s remark.—“A Hari or Dom—both Hindus—and a dog will be hunted out of a *Puirdalan*, with equally little ceremony and equally little hesitation. If anything, the dog will get off the more cheaply than the other two, as they are supposed to know better.”†

That the above is no exaggerated account may be seen from the treatment accorded to the Gandas, a low caste of weavers and helots in Orissa. They are so degraded that a twice-born Hindu considers it necessary to bathe if he is touched by one of them: formerly a Brahman was defiled by a Ganda even casting his shadow over him. They are not allowed to draw water from the village tank, the village barber will not shave them, the village washerman will not wash their clothes. No orthodox Hindu rides a cart if a Ganda happens to drive it, wears a garment if a Ganda has stitched it, sits on a floor if a Ganda has *liped* it (*i. e.*, plastered it with cow-dung), drinks wine if a Ganda has distilled it, or purchases vegetables if a Ganda sells them. A Ganda in suffering receives no sympathy, and the door of Hindu charity is ordinarily closed against him. Until recently, moreover, no Ganda child was allowed to join the village school, and though they

\* Kerkar quotes the case of two young Hindus, of whom one went to Europe and the other to Japan, and, on their return to India, had to pay a fine which was inflicted on them by the Brahmans. The former was fined Rs. 150, because he went to a Mlechcha country. The latter was fined Rs. 120, not because he visited a non-Arya country, but because he crossed the sea and did not observe due rites and ceremonies on the way. *History of Caste in India* (1909), p. 80.

† U. N. Mukherjee, *A Dying Race* (1909), pp. 34, 37 and 38. The present popularity of the term ‘untouchable’ appears to be largely due to this writer’s interesting monograph.

are now allowed to attend it, they must sit apart from other Hindu boys. They cannot enter a Hindu temple, take part in Hindu religious ceremonies, or even build their houses in the village with other Hindus.\*

516. One distinguishing feature of Hinduism consists of initiation (*diskha* or *mantragrahan*) which is performed when a Hindu boy is 8 or 9 years old. The Guru informs him what god is to be the peculiar deity of his worship and whispers in his ear a *mantra*, i.e., some mystic syllables, through which he can obtain remission of sins and future happiness. This *mantra* the lad must keep an inviolable secret; its daily repetition is a solemn duty. Initiation is regarded as conferring spiritual franchise and bringing the boy into direct communication with God. The Guru renders spiritual revelation possible, for he acts as a medium between God and his disciple. Throughout the life of the latter the Guru is his spiritual guide, and receives almost divine veneration. A person who has passed the age at which he should have been initiated, without having the ceremony performed, is held to be impure and to be incompetent to perform religious ceremonies with efficacy. No orthodox Hindu will take knowingly food or water from such a man, even though he belongs to his own caste or family. He cannot enter into heaven or attain salvation by absorption into the divine essence, but will be condemned to *narak* (purgatory) and subject to re-birth. For this reason people dare not die without initiation, and the ceremony is frequently performed upon their death-bed. It is not surprising therefore that some Hindus consider initiation the most distinctive feature of Hinduism and the only possible criterion between the Hindu and non-Hindu.

517. A distinctive external sign of Hindu laymen is the *chutia* or as it is also called *shukka* or *tikki*, i.e., a lock of hair worn on the crown of the head. It distinguishes them from the Muhammadans on the one hand and from the Hindu monastic orders on the other. The practice of wearing this lock dates back to very ancient times, and cutting it off was regarded as the greatest of punishments. This, indeed, was the punishment for heinous crimes imposed on Brahmans who could not be put to death. It is said in the *Mahabharata* that, when Asvathama was convicted of killing the sons of the Pandavas, his top-knot was torn out of his head. In commemoration of this, and symbolically to heal the raw wound on his head, every Hindu when taking his daily bath sprinkles a little oil before anointing his body. Dressing the top-knot and tying it are regarded as a daily religious duty by all Hindus, and there are distinctive *mantras* to be uttered on this occasion. One of the ten sacraments (*sanskaras*) of the Hindus is *Churakaran*, a ceremony which takes place three years after birth. The ceremony consists of the tonsure of the hair of the head, only the *chutia* being left. Its significance, according to the *Artha Sastra* (by Chanakya or Kautilya), is that it must be a preliminary to learning the art of writing and calculation: this rule the writer makes compulsory for all the four sections of the Hindu community. Further reference to this ceremony, in connection with the question of initiation into caste, will be found in Chapter XI.

518. The Oriyas shave the greater parts of their heads, leaving the top-knot on the crown. The people of Bihar keep a central top-knot, though they do not shave the rest of their heads. The Bengali, like the Oriya, used to shave his head and leave the *chutia*, but many of the educated classes have discarded this with other old customs. A small minority have effected a compromise, and keep a thin lock of hair. When visiting Europeans, they brush it down closely, so that it does not appear, but when among orthodox Hindus they take care to make it visible, if not conspicuous: with this object some even tie an umbrella band round it when they are in orthodox company. A valued Bengali Brahman correspondent, to whom I owe the above information, informs me that he gave up wearing a *chutia*, but having occasion to visit Bihar on work which would bring him into contact with conservative Hindus, he allowed it to grow again. On one occasion he entered a Vedic school and, as soon as he did so, all the recitations stopped. He was taken for a non-Hindu, for his lock, being of recent growth, was small and not of the same decent length as in Bihar. He had to show his holy

\* Sambalpur District Gazetteer, p. 67.

thread, as well as his top-knot, to prove that he was not only a Hindu but a Brahman before they would resume their recitations. He observed a sequel of this incident the same evening: Two of the Vedic pupils quarrelled, and one abused the other, saying "*Tum Bangali hogaya, i.e., you have become a Bengali.*" The other asked why he was insulted in this way, and the reply was "Your top-knot is very short." "On another occasion, when I was in Madras, my top-knot saved me. It was raining hard and I took shelter under a temple portico, where a number of Christian boys were also taking shelter. As the temple door was opened and the image of the deity became visible, I made a *pranam*. The Christian boys exclaimed, 'Look, a Muhammadan is bowing.' I asked why they took me for a Muhammadan. They said, 'Because you keep the hair on your head.' I took off my cap and showed my top-knot, and they were satisfied that I was a Hindu."

519. The result of the inquiry referred to above was to show that anything in the nature of a uniform standard is impossible. It was recognized that Hinduism being a term connoting not only religion but also race, birth-place and social organization, it is difficult to say whether a man is within the pale or not on the basis of the proposed tests, some of which refer to his beliefs, others to his social standing, and others to his relations to Brahmans. The Census Commissioner decided therefore that instead of raising the question whether the members of particular castes should be "regarded as Hindus" or not, a list should be prepared of the castes and tribes contributing more than 1 per mille to the total population, and returned and classed as Hindus, which *qua* castes do not conform to certain standards or are subject to certain disabilities, viz., (1) deny the supremacy of the Brahmans\*; (2) do not receive the *mantra* from a Brahman or other recognized Hindu Guru; (3) deny the authority of the Vedas; (4) do not worship the great Hindu gods; (5) are not served by good Brahmans as family priests; (6) have no Brahman priests at all; (7) are denied access to the interior of ordinary Hindu temples; (8) cause pollution, by touch or within a certain distance; (9) bury their dead; (10) eat beef and do not reverence the cow. In accordance with the Census Commissioner's instructions, inquiries were made in each district regarding the castes which would come within any one or more of these categories, and the result is shown below.

Caste or Tribe.	BENGAL.		BIHAR AND ORISSA.	
	Total No.	Categories.	Total No.	Categories.
Bagdi ...	1,015,738	5, 7, 8	...	...
Baishnab (Bairagi) ...	423,985	1, 5, 6, 9	78,739	...
Bauri ...	313,654	2, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10	292,503	2, 5, 6, 7, 8
Beldar ...	...	...	88,921	2, 5
Bhuinmali ...	91,973	5, 7, 8	...	...
Bhuiya ...	69,044	2, 5, 6, 7, 8	663,757	2, 5, 6, 7, 8
Bhumij ...	90,282	1, 5, 6, 7, 8	272,672	5
Bind ...	...	...	134,818	5
Chakma ...	58,672	1, 5, 6	...	...
Chamar ...	136,553	2, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10	1,114,467	2, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10
Chasadhoba ...	57,550	5	...	...
Dhoba or Dhobi ...	228,052	5, 7, 8	376,623	2, 5, 6, 7, 8
Dom ...	173,991	5, 6, 7, 8, 10	241,903	2, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10
Dosadh ...	...	...	1,189,274	2, 5, 6, 7, 8
Ganda ...	...	...	211,775	2, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10
Gareri ...	...	...	92,435	5

\* This category includes two distinct groups, viz., (a) certain sectarian groups which owe their origin to a revolt against the Brahmanical supremacy; and (b) the aboriginal tribes and also certain low castes who, being denied the ministrations of Brahmans, retaliate by professing to reject the Brahmans.

† Here again there are two groups, viz., (a) castes derived from ascetics and (b) low castes imperfectly Hinduized.

Caste or Tribe.	BENGAL.		BIHAR AND ORISSA.	
	Total No.	Categories.	Total No.	Categories.
Hari ...	173,706	5, 6, 7, 8, 10	119,468	2, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10
Ho ...	...	...	419,221	1, 2, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10
Jogi or Jugi ...	361,141	1, 5, 6, 7, 9	...	...
Kaibartta (Jaliya) ...	326,988	5	...	...
Kalu ...	111,562	5, 7	...	...
Kalwar ...	...	...	180,825	5, 7, 8
Kamar ...	263,392	7	...	...
Kandh (Khond) ...	...	...	302,883	1, 2, 5, 6, 7
Kandra ...	...	...	155,806	2, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9
Kaora ...	112,281	5, 6, 7, 8, 10	...	...
Kapali ...	154,418	5, 7	...	...
Kewat ...	...	...	42,506	5
Kharia ...	...	...	105,472	5, 6, 7
Kharwar ...	...	...	85,876	5
Koch ...	125,046	5	...	...
Kora ...	46,497	1, 2, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10	48,983	1, 2, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9
Kumhar ...	...	...	513,327	5
Mal ...	108,163	5, 6, 7, 8, 10	...	...
Mallah ...	...	...	362,927	5, 7
Malo ...	247,200	5	...	...
Muchi ...	455,236	2, 5, 7, 8, 10	31,339	2, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10
Munda ...	67,252	1, 2, 5, 6, 8	410,440	1, 2, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10
Musahar ...	...	...	626,795	2, 5, 6, 7, 8
Namasudra ...	1,908,728	5, 7, 8	...	...
Nuniya ...	...	...	319,102	5
Oraon ...	165,337	1, 5, 6, 8	474,673	1, 2, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10
Pan ...	...	...	464,046	2, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10
Pasi ...	...	...	150,142	2, 5, 6, 7, 8
Patni ...	63,447	5	...	...
Pod ...	536,568	5, 7, 8	...	...
Rajbansi ...	1,805,833	5, 7	...	...
Rajwar ...	...	...	131,971	5
Santal ...	669,420	1, 2, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10	1,399,450	1, 2, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10
Savar ...	...	...	191,798	2, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9
Shaha ...	324,927	5, 7	...	...
Sonar ...	55,295	5, 7	...	...
Subarnabanik ...	109,429	5	...	...
Sunri ...	119,325	5, 7, 8	257,114	5, 7, 8
Sutradhar ...	177,433	5, 7	...	...
Tanti ...	...	...	613,277	5, 7
Teli ...	...	...	1,071,906	5, 7
Tipara ...	130,025	1, 5	...	...
Tiyar ...	215,270	5, 7, 8	60,897	5, 7, 8

520. This list merely summarizes the reports received and must be accepted with reserve. The utmost care has been taken to place the castes under the different categories only when there was a general consensus of opinion about them, and to reject views that were manifestly based on misconception; but in other cases I was not in a position to judge of the correctness or incorrectness of the reports received, and errors may have been made. The variations of opinion were remarkable. In one district a caste would be included under one or other of the heads, in another it would be excluded. Such divergencies were most pronounced in Bihar and Orissa, especially as regards castes that in Chota Nagpur or Orissa are only semi-Hinduized, but elsewhere have a respectable status.

In neither Province has any caste been placed under the third or fourth category. Several castes were returned under the third category, but they are all at such a low level of education that they are not in a position to pronounce any opinion about the Vedas. In fact, they scarcely know what the Vedas are and cannot be said either to accept or reject them. A number

of castes were also returned under the fourth category, but though the great Hindu gods are not regularly worshipped by them, they recognize their divinity and render them occasional homage: Devi under one form or another is almost universally worshipped either regularly or occasionally. It is therefore difficult, if not impossible, to affirm positively that any castes do not worship the great Hindu gods. Several castes have, moreover, been excluded from the second class, though it was reported that they came under it. This is due to the fact that among the Baishnabs the Nityananda Gosains "open the door of fellowship to all sorts and condition of men, be they Brahmans or Chandals, high caste widows or common prostitutes." These Gosains are unquestionably recognised as Hindu Gurus, and the Baishnabs certainly receive *mantras* from them. As regards the eighth class, it must be remembered that, largely as a result of the growing popularity of travelling by train and the necessities imposed on travellers, the idea of pollution by touch is ceasing to have its old hold over the mind of the Hindus, though it is still as potent as ever among orthodox Hindus of the old school and high caste widows. The burial of the dead, is moreover, often due merely to poverty. Members of the depressed classes who cannot afford fuel for cremation will light a small fire near the corpse as a humble substitute, which will, they believe, have the same purifying effect as actual cremation. Even the degraded classes, who eat beef, will not kill a cow for food or purchase beef, but merely eat the flesh of cows that have died a natural death. It is doubtful whether they can be said not to revere the cow. Personally, I should be inclined to say that they revere it when alive, but not when dead.

521. Many of the castes or tribes entered in the list are either frankly animistic or contribute largely to the ranks of Animists. Their Hinduism is often doubtful or more than doubtful. At home where their manner of worship and general method of life are known, they are not regarded as Hindus: but when they go far afield they arrogate the title. In Bengal, for instance, more Mundas and Oraons were returned as Hindus than as Animists, but in

	Hindus.	Animists.
Bengal ... ..	897,551	823,290
Bihar and Orissa	2,888,121	2,696,118

Bihar and Orissa there are four Munda Animists to every Munda Hindu, while among the Oraons the Animists out-number the Hindus by eight to one. Altogether there are 28 castes or tribes in Bengal, and 30 in Bihar and Orissa, of whom some were returned as Hindus and others as Animists, the figures being as shewn in the margin.

522. A large proportion of the Hindus in any case consist of persons of aboriginal descent, whose Hinduization is of recent date and often not very deep. The

HINDUIZATION OF ABORIGINALS.  
 lateritic uplands of West Bengal and the fringe of the Chota Nagpur plateau were, even a few centuries ago, the home of non-Aryan races who were regarded as outside the pale of Hinduism. The *Brahmanda* section of the *Bhavishyat Purana* (compiled in the 15th century) describes Birbhumi as a jungle tract inhabited by a small black race, with little morality and no religion. In Varahabhumi (which included Manbhumi and the western portion of Bankura), the inhabitants were said to be robbers by profession, irreligious and savage by nature, worshipping none but rude village deities. They ate snakes and flesh of all kinds, drunk spirituous liquor, and lived chiefly by plunder and by chase; their women were, in garb, manners and appearance, more like Rakshasas than human beings. These races may be identified with the Bagdis, Bauris and Bhumijs, who swelled the ranks of the Chuars in the latter part of the 18th century. These banditti, who gave the British infinite trouble during the early days of their rule, were, according to Mr. Grant, "robbers of a swarthy black, like the neighbouring mountaineers of the north and west, now for the most part received as converts to the established system of Hindu faith.\*"

523. The process of Hinduization is apparent even at the present time in the case of the tribes and castes of Orissa. In many cases they consist of two sections, one frankly Animistic and the other Hindu. Thus, the Kandhs

\* J. Grant, Analysis of the Finances of Bengal (1787), Fifth Report, 1812.

(Khonds) of the Khondmals are a purely aboriginal race with a language, religion and communal organization of their own; the Kandhs of Puri have lost all knowledge of their language, are completely Hinduized, and in every way resemble the lower Oriya castes. Not only do they look on themselves as good Hindus, but they are regarded as such by their orthodox Hindu neighbours, who will put up in their villages, or stay in their houses, although they would consider themselves polluted by doing so in the case of Savars, Bauris, and other aboriginal races. Some of the Gonds again are purely Animistic, others have a recognized position in the Hindu hierarchy. The higher section of Raj Gonds, who probably are the descendants of tribal chiefs, have so good a status, that Brahmans will take water from them: many, indeed, wear the sacred thread and surpass their mentors in the minutiae of ceremonial observance, even having the wood with which they cook their food washed before it is used for the fire. Among them, however, some are still found who worship the old tribal god and place cow's flesh to their lips wrapped in cloth,\* in the belief that thereby they will avert his anger. A similar example of the division of a race is afforded by the Savars, of whom there are three sections, the wild Animist Savars of the hills, the Savars or Suars of Puri, who actually serve as cooks in the temple of Jagannath,† and the Sahars who have been Hinduized and, in the process, have modified their name. All are descendants of non-Aryan tribes who were overwhelmed by the advancing wave of Aryan invasion. The greater part were swept into the hills where they remained isolated and untouched by Aryan influences. A minority remained in the plains and became the serfs of the conquerors, whose religion and language they gradually adopted. "Hinduism in Orissa, holds out to all an ascending scale of ceremonial purity. The backward aboriginal tribes outside the pale of Hinduism, like the Khonds, set up a Hindu god, get a Hindu priest to minister them, adopt some of the customs of the pure Hindus, and thus become, in time, recognized as low class Hindus. The more energetic, again, of the low castes within the pale of Hinduism gradually raise themselves to higher standards of ceremonial purity, and the more wealthy members among them even raise themselves to membership of some higher castes. Not only does Hinduism in Orissa, even at the present time, absorb the less civilized tribes outside its pale, but there is also a process of evolution in active operation among the recognized Hindu castes themselves.‡"

524. The employment of a Brahman as a priest is the seal of absorption into Hinduism. The Brahman may be a low Brahman, a kind of hedge priest, but it is sufficient for aboriginals if a Brahman ministers to them instead of a man of their own race. Day by day also the Brahmans gain good ground as they are accepted by priests by the low Hindu castes or *anacharania* classes, who rise in the social scale if a Brahman ministers to them instead of the priests or Pandits of their own caste. Sometimes they employ Brahmans in opposition to their Pandits, sometimes in addition to the Pandits, and sometimes when the Pandits' families are extinct. The manner in which the Brahmans steadily supplant the latter is very clearly exemplified in the case of the temples of Dharma, originally the second member of the Buddhist triad. These are falling into the hands of Brahmans, who worship Dharma either as a incarnation of Vishnu or as a form of Siva. One instance may suffice to illustrate the process. Near Navadwipa, in the district of Nadia, there is a temple of Dharma, which till two or three generations ago had a low Hari as the hereditary priest. Hogs and cocks, both abominations to the Hindus, were openly sacrificed, but votive offerings formed the main source of the Hari's income. Brahmans kept aloof from the temple, until some of them suffering from what they took to be incurable diseases came as a last resource. They were cured, and then the question arose: How could they make the offerings which they had promised in case of a cure? They would not make their offerings through a Hari, and no good Brahman would do so. At last, a low Brahman consented

\* This is clearly a symbolical eating of beef, and the cloth is presumably intended to preserve their status as Hindus.

† According to legend, the original image of Jagannath was found in the country of the Savars. For a further account of this interesting race see Chapter XI.

‡ N. K. Bose, *The Hindus of Puri*, Calcutta Review, 1891.

to serve for a consideration. Gradually, other Brahmans came to make offerings through him, and he and the Hari became practically joint owners of the temple. The Hari tolerated the Brahman, as he ensured contributions from Brahmans. The Brahman tolerated the Hari, as the temple gave him a living, but he made the Hari abstain from sacrificing hogs and cocks openly in front of the temple; such sacrifices were made in the jungle behind the temple. The Hari family having died out, the Brahman is now the owner of the temple, and Dharma is worshipped as a form of Siva; but a close observer will find that the *Nabidya* (a daily offering of rice) is divided into two parts, one offered to Dharma and the other to Siva.

### MODERN TENDENCIES OF HINDUISM.

525. Among the educated classes of Bengal there has been a revival of Hinduism both from the more purely religious and the metaphysical aspect. The work of the Theosophical Society has had not a little to do with this change, the Hindus being taught to examine the treasures hidden in their own scriptures. Vedantism has gained ground, the Ramkrishna Mission being one of its direct results. Many Hindus now call themselves simply Vedantists; others designate their religion Sanatan Dharma *i.e.*, the everlasting religion, meaning Hinduism in its pristine and immemorial form. The most cultured are either monotheists or pantheists, and their attitude towards other forms of faith is one of toleration. Though not idolaters themselves, they do not look upon idolatry with horror. They even countenance it to some extent, for truth has many facets, and there are many ways of attaining salvation. At the same time, many of them hold advanced social views, which their conservative brethren would stigmatise as heterodox. Caste restrictions are relaxed, especially in the matter of eating and drinking together, *e.g.*, at private parties or picnics and on railway journeys. Forbidden food, cooked and served by low caste servants or Musalman khitmatgars, is commonly eaten in hotels and refreshment rooms. Even in private houses many do not trouble to make sure that the cook is a Brahman or that other servants belong to castes from which they may take water. The feeling of tolerance also extends, to a small degree, to intermarriages between members of different subcastes, especially among Kayasths and Baidyas. Such marriages are contrary to custom and are condemned by formal resolutions recorded at caste meetings. When they take place, the offenders are outcasted, but after a time the community relents. The offence is condoned by a special resolution, and the offenders are let off with a fine, which is nominal if they are poor. Such cases are still comparatively rare, but as each occurs, the feeling against them loses in strength. In this, as in other respects, practice lags behind principle. Another modern tendency which calls for some notice is the active or passive neglect of the authority of the Brahmans as a final court of appeal in matters affecting the status of castes and their social practices. Hitherto it has been the acknowledged privilege of the Brahman Pandits to interpret the *Sastras* and to declare whether any deviation from the orthodox rules may be allowed. Of late years, however, a number of castes have advanced new claims, or adopted new practices, if not in defiance of, at least without the sanction, of the Brahmans. They convene meetings presided over by, and confined to, members of their own caste and by means of resolutions settle questions that previously were adjudicated upon by Brahmans only.

526. The principal organization for the dissemination of modern Vedantist

VEDANTISM.  
RAMKRISHNA MISSION.

views in Bengal is the Ramkrishna Mission. The mission is so named after Ramkrishna Paramhansa, whose pure life, religious fervour and mystical views attracted a number of thoughtful Hindus before his death in 1886. Ramkrishna himself expounded his doctrines by means of parables and allegories, and was deeply imbued with the spirit of Vedanta philosophy. It was left to the greatest of his disciples, Swami Vivekananda (the son of a Calcutta lawyer, whose original name was Narendra Nath Dutt) to organize his followers and give practical effect to his teaching. Vivekananda spent his

life advocating Vedanta principles in India, America and England, and in 1897 founded the Ramkrishna Mission. The name shows an infiltration of English ideas and its organization and methods of propaganda resemble those of Christian Missions, *e.g.*, educational institutions, medical work, and the use of the printing press. While using modern methods for his propaganda, Vivekananda was true to the old catholic spirit of Hinduism, for he proclaimed that all existing religions are different paths leading to one God: all the paths are equally right, and every sincere seeker after truth is sure to attain God, whatever may be the path he chooses for himself. "As different streams, having their sources in different places, all mingle their water in the sea, so the different paths which men take through different tendencies, various though they appear, and crooked or straight, all lead to one Lord."\* From the religious point of view, therefore, the Mission he founded is Vedantist, but its most prominent characteristic is that it finds inspiration in the spiritual and literary treasures of India: it is this vindication of the spiritual independence of India that largely appeals to the modern Hindu. Socially the members of the Mission hold advanced views, for the eating of meat is not prohibited, travel in foreign land is countenanced, and non-Hindus are admitted such as the late Sister Nivedita (Miss Margaret Noble.)

527. Occultism appears to have appealed strongly to the better Hindu classes of recent years. One sect in which appears to play a considerable part is called Jyoti Swarup Upasna. It was established by one Shivanarayan Paramhansa of Ghazipur who came to Bengal about 20 to 25 years ago. He worshipped the Sun, Moon and Fire and preached that these are the manifestations of God. To gaze upon the sun and moon, regularly and with rapt attention, and to offer *hom* in fire were the most virtuous and spiritual of all acts. He believed in no caste system and no idol worship, and he advocated *pranayan*, *i.e.*, the regulating of the breath, the theory being that every man has only a certain number of breaths allotted for his lifetime. If a man uses them sparingly, he can prolong his life and, by concentration of mind, attain supernatural powers. A similar, if not the same, sect is that of which the founder is said to have been the late Shama Charan Lahiri of Benares, who on retirement from Government service became a *yogi's* disciple. Shama Charan Lahiri is said to have made a number of converts in Bengal.

528. The same tendency is noticeable in Bihar, where a desire to study occultism has come over the educated classes during the last few years. They believe that, by the study and practice of *Yoga*, they will learn the mysteries of life and death and eventually realise the 'self.' Among them, it is said, the only important worship is that of the Gura or spiritual teacher and the One Supreme Being. They are seekers after truth, who try to lead an unimpeachable moral life and show toleration for the faith of others, whether Hindus or non-Hindus.

529. The leading sect of this kind is that known as Radhaswami, the founder of which was Siva Dayal Singh of Agra, who died in 1878. His chief disciple was the late Rai Saligram Singh Bahadur, Postmaster-General of the United Provinces, who succeeded in making a number of converts before his death in 1898. He was succeeded by Pandit Brahma Sankar Misra of the Accountant-General's Office in that Province, after whose death in 1907 the leadership of the sect was disputed, but Babu Kamala Prasad, a pleader of Ghazipur, received the votes of the majority and was elected their spiritual leader. A full account of the esoteric doctrines of the sect was given in the United Provinces Census Report of 1901 (pages 78—80) and it will be sufficient merely to mention briefly, and in popular language, their main features as professed in Bihar at the present time. The object of the sect is the purification of the soul and the eventual salvation of the spirit. When it is released from the bondage of mind and matter, rebirth ends: the spirit reaches, and remains in, the presence of the Supreme Being, without however

\* The World's Parliament of Religions, Vol. I, pages 242, 243.

† J. Buchanan, The Moon Endureth (1912), pages 206-207.



losing its individuality. This consummation is to be secured by a kind of *Yoga* (called *Surat Shabd Yoga*, a practice of the word and spirit), under the direct guidance of the Guru. The latter, who is also called the *Santsatguru*, is regarded as an incarnation of God and the channel of spiritual enlightenment. Transmigration is believed in: the consumption of animal food and intoxicating liquor is prohibited. But perhaps the most prominent feature of the cult is Guru veneration. All castes are eligible for admission to the sect. The neophyte has not to give up his profession, cut off his connection with his family, or abandon the social practices of Hindus. The doctrines of the cult have appealed forcibly to the educated classes of Bihar, and some Bengalis in Chittagong have also embraced it.

530. While Vedantism and Occultism have found increasing favour among the cultivated classes, the religious fervour of the ordinary Hindu is kept alive by the ease and cheapness with which pilgrimages can be made.

PILGRIMAGES.

By enabling even the poorest to perform a pilgrimage, the railways have helped to stimulate and give new life to Hinduism. On the other hand, the journey being cheap and easy, the peasant is apt to regard it with less solemnity. He makes straight for the large centres and neglects the smaller shrines that he would have visited when the journey was made by road. Now, moreover, that he can reach his goal within 24 hours or a few days, instead of having to plod along the road for days or weeks, he spends a shorter time at the place of pilgrimage, and leaves it with attenuated devotions.

531. Another potent influence in reviving or invigorating the faith of the people has been the establishment and multiplication of Hari Sabhas. These are religious institutions which appear to have been started on an

HARI SABHAS.

extensive scale only during the last half century, but are now common in the towns and villages of Bengal. They are Vaishnava in conception, their object being spiritual development by means of *bhakti*, or devotion to Krishna or Hari. It is recognized that *inān*, or salvation by knowledge, is an abstruse subject, the study of which is beyond the capacity of the ordinary man. *Bhakti* is therefore adopted as the easiest and surest means of salvation. The Sabhas assemble once a week, either in a building erected as their meeting place or at the house of one of the members. A Pandit is engaged to read and explain the text of the Srimat Bhagabat and other Puranas, while a *kirtan* party is engaged for chanting the name of Hari and singing songs about the life of Krishna and Gauranga. One indirect result is that the *kula purohit* is being supplanted by the Hari Sabha Pandit, who is maintained by the subscriptions of the Sabha: in other words, the common priest is substituted for the family priest.

The Hari Sabhas mark the introduction of a new leaven in Hinduism. The ordinary Hindu can take no part in the *mujas* by which the gods are approached. Worship is confined to vicarious offerings and *mantras* uttered by the priest. The latter is sole celebrant, and the worshipper stands apart. In the Hari Sabha not only are *ujas* offered at festivals, such as the Dol and Janmastami, but such occasional celebrations are supplemented by regular religious and moral lectures. The meeting house not being a temple, all may gather there and join in the devotional exercises: worship is, in fact, congregational, which is an idea alien to Brahmanism. The conception of a divine personality is brought home to the assembled people both by the sacred books and by the devotional songs in praise of Chaitanya, which form a leading part of the programme. Though these Sabhas are essentially Vaishnava institutions, Saktas are also attracted by them.

532. The Hari Sabhas are practically informal associations for the maintenance of religious meetings. The expenses of a Pandit, of a meeting house, if any is built, and other incidental charges are met by subscriptions.

GITA AND THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETIES.

Gita societies, on the other hand, have a regular constitution with a secretary and committee or managing body. Their object is to present the doctrines of the Gita in popular form and to debate on the religious truths it contains: they perform much the same functions in cities as the Hari Sabhas in villages. The interpretations put on passages in this noble work are unfortunately

sometimes fantastic and dangerous ; it is well known that in recent years the Anarchists have sought to further their propaganda by such misconstructions. In the towns of Bihar the place of Gita societies is taken by Theosophical societies. The members, who belong to the educated and well-to-do classes, meet to discuss religious topics, and the reading of the Gita is common, some Theosophical societies even having Gita classes.

## HINDU SECTS.

533. It was decided not to attempt to obtain a record of Hindu sects, previous experience having shewn that the results are so inaccurate or incomplete as to be of little or no statistical value. A large majority, moreover, of the Hindus do not owe allegiance to any sects. Many are recently Hinduized and have a very elementary conception of the Hindu religion: they are content with their recognition as Hindus and, under this name, worship their old gods. Others, and those the greater number, have a favourite deity, but also revere other members of the Pantheon and join in their worship on days set apart for it. Their standpoint is that of the ninth century hunter described in a recent collection of stories and poems, who worshipped the Christian Trinity, the Virgin Mary and the Saints, but at the same time made occasional obeisance to the old moss-grown altar of Apollo "for Gods are kittle cattle and a wise man honours them all." The attitude of many a Hindu is, in fact, that of the old Brahman, who "in his private worship first made an offering to his chosen deity, Narayan (Vishnu), and then threw a handful of rice broadcast for the other deities, and hoped, by thus recognizing their existence and authority, to keep them in good humour towards himself."\* Though it was felt to be out of the question to obtain statistics of the actual number of adherents of different sects, the opportunity was taken to make inquiries about the establishment of new sects or to collect information about changes in the older sects. The following notes are compiled from the reports received.

It has been a peculiarly difficult task to obtain reliable information regarding different sects, as their members are averse to informing the uninitiated of their beliefs and practices. A further difficulty is presented by the fact that the secrecy of some sects has led to misunderstanding and consequent misrepresentation. Their esoteric doctrines not being known, they are regarded with prejudice, and popular belief attributes to them the celebration of gross orgies and disgusting obscenity. It is therefore not an easy task to arrive at a knowledge of their inner beliefs, to distinguish between fact and fiction.

534. An account of the Kartabhajas was given in the last Census Report, to which the reader is referred for information regarding its history and development. According to Jogendra Nath Bhattacharyya they are a "disreputable Guru-worshipping sect," "The exhibition of fervent love is," he says, "their only form of religious exercise. At their secret meetings they sing some songs as a cloak for familiarities which cannot be described".† These statements are indignantly repudiated. According to a member of the founder's family, who has furnished me with an account of the sect, their meetings are never held in secret. They are held weekly on Friday evening in the house of the Mahashaya or preceptor, and are attended by his Varatis, *i. e.*, his immediate followers and disciples. They are neither secret nor exclusive, and outsiders may, if they like, attend them: on important occasions formal invitations are issued to outsiders as well as to the neighbouring members of the sect. The meetings commence with the singing of religious songs taken from their holy book, the Bhabar Gita, which is followed by a general religious discussion on various topics, including the interpretations to be put on the songs. They end with the distribution of *sirni* (sweetmeats dedicated to God) amongst those present. "These meetings, or *majlis* as they are generally styled, are simply religious and social gatherings."

\* W. J. Wilkins, *Modern Hinduism*, page 302.

† *Hindu Castes and Sects*, pages 485-8.

535. The accounts of this sect have hitherto been drawn mainly from outside sources. A brief summary may therefore be given of the beliefs which the sect itself claims to hold. They say that Kartabhaja does not mean a worshipper of the headman, but a worshipper of the Creator. They do not use the designation themselves, but Satya Dharma or Sahaj Dharma, *i. e.*, the true or easy religion. "Its object," writes my informant, "is to call forth the latent divinity in man. This it seeks to accomplish not by renouncing the world and its cares as something transitory and illusive, but by going through life's struggles manfully and heroically, sustained by love for mankind and reverence for nature. Far from being atheists, as some writers have described us, we believe in the existence of a personal God, whom we can love and adore. The *mukti* or salvation we seek to attain is not one of annihilation or of absorption, but one in which we shall live in subordinate co-operation with the supreme Godhead. We have no outward characteristics that would mark us out, no marks on the forehead or elsewhere, no special garb, no particular ornament or instrument. Neither have we any secret signs, nor any secret rites and ceremonies. Ours is not a Guru-worshipping sect, as some have taken it to be. In fact, as a safeguard against any possible misconception as to the rights and obligations of a religious preceptor, and the consequent misuse of his privileges, the terms Guru and Sishya are never employed among us. On the contrary the words used are Mahashaya and Varati, of which the former, (as in the combination Guru Mahashaya) means simply a teacher; and the latter (derived from Pr. *Varat*, meaning need) signifies one in need of spiritual instruction, or more simply a student. The Mahashya is merely a teacher and has no right to exact any divine homage from his Varatis.

"The duties enjoined on the members are *inter alia* the following:—(1) Never to utter any untruth. This injunction is so strictly observed by the majority of the members, that our sect has come to be called the Satya Dharma sect. This also explains the presence of the word Satya in the names, such as Satya Charan and Satya Das, given to the children of our members. (2) Every day to repeat the *mantra* at least three times in the prescribed manner on five occasions, *viz.*, early in the morning when rising from bed, then again after morning ablutions, in the noon after bathing, before dinner in the evening, and lastly at night when retiring to bed. (3) To hold Fridays sacred and observe them with fasting, religious meditation and discourses, and, where practicable, to hold or attend in the evening a *mailis* or religious meeting of the sect. (4) To abstain from meat and intoxicating liquors. (5) To attend diligently the festivals held at Ghoshpara, and to pay or remit something to the *gaddi* in recognition of the spiritual headship of the Karta. The members are at perfect liberty to follow the customary rules and usages of their families and communities, and it is only in matters purely spiritual that they are amenable to the control of the sect. From the spiritual point of view all members stand on the same footing. No distinctions based on caste, wealth, etc., are recognized."

536. At the same time, it must be admitted that popular belief credits the Kartabhajas with immoral practices. One Hindu gentleman declares that the meetings are held at the dead of night in secluded houses, that women lend their bodies to their spiritual leaders in the belief that thereby they pave the way to salvation, and that the disgusted villagers not infrequently break up the meetings and assault the members, their gatherings consequently ending in a *saue qui peut*. On the other hand, another independent Hindu gentleman, whose knowledge and absence of bias entitle his views to respect, writes— "Many of their doctrines are couched in somewhat mystic language, and most of their religious practices are kept concealed from men who do not belong to their sect. Misunderstandings and misrepresentations have necessarily arisen with regard to their practices, which have brought them under the lash of historians and poets, such as Akhay Kumar Dutt and Dasarathi Ray. I have known some men belonging to this sect whose life gives a lie to these misrepresentations. That it is merely a branch of Vaishnavism is apparent from the name of "Sahaj Dharma". Even before the appearance of Chaitanya, this name was current among the Vaishnavas; the great poet Chandi Das in his esoteric poems has two or three *padas* entirely devoted to the exposition of this Sahaj Dharma, or easy religion. There is no room for doubt that the Kartabhajas have derived most, if not all, of their devotional practices from this

and other mystic works of the great Vaishnava teachers. There seems to be, however, this difference that while the Vaishnavas laid greater stress on the element of *Bhakti* (love) and self-abrogation, the Kartabhajas pay more attention to the self, or more properly the ego (herein adopting the principles of Vedanta), seeking thereby to bring out in prominence the latent deity in every soul. The moral precepts of both sects are much the same, and also to a great extent the methods of realization, which in both cases are very difficult, though nominally called *saha* or easy."

According to another correspondent, the original principle of the Kartabhajas was the very antithesis of sensuality. Their principle was *Magi hijre minshe khoja Tube habire kartabhaja*, i.e., men and women must remain as eunuchs. In other words, they must avoid all sorts of sexual connection: they will then be real worshippers of the Karta (God). The underlying belief is that only by sexual self-restraint can one avoid the cycle of rebirth. This idea is said, perhaps falsely, to be carried so far that, before initiation the neophyte has to stand stark naked in the presence of some young girls to test his powers of restraint.

537. The same idea of the evils of procreation, as leading to rebirth in a world of misery, appears to be the basis of the beliefs of the Bauls, another Vaishnava sect. One man, who gave up the sect in disgust, declared that, in order to attain supernatural powers, the members drink a certain liquid filth consisting of an organic discharge.\* It is said that they are desirous of emulating the amorous feats of Krishna; knowing that they have not the same divine power of being able to enjoy sexual connection without issue ensuing, they believe that such perfection can only be attained by imbibing this vile draught. In public they appear as religious minstrels, whose manner of life has earned them their name, which is a corruption of *Batul*, meaning madman. They do not shave or cut their hair, go about in motley garb, and sing devotional songs to the accompaniment of stringed instruments called *gub-guba-gub*. Their dress consists of a cone-shaped skull cap and a coat made of dirty rags patched together.

538. It is reported that a new sect, called *Satima* from the name of their deity, 'Satima, i.e., Sati or Durga, has recently sprung up in Murshidabad, Nadia and Calcutta. They are not ascetics but marry, have children and lead an ordinary social life: sometimes the males keep their hairs and nails long, while the females wear matted hair. Friday is a sacred day among them, when they meet in the evening for religious services. Their leader, who may be male or female, is believed to have occult powers and to be able to speak of past, present or future events. The eating of meat and drinking of intoxicating liquor are prohibited. When ill, they do not use medicines, but besmear their bodies with the dust taken from the quadrangle containing *Satima's* altar, and drink a beverage made of tamarind squeezed into water †. The females mix freely with the males, and it is said that chastity is not held in much regard by them, although they profess to be the worshippers of Sati, chastity incarnate. This sect, it is reported, "seems to be an offshoot of Kartabhajas, the difference being in the object of their worship. Kartabhajas worship their Guru, whom they call Karta, and ascribe divinity to him, while the Satimas worship Sati, a female principle as their Godhead". The supposition that the sect is of Kartabhaja origin is confirmed by similarities of practice. The Kartabhajas hold Friday sacred, meet in the evening, and abstain from meat and spirits. Moreover, the wife of Ram Saran Pal, the founder of the Kartabhajas, was named *Satima*, and a handful of dust from the foot of the tree where she was buried is believed to "cure any disease and cleanse from any sin. ‡"

539. A small Vaishnava sect has recently appeared in Nadia, which is known as *Kalachandi* from the name of its founder *Kalachand*, who is also called *Kalachand Pagal*.

\* See also J. N. Bhattacharyya's *Hindu Castes and Sects*, page 483.

† I am informed of a case in which a respectable Hindu gentleman suffering from illness took such a mixture from one of the *Satimas* (a *Pod* by caste) in the hope of cure, but died in great pain the same night. When his friends wanted doctors to prescribe for him, the *Satimas* dissuaded them saying that it would rouse the anger of *Satima*.

‡ Statistical Account of Bengal, Vol. II (Nadia and Jessore).

*i.e.*, the madman. The latter claims to have direct communion with God and to receive divine inspiration. Idolatry is discouraged though not prohibited; his followers also differ from other Vaishnavas in having no *tirthas* or places of pilgrimage. Men of all castes are admitted, but the members are mostly of low caste.

540. In the south of Midnapore there is a sect known as the followers of Manik Kali. The original founder of this sect appears to have been a Kaibartta, named Hedaram Das, who lived at Gopinathpur in the Jalamutha *pargana* towards the end of the 18th century. Hedaram Das was a man of a religious turn of mind who composed books in Oriya: his books are preserved at Gopinathpur together with his wooden slippers. The slippers are regularly worshipped and also one of his books called *Agam Puran*. The *Agam Puran* is said to contain the prophecies of Hedaram, but no one knows what they are, as the book is held in such awe that it is believed that a look into it is fatal to mortal man. Hedaram appears to have been a poet rather than an active preacher, and it was left to Manik Ram Kali to disseminate his doctrines. Manik in early life followed his caste occupation of a potter, studying the works of Hedaram and becoming imbued with his doctrines. He appeared as a preacher some time after 1865 and inculcated a simple system of morality, insisting on truth being spoken, and teaching his disciples the virtues of constant repetition of the name Krishna or Ram. Whenever obeisance was made to Manik by any of his followers, his response was the well-known saying *Jata dharma sthata jaya* "*i.e.*, prosperity follows the observance of Dharma." Caste distinctions were more or less obliterated. He and his disciples did not scruple to partake of food cooked by any of his followers whatever their caste; the restrictions of caste were also ignored in marriages between them. He succeeded in securing several thousand converts from among the low caste people of Jalamutha and the neighbouring *parganas*, and not a few Kaibarttas became his disciples. Wealthy men prepared golden anklets for his feet (one of which was disfigured by elephantiasis), while his disciples worshipped him as an *avatar*. Festivals were observed in his honour, in all of which Manik was made to play the part of an idol. During these festivals hundreds of maunds of rice and curry were cooked and distributed among the people, who partook of them freely and without regard to caste distinctions. Manik died at an advanced age about 15 years ago; since his death the number of his followers has diminished.

541. A new sect called simply Shains is said to have sprung up in Bankura within the last few years. The information regarding this sect is scanty, but it appears that its founder was a Bengali called Bhagwan Shain and that its members refuse to recognize any deity whom they cannot see. The Guru alone is worshipped. His injunctions are not to lie, steal or cohabit with women, but to associate with good men (*sadhus*) and try to know one's self. Speaking truth and the attainment of self-knowledge are ideals common to many other Hindu sects.

542. The Shikshaparas are a small offshoot of the Vaishnava sect in Central Bengal. According to the reports received, the followers of this cult hold that Krishna is the only male principle in the universe, and that all else constitutes his *Prakriti* or female principle. A woman belonging to the sect is said to look upon Krishna as her spiritual husband and her mundane husband as a conventional appanage. She regards the Guru as Krishna's representative on earth, accords him the same veneration as Krishna himself, and has no objection to giving him the privileges of a husband. Caste distinctions are obliterated, and members belonging to different castes partake of food together.

543. Bihar is not so prolific of new sects as Bengal, and most of those in existence have had their origin in the north of India, such as the Arya Samaj and the Radhaswami cult already described. The following is a brief account of other sects which still maintain their hold, though they appeal to a limited circle.

544. The origin and beliefs of the Sheonarayanis were described in the last Census Report. Briefly, they believe in one formless God and have a sacred book called the

Sabda Granth, which lays down that salvation can be attained only by faith in God, control of the passions and obedience to the Guru. All castes are admitted to membership, but marriage take place only within the caste: a Sheonarayani Chamar, for instance, will not marry the daughter of a Sheonorayani Dosadh. The members are nearly all recruited from low castes, especially Dosadhs and Chamars: in Champaran Chamars are practically its only representatives. Idolatry, the eating of flesh and the drinking of intoxicating liquor are proscribed, but the latter two practices are gaining ground and the tombs of Gurus are worshipped, offerings of fruit and sweetmeats being made at them. The sect does not appear to be progressive.

545. The Kabirpanthis have a considerable number of representatives in

KABIRPANTHIS.

Bihar, where the sect is mainly confined to the lower classes. They are followers of Kabir, who, as is well known, endeavoured to establish a religion that would embrace both Hindu and Musalman, rejecting distinctions of caste, sect and rank and preaching the equality of man. The pure doctrines he inculcated have been obscured by later accretions. One God only is worshipped and idolatry is forbidden, but these principles are so far departed from, that Kabir is regarded as an incarnation of God, and offerings of fruit and sweetmeats are made at the tombs (*samadhis*) of the Mahants to the accompaniment of *arati*, ringing of bells, etc. There are two classes consisting of *grhasthas*, who lead an ordinary social life, and of ascetics who are supposed to be celibates: some, however, keep concubines, and the children of such illicit unions are recognized as members of the community. They profess to discard caste restrictions, but converts belonging to clean castes from whom water may be taken by Hindus will not allow converts recruited from low castes, such as Chamars and Dosadhs, to eat with them; the cook must, moreover, be a Brahman or Rajput.

Some Kabirpanthis are also found in Orissa, and especially Sambalpur. The sect is mostly recruited from weaving castes, such as the Pankas, so much so that the Brahmans call it the weaver's religion, but it also includes a number of Agarias: the weavers predominate, their own explanation being that the sect is specially intended for them because Kabir himself was a weaver. The sect now recognizes caste, and practically its only social result is that the Kabirpanthi members of a caste frequently form a separate endogamous division, and are distinguished from the others by abstaining from meat and liquor. The worship of idols is also prohibited, but practice lags behind precept, and there is a tendency to idolatry.

546. Nanakshahis are also found in scattered colonies in some districts,

NANAKSHAHIS.

such as Shahabad and Saran. The original tenets of the founder have been almost lost sight of. Images are kept in their *maths* and worshipped, and Guru worship is a prominent feature of these modern professors of Nanak's faith. Celibacy is not strictly adhered to, for marriages are contracted or irregular unions are formed.

547. The founder of the Dariapanthi sect was one Daria Sahib, who is

DARIAPANTHI.

said to have been born in the 18th century at Dharkunda, a village 20 miles south of Buxar in Shahabad. Its members are also known as Satnamis from their invocation of God as Satnam, the true name; but they have no connection with the Satnami sect of the Central Provinces and Sambalpur. It is an order of ascetics, who are not allowed to marry, eat animal food or drink spirituous liquor. Members of all castes may join, and those belonging to clean castes, *i. e.*, castes from whom a Hindu will take water, eat together. Only the Supreme Being is worshipped, and no idols are kept in the *maths*. Only the Mahants of these *maths* may wear beards and moustaches; the others shave. No funeral ceremonies are observed: the dead are buried in a sitting position at the side of a ditch. The chief seat of the sect is Dharkunda, where the hereditary Guru lives: the present Guru is fifth in the line of descent.

548. The Satnami sect of Sambalpur was founded between 1820 and

SATNAMIS.

1830 A. D. by a Chamar named Ghasidas, who proclaimed the perfect equality of all men and the worship of the one true god under the title of Satnam or the true name. He inculcated seven cardinal principles, of which the following are the most important.

His followers were to abstain from drinking spirituous liquor and from eating meat and certain vegetables, such as chillies and tomatoes, because their colour resembles blood. Idol worship was prohibited, cows were not to be used for ploughing, and oxen were not to be worked after midday. Caste was abolished, and all men were to be socially equal except the family of Ghasidas, in which the priesthood of the cult was to be hereditary.

549. The Abdhutas are a sect found in the Orissa States and the Khurda subdivision of Puri, who also worship the "Name."

ABDHUTAS.

The founder of the sect was one Banamali Das, who about 50 years ago took up his abode in one of the caves at Khandgiri, and taught that only the sacred name should be worshipped. The name is, in fact, Brahma or God, and the worship of the name is the worship of God. All men are of one caste and should eat and drink together. The original monotheistic character of the faith is now almost obscured: the worship of the Guru and of his sandals has been substituted for the worship of the name. Members of the sect are either ascetics who wear round their necks a small metal plate with the word "Name" engraved on it in Oriya, or are laymen, mostly of low caste, who do not observe caste rules among themselves. The Abdhutas hold meetings which they call *Satsanga* i.e., associations of good men, and gather together every year at the Khandgiri caves on the Magh Saptami day.

550. A recent Oriya sect, only 10 or 15 years old, is that called Sunya

SUNYA BHAJANI.

Bhajani, regarding which there is very little information. It is said that its adherents regard the sky or atmosphere as the Godhead, believe in the incarnations of Vishnu, and have a firm faith that the Kali Yuga is drawing to a close, and that Vishnu will be reincarnated in the house of a Brahman at a Kakatpur in the Gop thana of Puri, after which the golden age will be ushered in. They eat and drink together, but marry only within their respective castes. The name of the sect and its adoration of Sunya, the Void, may point to an infiltration of Buddhist ideas.

### SIKHS.

551. It would appear from the account of Buchanan Hamilton that a

SIKHS.

century ago the followers of the Sikh religion were fairly numerous in Bihar. He spoke of the Sikh sect in Bihar as being considerably more numerous than any of the five that "since the time of Sankaracharya had been usually considered orthodox." Their doctrines had made much more progress in Bihar (i.e., Patna and the north of the Gaya district) and Shahabad than in Gorakhpur; Rekabganj in the suburbs of Patna was "by far the greatest place of worship in these countries." At the latter place Buchanan Hamilton met one Govinda Das, who was the chief of a *bang*, or division of the sect, presiding over 360 *gaddis* or thrones, i.e., "a considerable but indefinite number of places where there is a seat, called a throne, for his reception." There were other Sikh priests in the same two districts (Bihar and Shahabad), who claimed independent jurisdiction. The Sikhs mentioned by Buchanan Hamilton seem to have been lax followers of Nanak, for he noted that they "follow exactly the same customs that they did before their admission; they observe the same rules of caste, employ the Brahmans as *purohits* in every ceremony, and in all cases of danger worship exactly the same gods; they abandon only the daily worship of the family god (*kuladevata*)."<sup>\*</sup>

552. Both the followers of Nanak, the first Guru, and Govind Singh, the tenth and last Guru, are still found in the Province. The former, who are known simply as Sikhs, shave their heads like Hindus, believe in the *Adi granth* or first *granth* compiled by Arjun, and not in the volume compiled by Govind, and practise the early form of initiation known as *charanshol* or initiation by the feet (from *charan*, foot, and *gholna* to melt). The earliest form of this ceremony, which is said to have been instituted by Nanak himself, consisted of drinking water in which the Guru had bathed, but

<sup>\*</sup> Montgomery Martin's *Eastern India*, Vol. I., pages 211 and 214; Vol. II, pages 448-449.

Angadh, the second Guru, thought it sufficient to give neophytes a draught of water in which he had bathed his feet and not his whole body. In Bihar the majority of these Sikhs appear to belong to one or other of two sects known as Udasi or Nanakshahi.

The followers of Guru Govind are practically confined to Patna and Sasaram in the district of Shahabad. They are known as Singhs or lions, an appellation assumed by Govind and given by him to his adherents. They revere the *granth* of Govind Singh, and wear the five Ks (*kakars*), viz., the *kesh* or long hair, the *kirpan* (a small knife with an iron handle round which the hair is rolled), the *kanga* or wooden comb, the *kachh* or drawers, and the *kara* or iron bangle for the wrist. They also strictly observe the five injunctions of Govind Singh that no Sikh should smoke, cut or shave his hair, eat flesh killed according to Muhammadan custom, have connection with Muhammadan women, or eat with any one but a true Sikh (*Musli nal judh na karna*, euphemized at Patna to *Muhammad ki bakri ke sath judh na karna*, i.e., do not enter into a duel with the goat of Muhammad).<sup>\*</sup> Neophytes are admitted into the brotherhood by the *khanda ka pahul* or initiation with the dagger—*vahul* is believed to be derived from *pahila*, first. This is a form of lustration by water which has been sanctified by the immersion of steel, and was introduced by Govind Singh, who had a firm belief in the virtues of steel. The priest stirs with a dagger some water in which a sweetmeat called *batasa* has been mixed, repeating verses from the *granth*. The priest sprinkles the water on their eyes, their faces, and the tops of their heads, after which each of them drink it. They then take from his hands the *kara vrashad*, or sacramental food, and give it to one another in token of fraternity. This is a mixture of *ghi* (clarified butter), unpurified brown sugar, and fine flour mixed together with water; the term means the sweetmeat of good will (*karai*, confection and *prashad*, good will).

553. The Singhs of Patna are particularly strict in their observances, as is only natural considering that they are the custodians of the Har Mandir, a temple which marks the birthplace of Guru Govind Singh and enshrines his cradle, his shoes, and a copy of the *oranth*, in which the Gurn is said to have written his name with a point of an arrow. The temple is one of the sacred places of the Sikhs, who visit it on pilgrimage. Patna is one of the few places in India where the Sikh religion may still be seen in something like its primitive purity. "At Patna," writes Mr. Macauliffe, "the Sikhs pay the strictest attention to the injunctions of Guru Govind. Sleeping or walking, they are never without the habiliments known as the 'five Ks.' So strong is the aversion of the more orthodox among them to Hindus, that they will not even partake of food cooked by their hands. This is carrying orthodoxy a long way, but still further it is carried when they will not partake of food cooked even by a Sikh who has not on his person all the five Ks."<sup>†</sup>

554. At Sasaram the Sikhs are mainly composed of Aghraharis, who follow the trade of cloth and grain merchants, and are divided into two classes, viz., the Singhs and the Munas or Munrias. The Singhs, who form the majority, are followers of Guru Govind Singh, and observe a rite of initiation which corresponds to the *pahul* of orthodox Sikhs. This ceremony, which they call *khanda amrit chakhao* or the *charna amrit chakhao*, is performed in the presence of five Sikhs. The neophyte has to put on the *karad*, *kara*, *kachh* and *kanaa*, drink the *charna amrit* (i.e., sugar and water mixed and stirred with a dagger), and finally partake of the *kara prashad*. This latter sacrament is also taken on the last day of the month, during festivals and in fulfilment of vows: one special feast at which all members of the caste attend is held annually during the rainy season on the 16th *Bhado*. Any neglect or failure to keep the hair and beard unshorn, to eschew the hookah and to wear the articles of dress already mentioned is visited with excommunication, even though it may be due to such an accidental circumstance as illness. The

<sup>\*</sup> These observances were originally designed for military purposes. Long hair tied round the head with knives enclosed in it, was a protection against sword cuts; moustaches and beards gave a martial appearance. The drawers fastened by a waistband were more suitable for a soldier than the loose garments of a cultivator. The permission to eat flesh, except that of the cow, was intended to give physical strength, and the prohibition of tobacco was designed to prevent strength being impaired.

<sup>†</sup> M. Macauliffe, *The Sikh Religion under Baria and its present condition*. Calcutta Review, Vol. LXXIII.



offender can only be re-admitted into the brotherhood by paying a fine, and again going through the purifying ceremony of the *charna amrit*. The Munas are followers of Nanak and shave like other Hindus.

The two sects intermarry to a slight extent, as a Singh Agrahari can marry his son to the daughter of a Muna, if a ceremony, known as *pabitri*, is performed, *i. e.*, if the girl goes through a ceremony of initiation, at which she worships Govind Singh's *granth* and drinks the *charna amrit*. She is considered to have entered the community of Singh Agraharis by performing this rite, and the marriage is rendered possible. There is, however, a strong objection among the Singhs to any of their daughters marrying a Muna boy: such a marriage is looked on as a disgrace to the family.

555. Although the Agraharis have retained some of the forms of Sikh ceremonial, they have in many ways relapsed into Hinduism. The common class have no scruples about worshipping the images of Hindu gods or adopting the religious customs of their Hindu neighbours. Although they still continue to worship the *granth*, which is, they aver, their *ishtdevata* or favourite god, they also recognize a *kuldevata* or family god. The latter may be any member of the regular Hindu pantheon such as Devi, Durga, Hanuman, Mahabir, or even less orthodox gods, such as Narsingh or the Panch Pir—the adoration of the latter is due possibly to the fact that Sasaram is a Muhammadan town. The leavening influence of Hinduism may also be seen in their domestic and social ceremonies, such as funerals and marriages. They perform *sraddha* in the same way as other Hindus, and go on pilgrimage to Gaya to make offerings for the souls of their ancestors. In fact, as regards funeral obsequies, the Singh Agraharis are differentiated from other Hindus only by the fact that they do not shave their hair as a sign of mourning. The marriage customs obtaining among them are also generally the same as among the Hindu community; but occasionally the more orthodox perform a special ceremony called *anand'i*, which is, they say, the old form of marriage. At this ceremony, Brahmans do not officiate, but Sikh Gurus, who recite *mantras* from the *granth*. Sikh Gurus also are the sole celebrants at the *khanda amrit* and *kara vrashad*, but for other ceremonies Brahmans are commonly employed. In this respect they have followed the same tendency as other Sikhs. "The Sikhs of the Punjab have now completely relapsed into idolatry and, excepting that they still wear long hair, retain a few other external marks of the Sikh religion, and pay a reverence to the *granth*, which they carry to adoration, their worship in all respects resembles that of the Hindus. They adore idols, visit Hindu places of pilgrimage, bathe in rivers sacred in the estimation of the Hindus, and spend their substance on presents to Brahmans. They employ Brahmans to marry them, to read services of purification, to perform their funeral obsequies, and, generally, all the duties for which the laity of every religion are wont to employ priestly agency."\*

### MUHAMMADAN SECTS.

556. MODERN Muhammadan sects in the two Provinces appear to owe their origin to one or other of two beliefs. The first is that, in the beginning of each century of the Hejira or Musalman era, God raises up an Imam, as his messenger and agent, to reform the faith. The second is that in the last days the Mahdi will appear and wage war with Dajjal or Anti-Christ, who will hold sway over an unregenerate world, and that Christ, descending on earth, will assist the Mahdi to overthrow Anti-Christ. The supremacy of Islam will then be established, and all the world will be converted to the true Faith. Historically, most of the modern sects appear to be off-shoots of the Wahabi movement, which requires a somewhat detailed account on account of the effect which it has had on Muhammadan religious life in the two Provinces during the last century.

\* M. Macauliffe, *The Sikh Religion under Banda and its present condition*, Calcutta Review, 1881, Vol. LXXIII, p. 163.

557. The founder of the Wahabi movement was an Arabian named Muhammad Ibn Abdul Wahab, who appeared as a reformer in the middle of the eighteenth century.

WAHABI MOVEMENT.

The religious system set up by him was one of simple Puritanism, the object of which was to restore Islam to a purer form of faith by stripping off the accretions which overlaid it. It claimed the right of private interpretation of the Koran, rejecting the authority of Hanifa, Malik, Shafi and Hanbal, the four Imams or founders of the orthodox schools, which bear their name. The cult of the dead and the worship of saints were sternly interdicted, and last, but not least, the obligation to carry on *jihad* or war against infidels was proclaimed in no uncertain voice.

558. The chief apostle of the Wahabi faith in India was one Saiyad Ahmad, a native of Rai Bareli, who proclaimed:—

SAIYAD AHMAD.

“The law of the Prophet is founded on two things: first, the not attributing to any creature the attributes of God; and, second, not inventing forms and practices which were not current in the days of the Prophet and his successors, or Caliphs.” Angels, spirits or saints have no power to remove difficulties or grant the attainment of any wish or desire. To believe that they can control human affairs, and to make offerings to them in that belief is infidelity. True and undefiled religion consists in adhering to the practices which were observed in the time of the Prophet and in avoiding all such innovations as marriage and funeral ceremonies, adorning of tombs, the erection of large edifices over graves, lavish expenditure on the anniversaries of the dead, street processions and the like.\* These doctrines are fundamental tenets of the modern sects of Bengal.

In 1822 Saiyad Ahmad made a pilgrimage to Mecca and there became a disciple of Wahab. On his return to India, inspired by the belief that he was the Imam of the 13th century of the Musalman era, he began a crusade against the veneration of *pirs* and the erection of shrines, denying the efficacy of offerings in the name of deceased persons, and preaching a holy war against infidels. At Patna the seed fell on fruitful ground, for there a number of Maulvis had already become disciples of Abdul Haq, a bigoted Wahabi of Benares. They now became ardent followers of Saiyad Ahmad, and as the movement gathered force, Patna was its chief centre. In 1826 Saiyad Ahmad announced that the time had come for a *jihad* against the Sikhs, and a fanatical war followed. The army and coffers of the Wahabis were replenished by supplies of men and money from Bihar and Bengal, and, in spite of reverses, the Wahabis overran the frontier, capturing Peshawar in 1830.

559. The success of the Wahabis in the north emboldened the Wahabis of Bengal to rise under one Titu Miyan. Encouraged

TITU MIYAN.

by some successes against small detachments sent out against them, the Wahabis roamed through the 24-Parganas, Nadia and Faridpur from November 1831 to March 1832, plundering villages, defiling and forcibly converting Hindus, and maltreating orthodox Musalmans. They proclaimed that the Musalmans had resumed their hereditary rights of sovereignty and issued proclamations calling on the authorities and local zamindars to acknowledge their supremacy. At length, in March 1832, Government sent out a strong force, which met and defeated the rebels in a pitched battle, during which Titu Miyan was killed and 350 of his followers were taken prisoners. With his death and the imprisonment of 140 of his followers, the rising collapsed before it had time to extend beyond a small compass.

In 1831, shortly before this *emette*, Saiyad Ahmad had been killed in battle, and his death was a serious blow to the movement, for the jurists had ruled that a *jihad* could only be carried on by an Imam. If, therefore, Saiyad Ahmad was dead, the *jihad* must cease. His Caliphs were, however, equal to the emergency. A rumour spread that in the midst of the battle a cloud of dust had encircled the Imam, that he was never afterwards seen alive, nor could his body be found. The Patna Maulvis professed to

\* Calcutta Review, April 1870, p. 89, and *The Indian Musalmans* (1871), p. 54.

† D. S. Margoliouth, *Muhammadanism*, p. 180.

Should be on p. 247

be convinced, and declared that God, displeased with the faint-hearted Musalmans of India, had withdrawn the Imam from the eyes of men and concealed him in a cave in the mountain. When his followers proved the sincerity of their faith by uniting to carry on a *jihad*, he would reappear and lead them on to victory as before. These statements fell upon willing ears, and the movement sprang up with renewed vigour. In 1868 Government at length resolved to stamp out the conspiracy. A number of the ringleaders were arrested and convicted. The Musalmans realized the danger of the conspiracy and publicly proclaimed their disapproval of the Wahabi doctrines.

560. Throughout all these years Patna was "the focus of sedition, the Wahabi preachers finding that their audiences flagged when nothing more was urged than the purification of their lives. From this place a propaganda was carried on among the Moslems both of Indian and the neighbouring countries." Two of their greatest leaders, Wilayat and Inayat Ali, were inhabitants of Patna. The former, after a tour through Bengal, took Bombay, Hyderabad and Central India as his special field. The latter concentrated his efforts on the districts of Malda, Bogra, Rajshahi, Pabna, Nadia and Faridpur. Karamat Ali of Jaunpur carried the movement eastwards from Faridpur into Dacca, Mymensingh, Noakhali and Backergunge. Zain-ul-Abdin, a native of Hyderabad, who had been converted by Wilayat Ali on his tour through Southern India, worked in Tippera and Sylhet. "The minor missionaries were innumerable, and a skilful organization enabled them to settle in any place where the multitude of converts made it worth their while. In this way, almost every one of the fanatic districts had its permanent preacher, whose zeal was sharpened from time to time by visits of the itinerant missionaries, and whose influence was consolidated and rendered permanent by the central propaganda at Patna." "They have," wrote the Magistrate of Patna, "under the very nose and protection of Government authorities, openly preached sedition in every village of our most populous districts, unsettling the minds of the Musalman population, and obtaining an influence for evil as extraordinary as it is certain."\*

561. Since the Wahabi trials, the name Wahabi has been abandoned, mainly it would seem because the fear inspired by the breaking up of the conspiracy and the punishment of its leaders still persists to such an extent, that Wahabis are afraid to call themselves such. The Wahabis now assume one or another of two names, viz.—(1) Ahl-i-Hadis or the people of the traditions, so called because they claim a right to interpret for themselves the Hadis (the traditional sayings of Muhammad not found in the Koran); or (2) Ghair-Mukallid, meaning nonconformists or dissenters, as they do not follow the doctrines of any of the four Imams of the Sunni sect. The designation Rafi-yadain is also sometimes applied to them, because they raise both hands in prayers before genuflection and prostration and fold them at the breast and not at the navel like Sunnis: the name means, literally, raising both hands at the time of prayer.

562. The Ahl-i-Hadis are so strongly in opposition to orthodox Musalmans as to regard them as little more than infidels and their mosques as little better than Hindu temples. They regard it as their duty to take possession of the latter if possible, and have at times had recourse to the civil courts to assert a right to worship in them. In prayer, they pronounce the word Amen in a loud voice; the use of music and the beating of drums at marriage festivities—according to some, their use renders the marriage illegal—the offering of sweetmeats, etc., to the spirits of deceased ancestors, and visits to the tombs of saints are all forbidden. Even a pilgrimage to the grave of the Prophet at Medina is looked on with disfavour, and some have been known to return from their Haj pilgrimage after visiting Mecca only. The Mazakarah-i-Illamiyya of Arrah is the Central Association of the sect in Bihar. To celebrate its twenty-first anniversary, a conference was held in January 1911 at Muhammadpur Kowari in the district of Darbhanga, at which a large number of the Ahl-i-Hadis gathered together from different parts of India. According

\* *The Indian Musalmans* (1871), p. 50.

to a leaflet issued by the Secretary of the conference, their objects are— (1) to organize a missionary movement, with the object of presenting Islam to non-Muhammadans in all its purity and simplicity; (2) to help new converts in a suitable manner; (3) to inculcate the necessity of education, especially religious education, for Muhammadans; and (4) to preach the blessings of the peaceful rule of the Government. The object of the annual conferences is to give the Ahl-i-Hadis an opportunity to proclaim their views without let or hindrance. They complain that Muhammadans of different sects take part in the proceedings of other Anjumans, Shias attending Sunni Anjumans and *vice versâ*, with the result that nothing is said which would give offence to any of the conflicting sects. This they consider a sacrifice of honesty to courtesy; at their own conference they speak boldly and without fear.

563. The sect is in considerable strength in Arrah, where its members have started a Madrasa of their own in opposition to the Hanafi Madrasa. In Patna it is said to be gaining ground, some Sunni Maulvis even joining it. The converts are mostly drawn from the uneducated lower classes, but include some well-to-do hide merchants. They have little real influence, but publish leaflets denouncing the celebration of the Muharram and Sunni practices. The members shave off their moustaches, and are careful not to let their trousers reach the ankle: the most zealous wear black *vagris* and use black handkerchieves. There are very few of them in Gaya, but in Saran they are fairly numerous, and they are also strongly represented in the Rajmahal subdivision of the Sonthal Parganas. In Darbhanga they seem to have made considerable advance during the last 10 years, and claim to have strength of over 3,000. The village at Rahimabad in thana Tajpur is the head-quarters of the sect in this district: from this centre its principles have been quietly propagated. In Champaran the Ahl-i-Hadis movement has made slow but sure progress: unlike other districts, where the better classes of Musalmans will have nothing to do with the movement, the educated Musalmans are said to have a leaning towards its doctrines. Some years ago the Hanafis of Bettiah tried to prevent its members from worshipping in the town mosque, and the result was a civil suit, in which the Ahl-i-Hadis succeeded in establishing a right of entry. Their doctrines do not appear to have found much favour outside Bihar. A few years ago, for instance, one of their missionaries visited Bankura, but had to leave without making a convert. In Nadia, however, there are said to be a number of the Ahl-i-Hadis in the Meherpur and Kushiya subdivisions. The sect made some headway in Sambalpur about 10 years ago, when a wing of a Madras regiment with some Ahl-i-Hadis sepoy was stationed there. There was such friction between them and the orthodox Hanafis, who persisted in calling them Wahabis, that they contemplated building a mosque of their own, but this project died of inanition when the regiment left.

564. The Ahmadias are the most important new Musalman sect in Bihar and Orissa. The founder of this sect was one  
 AHMADIAS. Mirza Gulam Ahmad, who was born at Kadian in the Punjab in 1839. He appears to have received a good education in Persian and Arabic, and was for some years a clerk in the office of the Deputy Commissioner of Sialkot. In 1880 he published the first part of a work called the *Barahin-i-Ahmadiyya*, in which he claimed to be a divinely inspired reformer. In another part of the same work, published two years later, he gave an account of some revelations, in which he was addressed as Christ, and of a vision in which he learned that he and Jesus Christ had one and the same essence. At the end of 1888 he published a manifesto stating that he was commanded by God to accept an oath of allegiance (*bait*) from the people and convert them to his faith. Finally, in 1891, he issued a proclamation announcing that he was the promised Mahdi and Messiah, whose coming was foretold both in the Bible and Koran.

465. He declared that the Christian doctrine of the death and ascension of Christ was false, and also the Musalman belief that, when Jesus Christ was crucified, God sent down an angel who assumed his appearance while the real Christ was translated to heaven. Jesus, he declared, did not die on the cross but only swooned; he did not rise from the dead, but only recovered from the

swoon ; he did not ascend to heaven, but came to Afghanistan and India to preach to the lost tribes of Israel ; and he now lies buried in one of the streets of Srinagar in Cashmere. Messiah, Mahdi and Krishna were merely so many names or titles, and Ahmad claimed them all. He was Mahdi, for he would reform the Musalmans ; he was Messiah, because he would reclaim the Christians, who did not follow the true teachings of Christ ; he was Krishna, because he will bring back the Hindus to the pure teaching of the Rishis. "Heavenly signs support my claim, my prayers are accepted ; future events are made known to me, and the deep and secret things, of which none but God has knowledge, are revealed to me." Ahmad was denounced by the Musalmans as a heretic, and a *fatwa* was issued excommunicating his followers. Marriage with them, burial in Muhammadan grave-yards, entrance into mosques, were all prohibited. In spite of this, Ahmad continued his propaganda and gained disciples. He eventually died in 1908 at Lahore and was buried in his native village. His successor is Hakim Nasiruddin, who was elected by a majority of the votes of the Ahmadias.

566. An interesting feature of the career of Mirza Gulam Ahmad is the astuteness with which he employed modern methods to spread his doctrines and turned to account the affairs of the day. He was a voluminous writer, explaining his doctrines in three books called the *Fateh Islam*, the *Tauzih-i-Maram* and the *Izala-i-Auham*. Plague having appeared in some villages of the Punjab in 1897, Ahmad announced that he had received vision in which he saw plants of a dark colour being planted by angels which the angels told him, would bring forth the plague. On the strength of this vision he prophesied the outburst of a widespread epidemic of plague in the Punjab. His prophecy was fulfilled. He was bitterly opposed to the Arya Samaj, but was ready to meet them in debate and have the merits of his and their claims decided by argument. When he published his first work, he offered to pay Rs. 10,000 if it could be refuted. He also announced that he would pay Rs. 1,000 to any one who could prove that Jesus had shown more heavenly signs than he had. The latter challenge involved a civil suit, the claimant being a Musalman.

567. The chief points of difference between the beliefs of the Ahmadias and orthodox Musalmans are as follows. Orthodox Musalmans hold that the Mahdi will be a warrior who will convert the heathen at the edge of the sword, whereas the Ahmadias deny the advent of any such Mahdi or Messiah. They regard Ahmad as the true Mahdi and Messiah and say that he came to establish the supremacy of Islam by peaceful means. They believe that divine revelation still continues, and that Ahmad was a specially favoured recipient of revelations from God. All the religions of the world have their source in truth, but they have become corrupted. The Prophet Muhammad revealed the same great truths as are contained in other religions and recapitulated them in the Koran. All religions having the same basis of truth, the Koran repeats the truth contained in the Vedas, the Bible, the Gita, the sayings of Buddha, etc.

One significant feature of the cult is its opposition to Christianity. According to Musalman belief, when the end of the world approaches, Dajjal (Anti-Christ) will rule, and the powers of evil will reign till Christ reappears and, with the help of Mahdi, overthrows Dajjal and converts the whole world to Islam. The Ahmadia rejects this doctrine and identifies Dajjal with the teachings of the Christian Church, such as the atonement and divinity of Jesus Christ. In fact, he holds that the prophecy of the advent of Dajjal has been fulfilled by the spread of Christian missionaries.

568. The Ahmadia doctrines appear to have been first introduced in Bihar in 1893, when a Musalman missionary of Bhagalpur became a convert. The movement has already gained a considerable number of adherents from among the educated and well-to-do classes. They are most numerous in Bhagalpur and Monghyr, which form one section with a committee affiliated to the Sadar Anjuman Ahmadia, i.e., the central committee at Kadian. Funds are raised for the propagation of the Ahmadia doctrines and for the publication of its monthly magazine, the *Review of Religions*. A general meeting is held almost every year at Kadian, at which the members of the sect meet from all parts of India. In Monghyr the Ahmadias have met with

considerable opposition from the orthodox Musalmans. At a large meeting held at Monghyr in June 1911 the claims of Mirza Gulam Ahmad were debated, and after long controversy he was denounced as a heretic and renegade. The sect has even made its way into Orissa. Some educated Musalmans of Cuttack embraced its doctrines during a visit to Gurdaspur, and in their turn succeeded in winning over some of their co-religionists in Puri: their total number is however small. The Ahmadias themselves claim that there are at least 500,000 of their sect in different parts of India.

569. In Mymensingh there is a small body of Musalmans whose social practices are so peculiar, that its members are known as the Pagal Pangti, *i.e.*, the mad class. The founder of the sect was one Karim Darwesh, who is said to have come from Arabia and to have settled at Nibar Kandi in the Kaliganj police-station about 100 years ago. He was a Pathan by caste, and his followers also claim to be Pathans. They believe in the Koran and the Prophet, but do not circumcise their boys. They neither marry Musalmans not belonging to their sect, nor take meals prepared by the latter or by any Hindu. They refuse to charge interest on loans, or to take any price for the marriage either of a bride or bridegroom. Perhaps the most peculiar of their practices is that they do not use *palkis*, umbrellas or shoes.

#### PRACTICES COMMON TO HINDUS AND MUSALMANS.

570. Before concluding this chapter, some reference may be made to certain practices common to Hindus and Musalmans. It must however be explained that the members of both religions who indulge in them are uneducated persons at the bottom of the social scale and that they are not representative of either Hinduism or Islam. With many of the Hindus religion means merely a propitiation of evil spirits, while many of the Musalmans do not know what the tenets of Islam are. As one Musalman gentleman told me—"They profess to be Musalmans, but to them Islam is only circumcision and eating cow's flesh." In some places, moreover, the Musalmans are descendants of Hindu converts, whose Hinduism was little more than Animism. Even after conversion they maintain their primitive beliefs and continue to observe the same ceremonies as their Hindu neighbours. In Purnea, low class Musalmans and Hindus worship Geians *i.e.*, the spirits of dead men, their shrines being nothing more than two long bamboos stuck in the ground. Humble offerings (sugar, spices, bread and flowers) are made to the trees in which other evil spirits reside, and are subsequently placed in an earthen vessel and exposed at the nearest cross-roads. It is believed that the evil spirits are thereby bribed to leave the village and that they attach themselves to the first man who touches them. Another popular deity, who is revered by low Hindus and Musalmans alike, is Devata Maharaj, with his door-keeper Hadi, who are represented by a long bamboo planted in the ground, from which are suspended an old winnowing-basket, a bow, an old fishing net and a hook. In this district so-called Musalmans commonly make offerings to purely Hindu deities, as well as to the village godlings, a Hindu being employed to make the actual sacrifice. They celebrate Hindu festivals with their Hindu neighbours and also frequent the shrine of Kali. Attached to almost every house is a little shrine called Khudai Ghar or God's house, where prayers are offered indifferently to Allah and Kali.\*

571. Even among the higher classes there is a tendency to retain Hindu customs after conversion to Islam. As an example of this may be mentioned a community found in Shahabad, who claim descent from two Rajput soldiers of fortune who served under the Mughal Emperor and rose to high office, one embracing Islam, while the other remained Hindu. The family is now divided into two branches. The descendants of one retain their Rajput purity of race; the descendants of the other are Musalmans, who still call themselves Rajputs† and till a comparatively recent date observed

\* Purnea Settlement Report.

† About 500 Musalman Rajputs were returned from Shahabao.

characteristic Hindu customs. Pandits were called in to fix auspicious dates for marriages, and Hindu rites were practised during the marriage ceremony. Beef was not eaten till half a century ago; and though it is eaten now, it must be obtained from outside, no cattle being slaughtered in the village itself.

572. Many other superstitious practices are observed by Musalmans in different parts. In case of illness or snake-bite, a Hindu *ojha* or exorcist is called in, who recites *mantras* containing the names of Hindu gods or goddesses. In some parts Musalman women, when pregnant, will not cross a river. In Bengal, Musalmans make offerings through Hindu priests to Manasa, the goddess of snakes. Both in Bihar and Bengal they propitiate the goddesses of disease, such as Ola Bibi and Sitala, when epidemics break out. Musalman women in Bihar also join in the annual sun-worship known as Chhat Puja, in the firm belief that its omission will bring down on them the anger to Chhati Mata and lead to some calamity.

There are also numerous instances of Hindus adopting Musalman practices, such as the worship of the Panch Pir. Hindus who have adopted this cult will not eat meat unless the animal has been duly slaughtered by a Musalman. In parts of Bengal, Hindus make offerings (*shirni*) to Satyapir, who has been Hinduized under the name of Satya Narayan. They also frequent the shrines of Pirs in the belief that the Pirs have power to help them and avert misfortune. The *pirsthan*, as the shrine is called, is also visited on several special occasions. New-born babes are brought there, and their heads pressed down in obeisance. When a cow calves, first-fruits of her milk are offered. Newly married brides and bridegrooms go there on the way to the latter's house and make their salutations.

573. Perhaps the most interesting example of common celebration of religious rites is the Muharram, in which low caste Hindus join, though they apparently regard it as a merry festival instead of a sad memorial service. Nowhere, however, so far as the writer is aware, is there such latitude as in Bihar. In some places, it is reported, low-caste Hindus actually worship Hasan and Husain, as gods. Childless husbands and wives, even among good Hindu castes, (*e.g.*, Kayasths, Agarwalas and Rajputs), vow that, if they have a boy, he shall serve as a *paik* during the Muharram for a certain number of years. Similar vows are made if a boy falls ill or passes through some crisis, the fulfilment of the vow being conditional on recovery from sickness or escape from misfortune. On the seventh, eight and ninth days of the Muharram, batches of these *paiks* may be seen running barefooted from one *akhara* to another, each with a yak's tail in his hand, small bells girdled round his waist, and a cone-shaped turban on his head specially made for the occasion. The boys, and sometimes the whole family, abstain from salt, animal food and all luxuries during the period of their service as *paiks*. This generally is three to five years, but occasionally a boy is dedicated as a *paik* for his lifetime. On the tenth day of the Muharram, Hindus take their sick to the procession so that they may touch the *tazias*, and throw *lai* (fried rice mixed with *gur*) and cowries on the *tazias*, keeping a little of the *lai* to give to the sick or to serve as a safe-guard against the evil eye. Women in some places even put on green *saris* and perform the *makhm* like the Musalmans. Hindus also contribute to making *tazias* and the up-keep of the village *imambaras*: in Darbhanga town nearly the whole of the paraphernalia that is brought out during the Muharram is said to be owned by Hindus.

#### THE INSIGNIA OF HINDU SECTS.

574. The Hindu sects are distinguished by a number of different *tilaks*, *i.e.*, marks worn on the forehead or elsewhere. The mark is applied, with sandal-wood paste or any of the other substances prescribed for the purpose, on the following 12 parts of the body;—the forehead, the neck, the two arms, the chest, the navel, the right and left sides, the lobes of the ears, the head and the back. The wearing of the *tilak* appears to be a custom dating back to

*Tilak* OR SECTARIAN MARKS.

the time of the Vedic Aryans and to be as old as the *hom* ceremony itself. At the end of that ceremony the celebrant was enjoined to put marks on his forehead, on the lower part of the neck, on the top of his arms, and on the lower part of his breast. They were to be made with ashes and *ghi*, mixed together on the sacrificial ladle, and applied with the fore-finger. Their virtue and necessity were pointed out by Raghunandan, the great law-giver of Bengal, who quoted a passage from the *Mahabharata* to the effect that, after bathing, the *tilak* was to be affixed with mud, and after *hom* with ashes, in order to save one from such sins as the sight of Chandals and others. He also referred to a passage in the *Brahma Purana* saying that without the *tilak* gifts of cows, offerings to fire, the recital of holy texts, libations of water to the Manes, were all worthless. According to this *Purana*, a vertical mark was to be made with mud and three horizontal marks with ashes, but a Dwija or twice-born might make his *tilak* with sandal paste. The *Brahmanda Purana* further distinguished between the effect produced by the different fingers used for making the mark. The thumb was said to ensure good health, the middle finger longevity, the ring-finger wealth, and the fore-finger emancipation. Four different kinds of *tilaks* were prescribed for the four *varnas*. The Brahman's *tilak* was known as Urdhapundra, which is defined as consisting of two vertical lines joining at the lower end: in Bengal the angle between them is now-a-days generally rounded as shown in figure No. 1. The Kshattriya had to have a Tripundra, the Vaisya an Ardhachandra or half moon, and the Sudra a Bartul or circular mark, as shown in figures 2—4. In spite of the fact that the Urdhapundra was intended for Brahmans, the Vaishnavas generally wear it in one form or another, while the Saivas prefer the Tripundra.

575. The Vaishnavas are strict about the wearing of the *tilak*: a devout

VAISHNAVA *Tilaks*.

Vaishnava, in fact, rarely omits to mark all 12 parts of the body. In addition to vertical marks, figures of the conch-shell (*sankh*), wheel (*chakra*), club (*gada*) and lotus (*padma*), which Vishnu holds in his four hands, are marked on other parts of the body: the various names of Radha and Krishna are also stamped on them. The four emblems and the names are frequently carved on wooden stamps, with which they are marked on the body. The Vaishnava forehead mark is also called Harimandira. The lower part of this mark is said to represent a door-sill, and the vertical lines the sides of a door: hence the name Harimandira. According to a Vaishnava authority, the *Haribhaktibilasa* (composed in 1562 A.D.), Harimandira is really the abode of God, for the open space represents Vishnu and the two side lines Brahma and Siva.

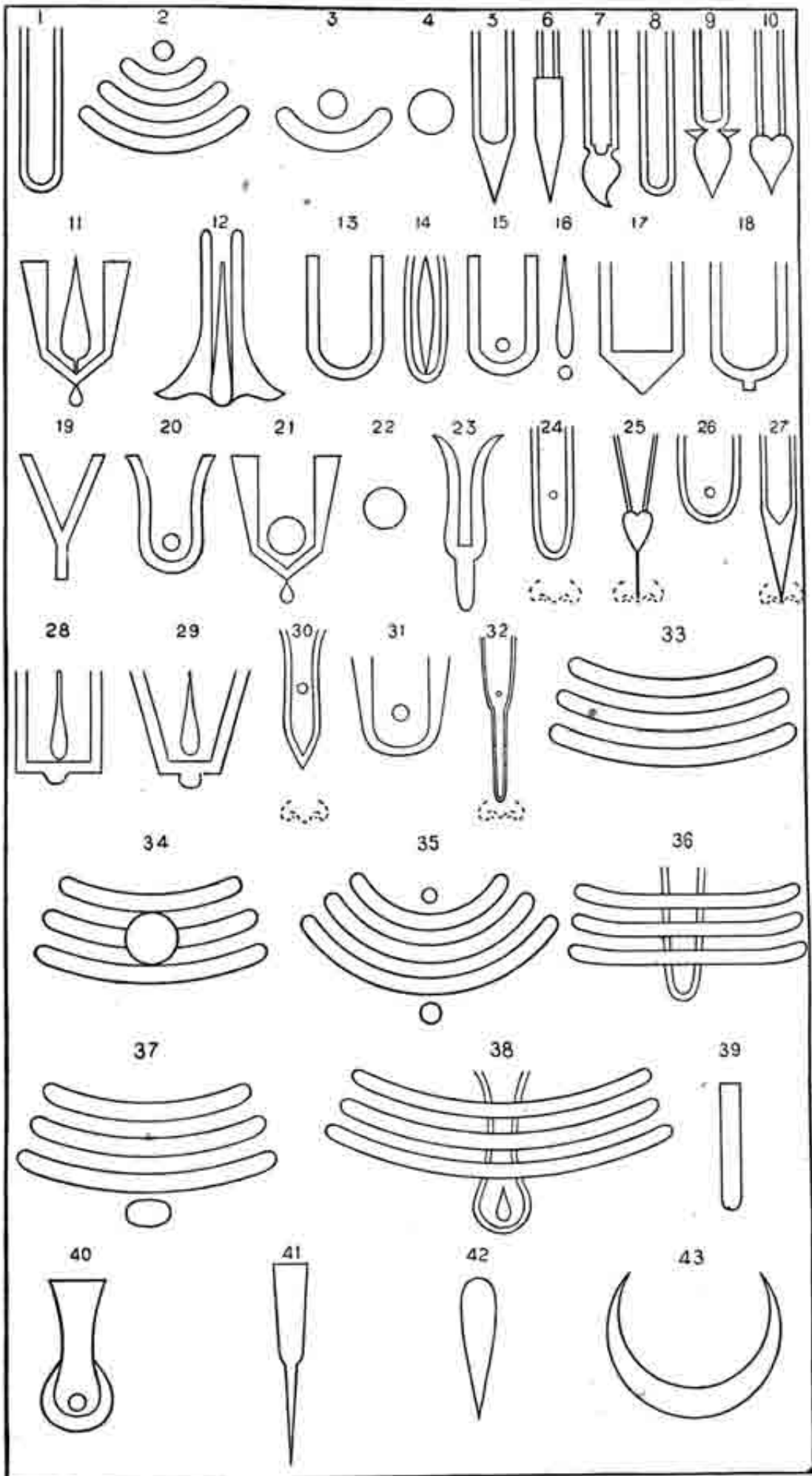
Six forehead marks commonly worn by Bengal Vaishnavas are shown in figures 5—10. Numbers 5 and 6, are worn by followers of Nityananda Prabhu and Nos. 7 and 10 by followers of Advaita Prabhu. Number 8, which is called Nupur (foot ornament), is worn by followers of Gadadbar Prabhu, and No. 9 by followers of Acharyaya Prabhu. Each of these *tilaks* is supposed to consist of two parts, the upper part representing the Urdhapundra, and the lower part, a leaf, a flower or an ornament; and they are named accordingly, e.g., as Bansapatra or bamboo leaf, Batapatra or banyan-tree leaf, and Tilapushpa or *til* flower.

The different Vaishnava sects of Bihar have also distinctive *tilaks*.

BIHAR.

mostly variants of the Urdhapundra and many suggesting the shape of the trident. The Ramanujas, who are the largest sect in Bihar, are generally distinguished by that numbered 11: the outside lines are white, the inner symbol red or yellow: this symbol is called Sri. The Ramanandis have the same mark, except that the symbol in the centre is white. A white *tilak* is worn by the Lashkaris, who are so called because they are supposed to join in battle for their faith if called upon. Some Vaishnavas have simply a red Sri, without vertical lines on either side. A peculiar variety of Ramanuja *tilak* is No. 12, which is called Bargain and is prevalent among the Babhans (Bhumihar Brahmans) of Tirhut. The usual Ballabhacharya *tilak* is numbered 13: it is used more especially by the Agarwalas. That of the Madhavacharyas, which bears the number 14, has the inner line black and the outer lines white. The Gayawals





of Gaya favour this mark, but omit the side lines. The Nimavats have a circular black or white mark between white lines (No. 15), while the Ramprasadis wear No. 16. Other Vaishnava *tilaks* are those numbered 17—22. Number 22, which is known as *bindu*, is not confined to Vaishnavas, but worn by the Hindu public generally; when made of saffron, it is used exclusively by Vaishnava females. That numbered 23 is worn by Achari Vaishnavas in the Gaya district and is called Gangacharya.

In Orissa the Vaishnava sects have an extraordinary variety of *tilaks*—it is said that there are 40 or 50 different kinds.

## ORISSA.

The accompanying sketch shows nine of the principal kinds. Number 24 shows the *tilak* of the Atibadi sect: the vertical lines are white and the circular mark, which is also white, is placed a little above the bridge of the nose. Number 25 is characteristic of the Adait Acharyayas, No. 26 of the Vishnuwamis, No. 27 of the Madhavacharyas—the last extends from the top of the forehead to the tip of the nose. Number 28 distinguishes the Acharis and No. 29 the Ramanandis; in both the latter cases the outer lines are white, the inner line red. Number 30 is the *tilak* of the Bakreswar Pandits, No. 31 of the Sisus (both being white) and No. 32, which is yellow, of the Syamanandis; this latter *tilak* also extends from the top of the forehead to the tip of the nose.

576. The Saivas have several *tilaks* called Tripundra, of which the most common are Nos. 33 and 34; they are made with ashes or sandal-wood paste and vary in colour accordingly. Number 35, which is made with the latter, is worn more especially by Maithil Brahmans and the Pandas of Baidyanath. Another form of the Saiva mark is No. 36, which is applied with ashes: it is mostly used in Tirhut. A common Sakta *tilak* is numbered 37, the Tripundra in this case is made of ashes, but the *bindu*, or round mark below, is red. Another *tilak* found in Tirhut is No. 38. The Kabirpanthis of Bihar have a vertical *tilak* of red and the Sheonarayanis of black, as shewn in No. 39. Among the former No. 40 (a yellow mark called Bhaktahi) and 41 are also found: the last extends from the tip of the nose to the top of the forehead. Number 42 is occasionally found among Nanakshahis, while No. 43 is peculiar to Ganapatyas or worshippers of Ganesh.\*

\* I am indebted for drawings and notes, from which the above account has been compiled, to Mahamahopadhyaya Hara Prasad Sastri, Pandit Gangadhar Sastri, Pandit Deva Datta Tripathi (of Dalipour in Shahabad), Babu Raj Kishore Das, Manager of the Jagannath Temple at Puri, Rai Bahadur Jamini Mohan Das, Deputy Magistrate, Babu Syam Narayan Singh, Deputy Magistrate, and Babu Newal Kishore Sahai, Revenue Head Assistant, Patna Commissioner's office.

SUBSIDIARY TABLE I.—GENERAL DISTRIBUTION OF THE POPULATION BY RELIGION.

RELIGION AND LOCALITY.	Actual number in 1911.	PROPORTION PER 10,000 OF POPULATION IN—				VARIATION PER CENT. IN DECADE (+) OR DE DECADE (-).			PERCENTAGE OF NET VARIATION.
		1911.	1901.	1891.	1881.	1901—1911.	1891—1901.	1881—1891.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<b>HINDUS.</b>									
BENGAL, BIHAR AND ORISSA	52,694,397	6,218	6,384	6,341	6,484	+ 3.9	+ 3.4	+ 4.7	+ 11.3
BENGAL	20,945,379	4,523	4,700	4,767	4,882	+ 3.9	+ 6.2	+ 5.0	+ 15.9
West Bengal	8,971,160	8,232	8,319	8,334	8,386	+ 1.7	+ 7.1	+ 3.1	+ 13.1
Central	4,094,617	5,056	5,080	5,000	5,000	+ 6.2	+ 5.5	+ 3.3	+ 14.6
North	4,011,633	5,788	5,361	5,974	4,009	+ 2.9	+ 4.9	+ 3.2	+ 10.7
East	8,877,969	3,089	3,251	3,266	3,475	+ 6.8	+ 6.3	+ 10.3	+ 26.8
BIHAR AND ORISSA	31,749,018	6,260	8,359	8,276	8,435	+ 3.9	+ 1.4	+ 4.4	+ 6.1
North Bihar	11,724,133	8,314	8,372	8,384	8,378	+ 1.3	+ 0.7	+ 5.5	+ 7.8
South	7,022,638	9,041	9,094	9,029	8,947	+ 0.9	+ 3.7	+ 3.3	+ 0.00
Orissa	4,039,744	6,623	9,719	9,746	9,735	+ 0.6	+ 6.8	+ 5.7	+ 16.8
Chota Nagpur Plateau	8,941,503	7,324	7,350	8,340	7,088	+ 13.1	+ 8.8	+ 6.1	+ 16.3
<b>MUSALMANS.</b>									
BENGAL, BIHAR AND ORISSA	27,920,666	3,295	3,209	3,276	3,217	+ 9.5	+ 7.7	+ 9.0	+ 26.6
BENGAL	24,237,228	5,234	5,119	5,068	4,969	+ 10.4	+ 8.8	+ 9.7	+ 31.8
West Bengal	1,138,022	1,344	1,317	1,290	1,294	+ 4.9	+ 5.5	+ 4.3	+ 18.8
Central	3,094,569	4,809	4,472	4,307	4,023	+ 3.1	+ 4.3	+ 3.3	+ 16.9
North	8,360,037	5,927	5,308	5,229	5,257	+ 8.2	+ 5.7	+ 3.5	+ 18.0
East	13,804,190	6,758	5,517	6,204	6,349	+ 14.5	+ 17.4	+ 16.9	+ 50.5
BIHAR AND ORISSA	3,683,438	956	988	1,072	1,085	+ 4.0	+ 1.5	+ 5.2	+ 11.0
North Bihar	2,316,205	1,443	1,621	1,514	1,606	+ 3.3	+ 0.5	+ 6.5	+ 10.6
South	725,804	922	985	950	999	+ 2.9	+ 3.1	+ 1.6	+ 7.3
Orissa	118,708	375	344	339	335	+ 10.4	+ 11.0	+ 9.0	+ 33.7
Chota Nagpur Plateau	529,674	425	475	569	569	+ 17.5	+ 14.6	+ 11.4	+ 49.7
<b>CHRISTIANS.</b>									
BENGAL, BIHAR AND ORISSA	398,011	47	35	26	19	+ 42.6	+ 44.0	+ 49.9	+ 179.7
BENGAL	129,746	28	25	21	18	+ 21.7	+ 29.5	+ 13.9	+ 79.5
West Bengal	12,792	16	11	8	5	+ 45.9	+ 46.5	+ 41.5	+ 102.0
Central	66,392	32	23	19	17	+ 4.6	+ 30.7	+ 6.0	+ 38.9
North	17,337	16	9	3	2	+ 30.5	+ 169.7	+ 78.5	+ 317.9
East	33,313	17	10	14	14	+ 30.0	+ 22.4	+ 31.3	+ 77.9
BIHAR AND ORISSA	268,265	70	47	34	18	+ 55.5	+ 55.0	+ 97.0	+ 310.7
North Bihar	8,473	5	4	3	3	+ 30.5	+ 22.4	+ 6.1	+ 69.5
South	5,440	7	6	6	5	+ 17.7	+ 0.3	+ 13.7	+ 34.3
Orissa	5,145	12	12	12	11	+ 3.9	+ 7.0	+ 16.6	+ 22.4
Chota Nagpur Plateau	251,207	303	145	143	73	+ 33.5	+ 80.9	+ 120.1	+ 358.3
<b>ANIMISTS.</b>									
BENGAL, BIHAR AND ORISSA	3,451,068	407	343	327	251	+ 26.7	- 2.6	+ 39.7	+ 76.2
BENGAL	730,780	158	103	92	85	+ 65.1	+ 21.3	+ 16.5	+ 133.4
West Bengal	342,504	401	352	365	297	+ 14.1	+ 2.8	+ 38.7	+ 56.0
Central	35,622	38	16	13	2	+ 140.2	+ 37.7	+ 67.0	+ 2,347.8
North	292,960	364	192	44	4	+ 143.7	+ 166.9	+ 159.3	+ 3,689.0
East	74,594	35	19	30	83	+ 137.9	+ 6.9	- 62.8	- 17.0
BIHAR AND ORISSA	2,720,288	708	625	617	453	+ 19.3	- 6.9	+ 45.0	+ 63.2
North Bihar	22,196	27	9	18	12	+ 1,446.3	- 46.4	+ 49.3	+ 315.9
South	8,173	12	4	5	9	+ 240.6	- 27.3	+ 45.4	+ 27.7
Orissa	8,770	21	95	...	12	+ 4.5	...	...	+ 101.1
Chota Nagpur Plateau	2,686,160	2,141	2,084	2,947	2,347	+ 16.9	+ 6.3	+ 45.9	+ 61.4
<b>BUDDHISTS.</b>									
BENGAL, BIHAR AND ORISSA	248,793	30	27	27	23	+ 14.5	+ 11.7	+ 24.9	+ 59.3
BENGAL	246,866	53	50	48	42	+ 14.0	+ 11.8	+ 24.8	+ 59.2
West Bengal	116	1	1	1	1	+ 34.1	+ 23.9	- 30.4	- 67.8
Central	2,581	3	4	3	3	+ 14.7	+ 31.7	+ 17.8	+ 32.3
North	64,023	53	61	46	31	+ 11.2	+ 16.9	+ 125.6	+ 189.1
East	186,144	99	96	97	99	+ 10.4	+ 10.0	+ 11.0	+ 41.0
BIHAR AND ORISSA	1,927	1	2	1	1	+ 126.6	- 43.5	+ 36.8	+ 201.8
North Bihar	10	0.1	0.4	0.9	...	+ 10.9	+ 67.7	...	...
South	25	0.3	0.8	1.1	...	+ 13.5	- 30.4	...	...
Orissa	434	1	0.1	0.5	0.2	+ 10,750.9	- 96.9	+ 1,745.9	+ 6,100.0
Chota Nagpur Plateau	1,492	1	1	0.3	0.3	+ 99.6	+ 132.6	- 87.8	- 85.3
<b>OTHERS.</b>									
BENGAL, BIHAR AND ORISSA	28,000	3	2	3	6	+ 99.9	- 35.2	- 45.7	- 31.7
BENGAL	15,643	4	3	4	3	+ 43.7	- 35.8	+ 55.5	+ 43.6
West Bengal	1,598	2	1	1	3	+ 343.2	- 31.0	- 63.8	- 56.6
Central	9,401	19	9	8	6	+ 39.9	+ 14.7	+ 63.3	+ 162.4
North	5,344	3	3	4	4	+ 15.1	+ 23.4	+ 6.3	+ 1.7
East	1,500	1	1	4	2	+ 34.7	- 66.4	+ 2,347.8	+ 467.9
BIHAR AND ORISSA	12,357	3	1	1	9	+ 285.8	- 33.0	- 84.3	- 60.4
North Bihar	2,310	1	1	1	0.8	+ 173.7	- 49.7	+ 7,195.7	+ 9,443.6
South	6,533	2	1	1	1	+ 569.6	+ 0.5	+ 1,648.3	+ 10,331.7
Orissa	308	1	1	2	4	+ 54.0	- 62.6	+ 21.3	+ 79.9
Chota Nagpur Plateau	3,196	3	1	1	4.2	+ 102.4	+ 45.4	- 97.5	- 89.0

The figures in columns 5 and 6 for Bengal, Bihar and Orissa, for Bihar and Orissa and for the Chota Nagpur Plateau are exclusive of Sambalpur and the Orissa Pendency States, as the figures for 1891 and 1881 are not available.

SUBSIDIARY TABLE II.—DISTRIBUTION BY DISTRICTS OF THE MAIN RELIGIONS.

DISTRICT AND NATURAL DIVISION.	NUMBER PER 10,000 OF THE POPULATION WHO ARE—															
	Hindus.				Muslims.				Animals.				Others.			
	1911.	1901.	1891.	1881.	1911.	1901.	1891.	1881.	1911.	1901.	1891.	1881.	1911.	1901.	1891.	1881.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
<b>BENGAL, BIHAR AND ORISSA.</b>	<b>6,218</b>	<b>6,384</b>	<b>6,341</b>	<b>6,484</b>	<b>3,295</b>	<b>3,209</b>	<b>3,276</b>	<b>3,217</b>	<b>407</b>	<b>343</b>	<b>327</b>	<b>251</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>48</b>
<i>Bengal</i> ... ..	<i>4,523</i>	<i>4,700</i>	<i>4,767</i>	<i>4,882</i>	<i>5,234</i>	<i>5,119</i>	<i>5,068</i>	<i>4,969</i>	<i>158</i>	<i>103</i>	<i>92</i>	<i>85</i>	<i>85</i>	<i>78</i>	<i>73</i>	<i>64</i>
WEST BENGAL ... ..	<b>8,233</b>	<b>8,319</b>	<b>8,324</b>	<b>8,396</b>	<b>1,344</b>	<b>1,317</b>	<b>1,299</b>	<b>1,295</b>	<b>405</b>	<b>352</b>	<b>368</b>	<b>297</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>12</b>
Burdwan ... ..	7,381	7,965	8,030	8,014	1,888	1,878	1,921	1,898	152	137	39	46	36	19	10	7
Birbhum ... ..	7,084	7,380	7,436	7,764	2,381	2,335	2,127	2,032	594	468	429	182	11	10	8	1
Bankura ... ..	8,690	8,740	8,604	8,743	454	508	424	444	841	799	970	813	9	3	2	1
Midnapore ... ..	8,781	8,845	8,922	8,878	894	864	851	852	516	494	521	482	17	7	6	17
Hooghly ... ..	8,103	8,207	8,142	8,053	1,688	1,759	1,832	1,937	190	25	19	...	9	8	7	10
Howrah ... ..	7,867	7,905	7,955	8,029	2,073	2,039	2,042	2,056	23	1	3	4	37	33	29	31
CENTRAL BENGAL ... ..	<b>5,056</b>	<b>5,020</b>	<b>5,000</b>	<b>5,000</b>	<b>4,609</b>	<b>4,372</b>	<b>4,907</b>	<b>4,923</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>75</b>
24 Parganas ... ..	6,369	6,304	6,277	6,207	2,613	2,624	2,651	2,722	49	8	3	...	99	97	70	65
Calcutta ... ..	6,750	6,505	6,517	6,260	2,936	2,948	2,941	2,178	1	...	...	...	353	347	502	462
Nadia ... ..	3,972	4,036	4,192	4,248	3,952	3,890	3,792	3,973	18	...	...	...	67	49	46	39
Murshidabad ... ..	4,688	4,827	4,906	5,174	5,197	5,077	4,946	4,909	105	80	74	7	10	11	32	10
Jessore ... ..	3,799	3,871	3,900	3,962	6,186	6,124	6,019	6,038	8	...	1	...	7	9	6	2
NORTH BENGAL ... ..	<b>3,738</b>	<b>3,921</b>	<b>3,974</b>	<b>4,008</b>	<b>5,927</b>	<b>5,908</b>	<b>5,929</b>	<b>5,957</b>	<b>264</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>27</b>
Rajshahi ... ..	3,132	3,223	3,124	3,187	7,796	7,763	7,823	7,842	199	11	3	1	3	2	1	1
Dinajpur ... ..	4,489	4,686	4,759	4,732	6,654	6,937	7,159	7,259	604	401	99	10	13	6	13	2
Jalpaiguri ... ..	6,062	6,790	6,698	6,398	2,631	2,902	2,368	2,340	1,122	193	92	45	134	115	45	24
Darjeeling ... ..	7,141	7,842	7,665	8,171	356	370	448	327	405	188	...	40	2,098	1,950	1,887	1,862
Bangor ... ..	3,370	3,503	3,719	3,675	8,378	8,366	8,373	8,069	44	20	...	...	8	9	7	9
Hogra ... ..	1,898	1,908	1,867	1,918	6,329	6,192	6,507	6,621	93	12	25	...	4	2	1	2
Paosa ... ..	3,480	3,514	3,658	3,738	7,311	7,492	7,339	7,242	3	...	...	...	8	8	1	2
Madda ... ..	4,688	4,882	5,031	5,237	6,032	6,007	6,720	6,634	226	209	258	24	3	2	1	1
Cooch Behar ... ..	6,906	7,019	7,023	7,094	3,079	2,967	2,940	2,898	3	4	17	7	12	10	10	3
EAST BENGAL ... ..	<b>3,039</b>	<b>3,251</b>	<b>3,360</b>	<b>3,475</b>	<b>6,755</b>	<b>6,617</b>	<b>6,505</b>	<b>6,349</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>113</b>
Khulna ... ..	4,984	4,941	4,803	4,849	5,022	5,048	5,129	5,144	11	3	...	...	12	10	8	7
Dacca ... ..	3,554	3,729	3,963	4,048	6,226	6,220	6,098	5,910	4	...	...	...	46	45	45	42
Myrsoorigh ... ..	2,698	2,781	3,011	3,233	7,344	7,141	6,902	6,679	84	74	80	85	6	4	2	1
Faridpur ... ..	3,652	3,796	3,882	4,068	6,320	6,190	6,098	6,076	...	...	...	...	23	24	20	17
Backergunge ... ..	2,962	3,110	3,189	3,268	6,974	6,829	6,791	6,669	...	...	...	...	64	68	50	49
Tippora ... ..	2,789	2,931	3,124	3,263	7,223	7,054	6,907	6,833	...	...	...	...	2	8	9	4
Noakhali ... ..	2,306	2,404	2,457	2,577	7,645	7,588	7,433	7,419	...	...	...	...	3	8	10	8
Chitragong ... ..	2,302	2,352	2,343	2,420	7,219	7,162	7,189	7,042	9	5	...	...	475	480	487	487
ditto Hill Tracts	396	2,810	2,400	1,907	331	398	454	716	2,133	3	45	1	6,398	6,684	7,090	7,280
Hill Tippora ... ..	6,849	6,877	6,670	1,022	3,829	3,612	3,698	3,818	18	154	...	6,168	298	234	682	12
<b>Bihar and Orissa</b>	<b>8,260</b>	<b>8,359</b>	<b>8,276</b>	<b>8,435</b>	<b>958</b>	<b>968</b>	<b>1,072</b>	<b>1,055</b>	<b>705</b>	<b>625</b>	<b>617</b>	<b>453</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>27</b>
NORTH BIHAR ... ..	<b>8,314</b>	<b>8,372</b>	<b>8,364</b>	<b>8,378</b>	<b>1,643</b>	<b>1,671</b>	<b>1,614</b>	<b>1,606</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>
Saran ... ..	8,546	8,618	8,618	8,828	1,155	1,281	1,181	1,173	...	...	...	...	3	1	1	...
Champaran ... ..	8,486	8,511	8,531	8,579	1,490	1,475	1,438	1,410	...	...	...	...	15	14	11	11
Munakpur ... ..	8,764	8,771	8,774	8,774	1,333	1,326	1,327	1,324	...	...	...	...	5	3	2	2
Darbhanga ... ..	8,735	8,756	8,787	8,822	1,358	1,311	1,269	1,174	...	...	...	...	4	2	4	1
Siwanpur ... ..	8,980	8,977	8,911	8,973	1,068	1,062	982	944	104	15	122	89	8	6	5	3
Surma ... ..	5,663	5,761	6,856	6,924	4,178	4,353	4,141	4,170	151	2	...	4	9	4	2	3
SOUTH BIHAR ... ..	<b>9,041</b>	<b>9,024</b>	<b>9,029</b>	<b>8,987</b>	<b>932</b>	<b>965</b>	<b>959</b>	<b>999</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>5</b>
Patna ... ..	8,901	8,721	8,848	8,772	1,059	1,147	1,134	1,212	...	...	...	...	60	18	18	15
Gaya ... ..	8,989	8,931	8,988	8,902	1,024	1,064	1,060	1,007	...	...	...	...	3	1	2	1
Rohabab ... ..	8,376	8,371	8,376	8,352	705	720	747	747	...	...	...	...	12	4	4	1
Monghyr ... ..	9,014	9,029	9,033	9,006	859	951	942	952	35	12	19	36	12	7	7	6
ORISSA ... ..	<b>9,693</b>	<b>9,719</b>	<b>9,748</b>	<b>9,735</b>	<b>372</b>	<b>248</b>	<b>239</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>...</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>15</b>
Cuttack ... ..	6,684	6,708	6,712	6,717	301	278	273	284	...	...	...	...	12	14	15	19
Balasora ... ..	9,600	9,644	9,744	9,858	293	264	244	251	83	79	...	46	15	12	12	15
Puri ... ..	3,796	3,819	3,818	3,832	189	170	165	158	...	...	...	...	15	11	20	9
CHOTA NAAGPUR PLATEAU	<b>7,224</b>	<b>7,350</b>	<b>6,340</b>	<b>7,066</b>	<b>429</b>	<b>415</b>	<b>569</b>	<b>569</b>	<b>2,141</b>	<b>2,088</b>	<b>2,947</b>	<b>2,247</b>	<b>207</b>	<b>147</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>118</b>
Hazaribagh ... ..	8,273	8,100	8,247	8,371	1,033	1,016	996	981	673	687	754	653	19	17	12	9
Banchi ... ..	8,987	8,980	8,941	8,989	369	313	320	307	4,281	4,600	5,471	1,285	1,283	1,282	671	343
Palamu ... ..	8,540	8,605	8,319	8,399	839	842	846	834	1,08	421	724	661	113	129	119	6
Mainpuri ... ..	8,077	8,703	8,150	8,943	231	453	446	430	1,356	792	1,291	408	32	22	13	220
Sinbhum ... ..	4,197	4,321	4,325	4,869	111	85	89	91	5,373	4,579	6,517	14	119	113	69	66
Southern Parganas ... ..	5,122	6,613	6,134	6,463	923	940	891	896	2,584	2,492	4,141	2,862	26	54	34	39
Angul ... ..	7,079	7,753	7,987	7,408	17	19	12	17	2,697	2,226	20	2,320	8	2	1	60
Sambalpur ... ..	9,439	9,322	Not available	...	45	36	...	...	...	...	...	...	44	13	Not available	...
Orissa Feudatory States	5,701	5,744	...	...	29	26	...	...	1,153	1,203	609	...	107	12	...	...
Chota Nagpur ditto	6,716	6,920	4,743	9,813	103	96	30	80	4,175	3,986	5,162	...	1	1	...	...
<b>BIHAR</b>	<b>6,674</b>	<b>6,491</b>	<b>...</b>	<b>...</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>...</b>	<b>...</b>	<b>...</b>	<b>...</b>	<b>...</b>	<b>...</b>	<b>3,321</b>	<b>3,505</b>	<b>...</b>	<b>...</b>

In the calculations for each Province and Natural Division those areas for which figures are not available have been left out of account.

SUBSIDIARY TABLE III.—CHRISTIANS. NUMBER AND VARIATION.

DISTRICT AND NATURAL DIVISION.	ACTUAL NUMBER OF CHRISTIANS IN—				VARIATION PER CENT.			
	1891.	1901.	1911.	1881.	1901-1911.	1891-1901.	1881-1891.	1851-1911.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
<b>BENGAL, BIHAR AND ORISSA.</b>	<b>398,011</b>	<b>279,094</b>	<b>191,253</b>	<b>127,572</b>	+ 42.6	+ 45.9	+ 49.9	+ 212.0
<b>Bengal</b> ... ..	<b>129,746</b>	<b>106,598</b>	<b>82,339</b>	<b>72,289</b>	+ 21.7	+ 29.5	+ 13.9	+ 79.5
WEST BENGAL ... ..	<b>13,782</b>	<b>9,463</b>	<b>6,312</b>	<b>4,460</b>	+ 45.6	+ 49.9	+ 41.5	+ 209.0
Burdwan ... ..	5,829	3,960	1,408	810	+ 29.1	+ 110.2	+ 54.2	+ 319.9
Birbhum ... ..	813	818	422	48	- 0.7	+ 35.9	+ 267.9	+ 1,262.8
Bankura ... ..	1,012	263	122	26	+ 179.8	+ 179.0	+ 120.7	+ 1,707.1
Midnapore ... ..	4,166	1,074	1,543	740	+ 111.0	+ 27.6	+ 108.8	+ 463.0
Hooghly ... ..	821	759	623	655	+ 12.1	+ 19.2	- 2.4	+ 29.9
Howrah ... ..	8,120	2,588	5,072	2,021	+ 90.8	+ 84.9	+ 1.0	+ 32.1
CENTRAL BENGAL ... ..	<b>66,395</b>	<b>61,141</b>	<b>50,658</b>	<b>47,790</b>	+ 8.6	+ 20.7	+ 6.0	+ 38.9
24 Parganas ... ..	16,027	13,222	12,982	10,122	+ 16.0	+ 6.9	+ 27.4	+ 57.2
Calcutta ... ..	29,531	37,223	28,297	20,214	+ 4.2	+ 30.9	+ 4.0	+ 30.9
Nadia ... ..	8,122	8,091	7,297	6,440	+ 12.9	+ 10.9	+ 12.3	+ 41.8
Murshidabad ... ..	413	391	540	470	+ 5.6	- 27.8	+ 14.9	- 12.1
Jessore ... ..	1,272	912	840	474	+ 99.5	+ 8.0	+ 77.2	+ 148.4
NORTHERN BENGAL ... ..	<b>17,257</b>	<b>9,058</b>	<b>3,358</b>	<b>1,660</b>	+ 90.5	+ 169.7	+ 78.6	+ 317.9
Rajshahi ... ..	228	331	103	121	- 8.0	+ 224.2	+ 12.2	+ 166.9
Dinajpur ... ..	1,964	779	511	407	+ 152.1	+ 32.4	+ 11.9	+ 229.8
Jaisangri ... ..	2,501	2,488	207	120	+ 121.2	+ 396.9	+ 124.5	+ 2,349.7
Darjeeling ... ..	7,689	4,467	1,502	882	+ 72.1	+ 197.4	+ 78.4	+ 812.2
Rangpur ... ..	299	433	243	86	+ 32.2	+ 32.1	+ 298.8	+ 306.5
Bogra ... ..	161	40	12	27	+ 302.5	+ 105.7	+ 44.4	+ 496.2
Pabna ... ..	500	166	163	114	+ 301.2	+ 2.0	+ 42.1	+ 238.8
Malda ... ..	430	172	72	26	+ 145.8	+ 140.2	+ 170.4	+ 1,423.8
Cooh Behar ... ..	90	143	291	48	- 37.1	- 59.9	+ 200.3	+ 87.6
EAST BENGAL ... ..	<b>32,312</b>	<b>26,934</b>	<b>22,013</b>	<b>18,159</b>	+ 20.0	+ 22.4	+ 21.2	+ 77.9
Khulna ... ..	1,693	1,275	963	247	+ 22.8	+ 32.4	+ 26.9	+ 126.6
Dacca ... ..	13,194	11,556	10,476	8,799	+ 14.2	+ 10.3	+ 19.1	+ 49.9
Myrmensingh ... ..	2,181	1,291	311	181	+ 68.9	+ 311.4	+ 39.7	+ 1,544.4
Fariapur ... ..	2,910	4,641	2,339	2,741	+ 22.2	+ 31.1	+ 29.1	+ 112.0
Backergunge ... ..	6,341	5,391	4,629	3,717	+ 17.0	+ 20.0	+ 25.2	+ 76.0
Tippah ... ..	410	292	182	109	+ 40.4	+ 60.4	- 8.6	+ 108.0
Nonahal ... ..	243	662	641	288	+ 12.2	+ 3.3	+ 9.0	+ 26.4
Chittagong ... ..	1,430	1,237	1,191	1,055	+ 15.6	+ 3.9	+ 12.9	+ 24.3
Chittagong Hill Tracts ... ..	172	252	18	49	+ 81.7	+ 1,300.0	- 63.3	+ 261.0
Hill Tippera ... ..	188	187	123	113	+ 9.7	+ 8.0	+ 17.7	+ 22.1
<b>Bihar and Orissa</b> ... ..	<b>268,265</b>	<b>172,498</b>	<b>108,914</b>	<b>55,283</b>	+ 55.5	+ 56.4	+ 97.0	+ 385.3
<b>NORTH BIHAR</b> ... ..	<b>6,473</b>	<b>5,374</b>	<b>4,052</b>	<b>3,820</b>	+ 20.5	+ 32.6	+ 6.1	+ 69.5
Surat ... ..	437	514	278	292	+ 23.2	+ 12.9	- 1.4	+ 55.0
Champanur ... ..	2,775	2,417	2,100	1,926	+ 14.8	+ 15.1	+ 6.5	+ 43.2
Muzaffarpur ... ..	892	719	271	172	+ 94.2	+ 83.8	- 0.2	+ 140.1
Darbhanga ... ..	768	710	380	225	+ 7.9	+ 66.9	+ 16.9	+ 125.7
Bhagalpur ... ..	1,102	772	526	278	+ 42.2	+ 44.6	+ 7.2	+ 20.7
Purnea ... ..	500	439	267	227	+ 12.0	+ 12.4	+ 18.3	+ 32.9
<b>SOUTH BIHAR</b> ... ..	<b>5,440</b>	<b>4,623</b>	<b>4,608</b>	<b>4,051</b>	+ 17.7	+ 0.3	+ 13.7	+ 34.3
Patna ... ..	2,282	2,262	2,223	2,288	+ 0.9	- 9.6	+ 8.6	- 0.1
Gaya ... ..	349	325	174	96	+ 37.9	+ 45.4	+ 81.3	+ 262.3
Siachabad ... ..	700	575	277	276	+ 86.7	+ 52.4	+ 0.4	+ 122.6
Monghyt ... ..	1,208	1,453	1,324	1,091	+ 26.0	+ 6.2	+ 21.4	+ 62.2
<b>ORISSA</b> ... ..	<b>5,145</b>	<b>5,004</b>	<b>4,638</b>	<b>3,976</b>	+ 2.8	+ 7.9	+ 16.6	+ 29.4
Cuttack ... ..	2,406	2,632	2,723	2,342	- 9.3	- 2.6	+ 16.2	+ 2.7
Balasoore ... ..	1,428	1,274	1,070	810	+ 14.4	+ 12.5	+ 21.9	+ 78.9
Puri ... ..	1,281	1,098	840	819	+ 18.8	+ 26.2	+ 2.6	+ 26.4
<b>CHOTA NAGPUR PLATEAU</b> ... ..	<b>251,207</b>	<b>157,497</b>	<b>85,616</b>	<b>43,436</b>	+ 59.5	+ 64.7	+ 120.1	+ 478.3
Hazaribagh ... ..	1,798	1,162	889	522	+ 53.6	+ 30.8	+ 81.1	+ 222.6
Ranchi ... ..	177,473	124,928	70,693	36,263	+ 42.0	+ 92.1	+ 108.7	+ 389.4
Palaman ... ..	7,782	7,908	6,676	18	- 1.6	+ 12.5	+ 36,088.9	+ 45,188.9
Manbhum ... ..	4,500	2,910	1,322	522	+ 54.6	+ 89.9	+ 17.8	+ 715.2
Bombhum ... ..	8,200	6,961	4,884	2,388	+ 17.8	+ 42.1	+ 62.8	+ 174.4
South Parganas ... ..	10,162	9,675	9,249	8,057	+ 2.9	+ 66.2	+ 94.4	+ 222.5
Angul ... ..	68	33	19	6	+ 109.1	+ 72.7	+ 216.7	+ 1,000.0
Sambalpur ... ..	2,792	714	...	...	+ 291.2	...	...	...
Orissa Feudatory States ... ..	88,422	2,962	...	...	+ 1,197.2	...	...	...
Chota Nagpur States ... ..	18	12	...	...	+ 36.5	...	...	...
<b>BIKINI</b> ... ..	<b>285</b>	<b>135</b>	...	...	+ 111.1	...	...	...

The figures in columns 4 and 5 for Bihar and Orissa and for the Chota Nagpur Plateau are exclusive of the figures for Sambalpur, the Orissa Feudatory States and the Chota Nagpur States, as figures for 1891 and 1881 are not available.

SUBSIDIARY TABLE IV.—RACES AND SECTS OF CHRISTIANS (ACTUAL NUMBER).

SECT.	EUROPEAN.		AN LO-INDIAN.		INDIAN.		TOTAL.		Variation (Increase + or decrease -).
	Male.	Female.	Males.	Females.	Male.	Female.	1911.	1901.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<b>BENGAL</b> ... ..	<b>16,671</b>	<b>8,780</b>	<b>10,541</b>	<b>10,494</b>	<b>43,048</b>	<b>40,212</b>	<b>129,746</b>	<b>106,596</b>	<b>+23,150</b>
Anglican Communion ...	9,473	4,328	3,400	3,294	3,447	8,558	39,021	38,440	+ 581
Armenian ... ..	406	371	12	5	9	4	799	535	+ 264
Baptist ... ..	315	375	328	339	11,753	11,120	23,960	16,428	+ 7,532
Congregationalist ...	84	64	24	26	1,199	1,137	2,534	2,044	+ 490
Greek ... ..	142	49	2	1	5	1	199	142	+ 57
Lutheran ... ..	195	46	5	1	524	523	1,214	353	+ 861
Methodist ... ..	371	194	150	219	1,303	1,254	3,971	3,395	+ 576
Minor Protestant Denominations.	53	30	8	15	56	83	217	187	+ 30
Presbyterian ... ..	1,904	677	485	391	1,395	2,150	7,722	5,350	+ 2,372
Protestant (sect unspecified)	272	110	109	93	279	485	1,484	1,462	+ 22
Quaker ... ..	2	1	1	1	1	1	4	4	+ 0
Roman Catholic ... ..	3,151	2,139	2,818	3,331	15,005	13,377	45,364	38,895	+ 7,469
Salvationist ... ..	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	+ 0
Syrian (Romo-Syrian) ...	74	31	46	2	1,134	836	2,114	823	+ 1,291
Sect not returned ... ..	82	16	7	2	16	8	140	4	+ 136
Indefinite Beliefs ... ..									
<b>BIHAR AND ORISSA</b> ...	<b>3,930</b>	<b>2,386</b>	<b>1,766</b>	<b>1,639</b>	<b>127,490</b>	<b>131,054</b>	<b>268,265</b>	<b>172,498</b>	<b>+95,767</b>
Anglican Communion ...	2,374	1,474	659	609	18,204	12,736	37,559	22,665	+ 14,894
Armenian ... ..	10	2	1	1	1	1	12	39	+ 27
Baptist ... ..	82	77	59	82	3,300	3,344	11,133	5,612	+ 5,521
Congregationalist ... ..	4	1	1	1	6	6	23	7	+ 16
Greek ... ..	1	1	1	1	1	1	6	25	+ 19
Lutheran ... ..	63	45	7	5	48,239	21,048	99,416	69,326	+ 30,090
Methodist ... ..	68	33	25	27	694	615	1,312	464	+ 848
Minor Protestant Denominations.	2	7	3	3	60	47	122	341	+ 219
Presbyterian ... ..	394	194	25	16	525	548	1,538	1,230	+ 308
Protestant (sect unspecified)	27	14	7	4	161	147	360	360	+ 0
Quaker ... ..	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	+ 0
Roman Catholic ... ..	329	259	976	898	53,992	59,960	116,480	69,467	+ 47,013
Sect not returned ... ..	10	10	4	2	149	88	472	3,318	+ 2,846
Indefinite Beliefs ... ..	17	8	1	1	1	1	25	4	+ 21

SUBSIDIARY TABLE V.—DISTRIBUTION OF CHRISTIANS PER MILLE—(a) RACES BY SECT, AND (b) SECTS BY RACE.

SECT.	RACES DISTRIBUTED BY SECT.				SECTS DISTRIBUTED BY RACE.			
	European.	Anglo-Indian.	Indian.	Total.	European.	Anglo-Indian.	Indian.	Total.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
<b>BENGAL</b> ... ..	<b>1,000</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>162</b>	<b>642</b>	<b>1,000</b>
Anglican Communion ...	463	219	218	301	887	172	461	1,000
Armenian ... ..	30	1	0'1	6	962	31	10	1,000
Baptist ... ..	23	22	275	185	25	19	956	1,000
Congregationalist ... ..	6	2	26	20	59	30	922	1,000
Greek ... ..	8	0'2	0'04	2	960	30	30	1,000
Lutheran ... ..	9	0'2	12	9	190	6	804	1,000
Methodist ... ..	22	18	36	31	142	93	765	1,000
Minor Protestant Denominations...	2	1	2	2	223	111	636	1,000
Presbyterian ... ..	103	45	49	59	342	172	932	1,000
Protestant (sect unspecified)	17	9	10	11	285	132	582	1,000
Quaker ... ..	0'1	0'04	...	0'03	750	250	...	1,000
Roman Catholic ... ..	308	479	348	357	114	283	623	1,000
Salvationist ... ..	0'08	...	...	0'01	1,000	...	...	1,000
Syrian (Romo-Syrian) ...	...	0'1	0'02	0'03	...	500	300	1,000
Sect not returned ... ..	4	2	24	16	20	22	927	1,000
Indefinite Beliefs ... ..	4	1	0'5	1	779	64	137	1,000
<b>BIHAR AND ORISSA</b> ...	<b>1,000</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>964</b>	<b>1,000</b>
Anglican Communion ...	641	312	125	140	108	34	958	1,000
Armenian ... ..	3	...	...	0'04	1,000	...	...	1,000
Baptist ... ..	22	41	42	42	12	13	975	1,000
Congregationalist ... ..	2	0'2	0'04	0'1	552	34	411	1,000
Greek ... ..	1	0'2	...	0'02	823	167	...	1,000
Lutheran ... ..	20	4	2'4	371	1	0'1	999	1,000
Methodist ... ..	14	15	5	5	69	40	891	1,000
Minor Protestant Denominations...	2	2	0'4	0'4	82	41	877	1,000
Presbyterian ... ..	67	12	4	6	272	29	698	1,000
Protestant (sect unspecified)	6	2	1	1	114	31	855	1,000
Quaker ... ..	0'1	...	...	0'003	1,000	...	...	1,000
Roman Catholic ... ..	215	248	428	434	12	16	972	1,000
Sect not returned ... ..	3	2	1	1	74	22	904	1,000
Indefinite Beliefs ... ..	4	...	...	0'1	1,000	...	...	1,000

SUBSIDIARY TABLE VI.—RELIGIONS OF URBAN AND RURAL POPULATION.

NATURAL DIVISION.	NUMBER PER 10,000 OF URBAN POPULATION WHO ARE—					NUMBER PER 10,000 OF RURAL POPULATION WHO ARE—				
	Hindu.	Muslims.	Ajinalah.	Christian.	Others.	Hindu.	Muslims.	Ajinalah.	Christian.	Others.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
<b>BENGAL</b> ... ..	<b>6,728</b>	<b>2,975</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>203</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>4,373</b>	<b>5,368</b>	<b>168</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>55</b>
West Bengal ... ..	8,000	1,790	42	126	19	8,290	1,209	432	7	1
Central Bengal ... ..	6,251	2,810	11	277	71	4,602	3,220	42	32	0.4
North Bengal ... ..	5,477	4,104	2	173	292	2,701	4,967	269	12	50
East Bengal ... ..	5,223	4,490	6	80	51	3,031	6,812	40	18	100
<b>BIHAR AND ORISSA</b> ... ..	<b>7,507</b>	<b>2,240</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>147</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>6,287</b>	<b>813</b>	<b>730</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>3</b>
North Bihar ... ..	7,296	2,602	6	59	14	6,340	1,614	24	2	7
South Bihar ... ..	7,315	2,000	...	80	57	6,164	916	12	2	5
Orissa ... ..	6,381	1,430	1	176	12	6,745	276	72	6	1
Chota Nagpur Plateau ... ..	7,712	1,618	876	263	22	7,214	406	2,127	200	...
<b>BIKINI</b> ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	<b>6,674</b>	<b>5</b>	...	<b>22</b>	<b>3,289</b>

## CHAPTER V.\*

## AGE.

577. THE statistics of age are contained in Imperial Table VII of the volume of tables, where they are distributed according to civil condition and religion, *i.e.*, among the unmarried, married and widowed of each religion. The figures in this table are given separately for each year up to 5, after which they are arranged by quinquennial groups up to 70, those who are 70 and over being grouped together. In accordance with modern statistical practice, the age 0 indicates infants under one year of age, while the first number in each age group indicates the age reached and the last number the age not yet reached. The group 5—10, for instance, includes persons who are 5 years old but not yet 10 years old, *i.e.*, those whose completed ages are either 5, 6, 7, 8 or 9 years. The statistics of age in relation to sex, marriage, education, infirmities, etc., are discussed in other chapters. The present chapter deals with the general distribution by age of the total population and of members of different religions, and also with the age returns of the principal castes, tribes and races, the figures for which will be found in Table XIV. The vital statistics of the two Provinces will also be briefly examined in connection with the question of the longevity and fecundity of the people and the changes in their age distribution since the previous census. Proportional figures illustrating the more important features of the statistics are given in the following subsidiary tables at the end of this chapter :—

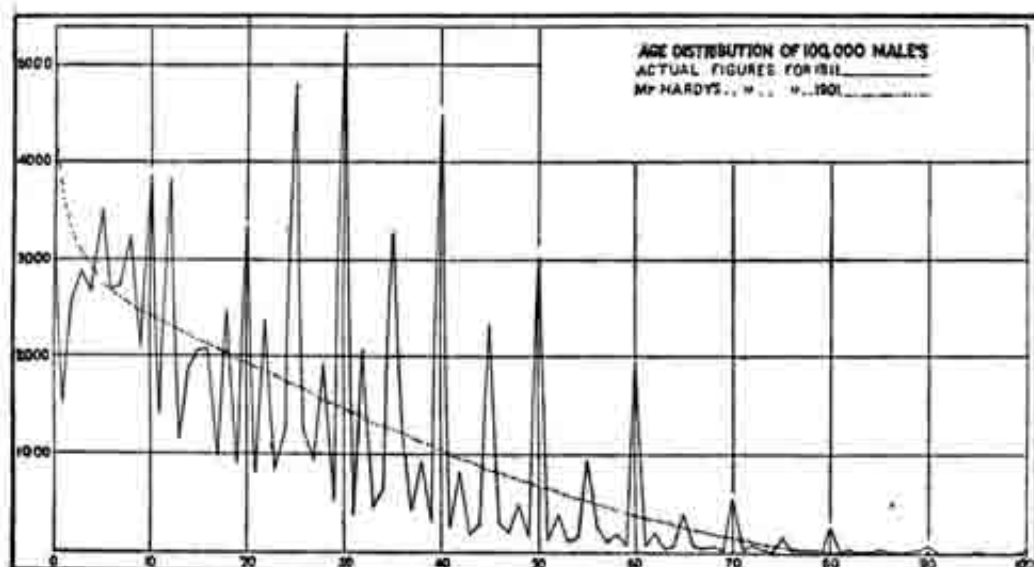
- I.—Age distribution of 100,000 of each sex by annual periods.
- II.—Age distribution of 10,000 of each sex in each Province and natural division.
- III.—Age distribution of 10,000 of each sex in each main religion.
- IV.—Age distribution of 1,000 of each sex in certain castes.
- IV-A.—Proportion of children under 12 years of age and of persons over 40 to those aged 15—40, and also of married females aged 15—40 per 100 females, in selected castes.
- V.—Proportion (1) of children under 10 and of persons over 60 to those aged 15—40, and (2) of married females aged 15—40 per 100 females, in each district and natural division.
- V-A.— Ditto for each of the principal religions.
- VI.—Variation in the population at certain age periods.
- VII.—Reported birth-rate by sex and natural divisions.
- VIII.—Reported death-rate by sex and natural divisions.
- IX.—Reported death-rate by sex and age in the last decade, and in selected years, per mille living at the same age according to the census of 1901.
- X.—Reported deaths from certain diseases per mille of each sex.
- XI.—Infantile mortality.

578. The age returns are one of the curiosities of the Indian census. The instructions regarding them are simple enough, *viz.*, that the number of years which each person has completed is to be entered, and that children less than one year old are to be entered as infants. The latter rule was laid down in order to prevent the number of months they had lived being entered, and so avoid the risk of that number being confused with years in compilation. These are really counsels of perfection, for the great mass of the people have but the vaguest idea of their age. The supervising staff enumerators can exercise no effective check, for they have quite as nebulous ideas on the subject, and blithely take down the wild guesses made by the people themselves. It must not be imagined that the entries are even approximately correct. Among the illiterate it is not uncommon for an old man to say he is "probably 25," and for a father to give his age as less than that of his son. Many simply plead entire ignorance, but others, and they the great majority, give such ludicrous replies as *bis chalis*, *i.e.*, 20 or 40. There is, it is true, a record of the birth of the higher and middle

\* This chapter has been written in collaboration with my Personal Assistant, Babu Naba Gauranga Basak, M.A., Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector.



class Hindus, viz., the horoscope in which the astrologer records the day hour and minute of birth, as well as the star under which a child is born. These papers are carefully consulted before marriages take place and are sometimes produced in legal proceedings, but otherwise they are rarely referred to. The enumerator would not be allowed to examine them, even if he wanted to do so, and in any case would not be able to understand them. Inaccuracy is a characteristic of the ignorant, and it has been found that the accuracy of the age returns corresponds to the extent to which education is diffused. In Bengal, Bihar and Orissa the number of literate persons is extremely small. Out of every 1,000 persons, only 112 are literate among the males and barely 8 among the females, though the test of literacy is a very modest one, viz., the ability to write a letter to a friend and to read the reply to it. The number able to recollect their age is probably even smaller.



579. In a population, such as that of Bengal, Bihar and Orissa, which is increasing by natural reproduction, the returns for age should show the greatest number of persons as being under one year of age, and the number should steadily decrease in subsequent years, as shown by the dotted curve in the above diagram. This is very far from being the case, and it will be seen that other absurdities are painfully numerous. There is a general fondness for multiples of 5, especially the even multiples (10 and its multiples), and also for even numbers. In particular, there is (1) a marked deficiency in the figures for the age 0—4 and specially for the age 1, (2) a heaping up of figures about the age 25—30 at the expense of the preceding and following ages, and (3) a special preference for the numbers 25, 30 and 40, and also for 12 and 3, the former of which seems to be the favourite number among the non-multiples of five, while the latter is a favourite number in early years. Over two-fifths of the population returned their age as 0, 5 or multiples of five, though these constitute only about one-fifth of the numbers open to them. Among the numbers other than 0, 5, or multiples of five, even numbers were selected by one-third and odd numbers by only one-fifth of the population. The fondness for even numbers is attributed by Sir Athelstane Baines, K.C.S.I., to the quaternary system of calculation, which is largely in vogue in this country: the anna, for instance, is divided into 4 pieces, the rupee into 16 annas, and the seer into 16 chittacks. The predilection for multiples of 10 appears to be much greater among the aged. Of the persons returned as aged 60 and over, two-thirds plumped on 60, 70 or 80 as their age, and one-third chose the remaining 27 numbers.

580. The very small number returned as one year old is illustrated by the marked fall in the graph at that age. This appears to be due, partly to the rule that children under one year of age should be entered as infants, and partly to the usual practice of counting the current year as part of one's age.

Though the enumerators were instructed to record the number of years actually completed and (in order to avoid confusion between months and years) to enter the word infant for children under one year of age, it is very likely that many children in their second year, who should have been returned as one year old, were actually returned as two years old. Many more children, being still at the breast and so popularly known as infants, were probably returned as such, and were therefore classed as under one year of age in the course of tabulation. There is also a deficiency in the number returned for the age 0, *i.e.*, under one year of age, which is probably due in part to the omission of a certain number of infants from the return. The preliminary record was prepared about three weeks before the date of the census, and it is not unlikely that some new births during the intervening period escaped notice when the enumerators went their rounds on the census night in order to bring the preliminary record up to date. On the other hand, it must be stated, in fairness to them, that some enumerators showed meticulous care over such entries. One man even entered every detail but sex for an unborn child, as he was quite sure it would be born before the day of the census and wanted his record to be absolutely complete. The sex, he explained, could easily be filled in when the child was born. It is also possible that the age of some infants was returned in months, which were taken for years in the course of compilation.

The deliberate mis-statement of age is another fruitful source of errors in the age returns. The heaping-up of the figures about the age 25 to 30 illustrates the general desire to be considered young that exists amongst men approaching middle age, especially amongst widowers who are either anxious to marry again or who have already married young girls. With females the proneness to mis-statement occurs at an earlier age. According to the *Sastras*, Hindu girls should be married before they attain puberty: hence, the ages of grown-up Hindu girls are often under-stated if they are still unmarried. On the other hand the ages of married girls, especially those who become mothers at an early age, are often over-stated. Exaggeration of age is also very common amongst the aged of both sexes and especially amongst females.

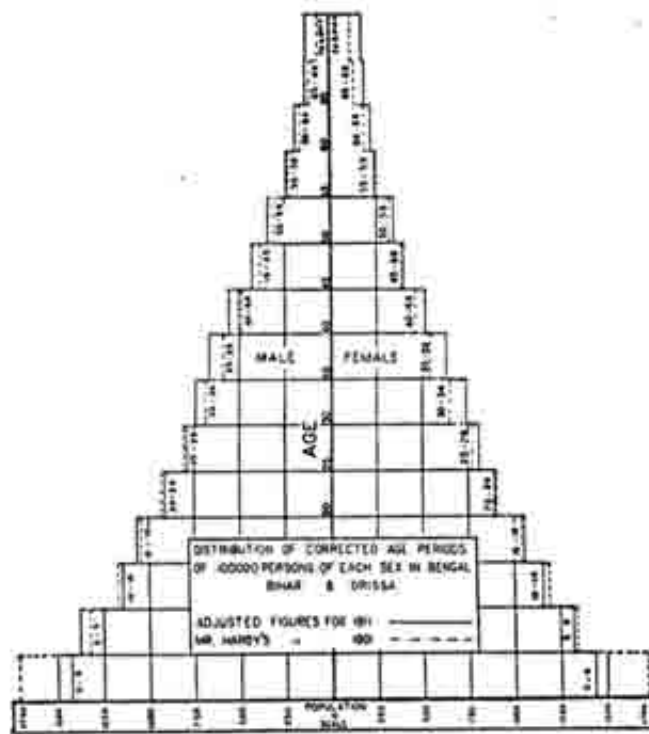
581. In spite of all their glaring defects, the statistics of age have some value, because (i) there is no better material on which to base an estimate of the longevity of the people and their birth and death-rates; (ii) by the law of large numbers, the positive and negative errors, *i.e.*, the effects of exaggeration and under-statement, tend to cancel one another to a certain extent; (iii) the effects of the plumping on certain favourite numbers can be eliminated by a careful process of smoothing or adjustment; and (iv) the nature and degree of error from census to census may be assumed to be constant.\* The age statistics consequently have a relative value, and help to bring to light changes in the age distribution due to famine, plague or other disturbing causes. As on previous occasions, an English actuary was engaged to prepare a memorandum on the age tables and rates of mortality, and it was hoped that his work would be finished in time for the incorporation of his conclusions in the report. This hope has not been fulfilled, but it is expected that the memorandum will shortly be published. As it will deal fully with the age statistics and the deductions to be made regarding the birth and death-rates and the longevity of the people, after eliminating the errors by elaborate processes of adjustment, there will only be a brief discussion in this chapter of some of the more obvious features presented by the statistics.

582. The mean age is the average age of the persons who were alive on the date of the census, and not the mean duration of life. It necessarily depends largely on the proportion of young children and old persons to the total population. An increase in the birth-rate will result in a larger proportion of children and lower the mean age. Conversely, where the number of children is small and old persons are numerous, the mean age will be high. A high mean age may, therefore, mean either a long average span of life, or a small proportion of children consequent on a low birth-rate, or both. On the other hand, a reduction of the mean age may be due to a decrease in the average longevity, or to an increase

\* Graphs prepared to illustrate the age distribution (1) of males in general, of Hindu males and females, and of Muhammadan males in 1911, (2) of males in general and Hindu males in 1901, and (3) of females in general in 1891, show wonderful similarity in almost all the important details.

in the birth-rate, or to both. In fact, like all large statistical averages, the figures for mean age are of value rather for the questions they suggest than for the answers they supply. From the statistics of mean age we cannot draw any definite conclusion regarding the relative fecundity or longevity of different communities without also examining their age distribution and vital statistics.

583. The mean age of the people at each of the last four censuses has been

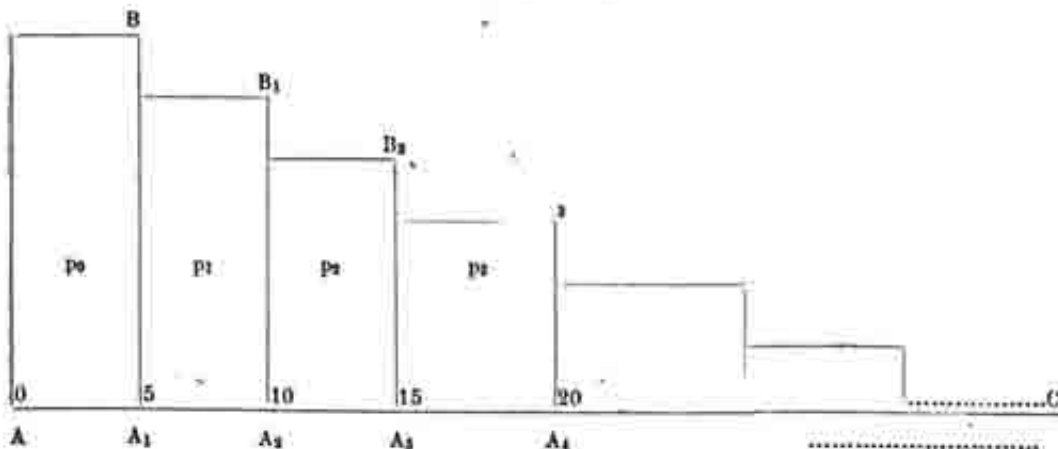


given for each natural division in Subsidiary Table II, and for the main religions in the two provinces as a whole in Subsidiary Table III. In order that the figures for 1911 may be comparable with those for the previous census, they have been calculated in the manner adopted in 1901. Briefly, the irregularities in the age statistics have been roughly adjusted by an arithmetical process known as "Bloxam's method of smoothing," and then the mean age has been calculated from the adjusted figures in the method described on page 390 of the last Census of India Report, Administrative Volume.\* That the

adjustment according to Bloxam's method is a rough one, will be seen from the marginal diagram, in which the adjusted figures thus obtained and Mr. Hardy's figures for 1901 have been plotted side by side for facility of comparison. The figures for the mean age based on the adjusted age statistics are, therefore, only approximate, but, the errors involved in the calculation being practically constant, they have some relative value and may be utilized for comparison between different censuses, localities and religions, and also between the sexes.

\* The rule which has been quoted from the French Census Report for 1891, is briefly as follows:—  
"Determine the total number of persons living at the close of each age period. The sum of those totals multiplied by 5, the difference of the age divisions, and raised by 2½ times the number of persons dealt with, gives the number of years lived. The mean age is obtained by dividing this last number by the number of persons living."

This rule, writes Babu Naba Gauranga Basak, can be easily established thus:—



584. In Bengal, Bihar and Orissa, as a whole, the mean age of females has been higher than that of males at all the censuses—a fact which suggests (i) greater longevity among females and (ii) an excess of males among children. The question of relative longevity by sex, religion and

VARIATIONS IN MEAN AGE  
By Sex.

locality will be discussed in a subsequent paragraph, and that of the sex proportions in the next chapter. The figures given separately for each natural division show that the higher mean age of females is a special feature of the new Province of Bihar and Orissa, where it is common to all the natural divisions in spite of differences of religions. These figures also show that it is no new feature, but equally noticeable at each successive census. In Bengal, on the other hand, and in Central Bengal and East Bengal in particular, females have a lower mean age than males. One explanation of the difference between the two provinces is the immigration of a large number of adult males from Bihar and Orissa to Bengal.

585. For comparison between different religions, localities and censuses it is preferable to take only the figures for males, as the returns of their ages are more reliable than those of females. As shewn in the marginal table, Hindus have the highest mean age in each Province, but are closely followed by the Christian community in Bengal. Next in order come the Musalmans of Bihar and Orissa, and the Animists enumerated in Bengal. As already demonstrated in Chapter IV, the Hindus are less prolific than the Muhammadans or Animists, and have consequently a smaller proportion of children, which explains their higher mean age. The relative longevity of the three communities does not appear to have much to do with the variations in their mean age. The Christians stand second in

RELIGION.	MEAN AGE.		PROPORTION OF CHILDREN PER 100 MARRIED FEMALES AGED 15-40.		PROPORTION OF PERSONS OVER 60 PER 100 AGED 15-40.	
	Bengal.	Bihar and Orissa.	Bengal.	Bihar and Orissa.	Bengal.	Bihar and Orissa.
Hindus	35.4	34.8	171	165	12	13
Musalmans	32.3	34.7	198	176	10	12
Animist	33.8	32.1	201	220	11	11
Christian	35.4	31.8	173	222	9	10

do with the variations in their mean age. The Christians stand second in

° Page 264—concluded.

Let the age line AC be divided into quinquennial periods AA<sub>1</sub>, A<sub>1</sub>A<sub>2</sub>, A<sub>2</sub>A<sub>3</sub>, etc., and let the rectangles AB, A<sub>1</sub>B<sub>1</sub>, A<sub>2</sub>B<sub>2</sub>, etc., on them represent the population aged 0-5, 5-10, 10-15, and so on. Also, for convenience sake let p<sub>0</sub> = rectangle AB = population aged 0-5; p<sub>1</sub> = rectangle A<sub>1</sub>B<sub>1</sub>

= population aged 5-10 ..... etc. and

P<sub>1</sub> = p<sub>1</sub> + p<sub>2</sub> + p<sub>3</sub> ..... etc.

= population aged 5 and over .....

P<sub>2</sub> = p<sub>2</sub> + p<sub>3</sub> + p<sub>4</sub> .....

= population aged 10 and over

etc. etc.

and P = p<sub>0</sub> + p<sub>1</sub> + .....

= total population.

Now take the age period AA<sub>1</sub> (0-5). Each of P<sub>1</sub> = p<sub>1</sub> + p<sub>2</sub> ..... persons has completed the 5 years "0 to 5" and so all of them have lived 5 × P<sub>1</sub> years.

Also presuming the population p<sub>0</sub> to be uniformly distributed over the age period AA<sub>1</sub> we may roughly take each of these p<sub>0</sub> persons to have completed ½ years, and hence the total number of years lived by p<sub>0</sub> persons to be ½ × p<sub>0</sub> years. Thus for the period AA<sub>1</sub> (0-5) we get 5P<sub>1</sub> + ½p<sub>0</sub> years.

Similarly for the periods A<sub>1</sub>A<sub>2</sub>, A<sub>2</sub>A<sub>3</sub> ..... we get—

5P<sub>2</sub> + ½p<sub>1</sub> years

5P<sub>3</sub> + ½p<sub>2</sub> ..

etc. etc.

Hence the total number of years lived by the entire population P

= (5P<sub>1</sub> + ½p<sub>0</sub>) + (5P<sub>2</sub> + ½p<sub>1</sub>) + .....

= 5(P<sub>1</sub> + P<sub>2</sub> + P<sub>3</sub> ..... ) + ½(p<sub>0</sub> + p<sub>1</sub> + p<sub>2</sub> .....)

= 5(P<sub>1</sub> + P<sub>2</sub> + P<sub>3</sub> ..... ) + ½P

∴ the mean age of the population

= M =  $\frac{5(P_1 + P_2 + \dots) + \frac{1}{2}P}{P}$  (I) This formula gives the rule quoted above.

=  $\frac{5(P_1 + P_2 + \dots) + \frac{1}{2}P}{P}$  (II)

Remembering that

P<sub>1</sub> = P - p<sub>0</sub>

P<sub>2</sub> = P<sub>1</sub> - p<sub>1</sub>

P<sub>3</sub> = P<sub>2</sub> - p<sub>2</sub>

or

P<sub>14</sub> = persons aged 70 and over (and is therefore given).

P<sub>13</sub> = p<sub>13</sub> + P<sub>14</sub>

P<sub>12</sub> = p<sub>12</sub> + P<sub>13</sub>

etc. etc.

The terms P<sub>1</sub>, P<sub>2</sub>, P<sub>3</sub>, etc., successively can be calculated very easily. The sum of these terms multiplied by 5 and divided by the total population P, and then increased by 2.5 gives the mean age. This rule given by formula II will be found to be very simple and convenient for application.

Bengal but last in Bihar and Orissa, probably because of the large number of adult Europeans and Anglo-Indians in Bengal and their comparative paucity in Bihar and Orissa. The difference between the mean ages of Animists in Bengal and their congeners in Bihar and Orissa is attributable to the former being largely composed of male immigrants in the prime of life.

586. The mean age is highest in Central Bengal, which contains Calcutta and the mill towns of the 24-Parganas, and in which the proportion of adult male immigrants is consequently highest. West Bengal, with Howrah, Kharagpur and several industrial towns along the Hooghly, in which a large number of such immigrants are found, comes next, and then South Bihar, North Bihar and Orissa. The mean age is comparatively low in North Bengal, and still more so in East Bengal, where a high birth-rate raises the proportion of children. It is lowest in the Chota Nagpur Plateau, which is inhabited mainly by prolific aboriginal races, in whose villages swarms of young children may be seen. In all the natural divisions the mean age has increased in a greater or less degree during the last decade.

587. Statistics based on the crude birth-rate, *i.e.*, the birth-rate calculated on the total population, are of value for considering the progress or decline of a community in a series of years or for comparing communities that are known to have nearly, if not exactly, the same age and sex composition. Strictly speaking, however, they are not a correct measure of the fecundity of the people, as they depend not only on the number of births and of adults producing offspring, but also on the number of young and old persons, who contribute nothing to an increase in the population. It is on this account that the crude birth-rate often remains stationary, or even shows a rise, after a severe famine, in spite of the reduced vitality of the people. The explanation of this seeming anomaly is that the famine carries off more of those at the two extremes of life, *i.e.*, the young and the old, and comparatively few virile adults, on whom the population depends for reproduction. To form a correct idea of the relative fecundity of different communities, we may examine the proportion of children under 10 years, or the number of births per 100 married females of reproductive age, *i.e.*, between 15 and 40 years of age. The proportions may also be calculated on all females of child-bearing age in order to allow for illegitimate births, the number of which, however, is extremely small.

588. The marginal table shows for each natural division the proportion of births in 1901-10 and also of children who were under 10 years of age in 1911 per (i) 100 persons, (ii) 100 females aged 15-40 and (iii) 100 married females of the same age.

PROVINCE AND NATURAL DIVISION.	PER 100 PERSONS.		PER 100 FEMALES OF 15-40.		PER 100 MARRIED FEMALES OF 15-40.	
	Births.	Children under 10.	Births.	Children under 10.	Births.	Children under 10.
<b>Bengal</b> — — —	<b>38</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>189</b>	<b>148</b>	<b>233</b>	<b>181</b>
West Bengal — — —	22	20	162	121	210	127
Central Bengal — — —	34	25	172	122	224	147
North Bengal — — —	40	32	202	161	246	135
East Bengal — — —	40	32	203	161	242	190
<b>Bihar and Orissa</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>201</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>241</b>	<b>170</b>
North Bihar — — —	40	29	196	139	228	164
South Bihar — — —	42	30	204	136	242	160
Orissa — — —	39	26	192	134	229	152
Chota Nagpur Plateau — — —	42	31	212	156	261	192

The ratio of births during the last decade per 100 married females of the reproductive age (15-40) is highest in the Chota Nagpur Plateau (261), and next highest in North Bengal (246), South Bihar (243) and East Bengal (242). The position of South Bihar is probably due rather to a more accurate and complete registration of births than to any really high birth-rate, as the proportion of children in that division is somewhat small, besides which the population has increased but slightly during the last decade. So far as the birth-rate and the proportion of children are concerned, North Bengal does not appear to be inferior to East Bengal in any way, but its death-rate being higher, the population has not increased as rapidly as in East Bengal. The people in West Bengal, Central Bengal and Orissa appear to be less prolific than elsewhere.

589. The proportion of children per 100 married females of the reproductive age (15—40) may be taken as a fair index of the relative fecundity of different communities.

FECUNDITY BY RELIGION.

The ratio is highest among the Animists in all the natural divisions of the two provinces; the Muhammadans come next and then the Hindus. It cannot be said that these results are much affected by migration, for it is mainly adult males who migrate. Women are but poorly represented among migrants and children under 10 years of age still more so. The inevitable conclusion seems to be that fecundity is greatest among Animists and lowest among the Hindus, the Muhammadans having an intermediate position. In North Bengal, however, the Hindus appear to be equal to, and in West Bengal superior to, the Muhammadans in productiveness. These conclusions are supported by the statistics of births prepared in the Sanitary Commissioner's office.

590. During the decade 1891-1901 the proportion of children per 100 married females of the child-bearing age fell, to a greater or less extent, in most of the districts of the two provinces and among the followers of all religions in each natural division, except in

VARIATIONS IN FECUNDITY SINCE 1891.  
BY LOCALITY.

North Bengal. This fall in the proportion of children, indicating as it does a general decrease in the fecundity of the people, was attributed in part to the deliberate avoidance of child-bearing.\* During the last decade, however, the proportion of children has increased everywhere in the new Province of Bihar and Orissa, except in (i) Darbhanga, which suffered from famine in 1907 and 1909, (ii) Balasore, where infantile mortality is abnormally high, and (iii) the Chota Nagpur Plateau as a whole, and Singhbhum and the Sonthal Parganas in particular. In Bengal, on the other hand, the proportion has decreased still further in the majority of the districts of West Bengal, Central Bengal and East Bengal, but has increased in North Bengal. As the proportion of children has been calculated on married females of the reproductive age, on whom the birth-rate mainly depends, and on whom the effect of migration is comparatively small, it may fairly be assumed that the variation in the proportion is due to a corresponding variation in the actual fecundity of the people. Hence, the general conclusion seems to be that, whatever may be the causes, the fall in the fecundity of the people in 1891-1901 has been made good to a certain extent in Bihar and Orissa, but has proceeded further in Bengal. North Bengal is an exception to this rule, as fecundity there shows a steady increase since 1891.

591. The general inferences drawn above are equally applicable to the Hindus and the Muhammadans. Both communities show a steady decline in fecundity since 1891

BY RELIGION.

in West Bengal, Central Bengal, East Bengal, and also in the Chota Nagpur Plateau. Both now show an increase in reproductive power in North Bihar, South Bihar and Orissa, where fecundity declined in 1891-1901. In North Bengal the Muhammadans have exhibited a steady increase in prolificness since 1891, while among the Hindus there was a decrease in 1891-1901, which has been more than made good by the increase in 1901-1911.

592. The age distribution of 1,000 of each sex among the more important castes is given in Subsidiary Table IV, in which the age periods selected are 0—5, 5—12,

FECUNDITY BY CASTE.

12—15, 15—40 and 40 and over. Subsidiary Table IV-A, which has been specially compiled to illustrate the relative fecundity and longevity of different communities, shows for each of these castes the proportion (1) of children under 12 years of age to persons aged 15—40 and to married females of the same age period, (2) of persons over 40 years of age to those aged 15—40, and (3) of married females aged 15—40 to females of all ages. As might be expected from what has already been said about the relative fecundity of the main religions, the proportion of children per 100 married females aged 15—40 (the reproductive age) is highest among the aboriginal

\* Mr. Gait took the proportion of children per 100 persons, and attributed the fall in the proportion to (1) a tendency to postpone the age of marriage, (2) the gradual spread of the prejudice against the remarriage of widows and (3) the deliberate avoidance of child-bearing (vide paragraphs 398 and 399 of the Bengal Census Report of 1901). The proportion per 100 married females aged 15 to 40, which is here discussed, obviously cannot have any connection with the first two causes.

as Santals (266), Mundas (268) and Oraons (242).

PROPORTION OF CHILDREN UNDER 15 PER 100 MARRIED FEMALES OF 15-40.

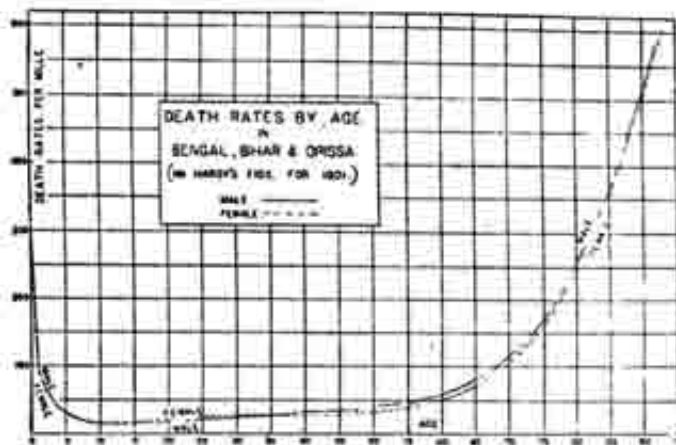
Caste or Tribe	Animist.	Hindu.
<b>Bengal</b>		
Garo	227	187
Munda	187	201
Orain	200	187
Santal	226	216
Tipara	217	222
<b>Bihar and Orissa</b>		
Bhumij	243	227
Kanbis	215	204
Munda	208	226
Oraon	242	204
Pan...	217	214
Santal	266	212

It is also high among the tribal Hindu castes, e.g., Pod (236), Rajbansi (224), Namasudra (221), etc. One interesting feature of the age statistics of castes may be noticed here, viz., that where a tribe is in process of being Hinduized, the Hindu section has, as a rule, a smaller proportion of children than their Animist brethren. In other words, Hinduization is accompanied by a reduction of fecundity, and, as will be shown in a subsequent paragraph, by an increase of longevity. This feature is common to all but three of the tribes shown in the margin, and it cannot be said that the results are affected by the returns of age being more accurate for the Hindu than for the Animistic section, for the standard of education is much the same

in both cases.

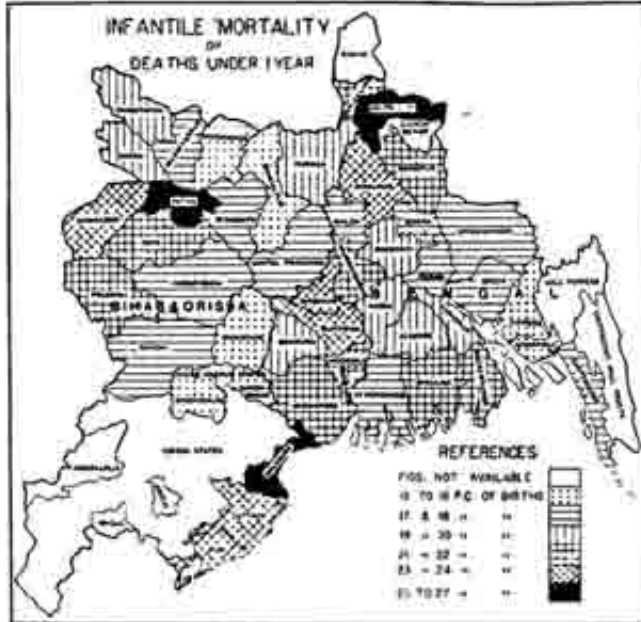
Among the different Hindu castes it is difficult to find any correlation between social status and fecundity. The proportion varies very little among castes ranking high and low in the social scale. In Bengal, after the aboriginal and tribal castes, come (in order) Sunri (220), Baidya (209), Kayasth and Goala (201), Kaibartta, both unspecified and Chasi (200), Brahman (199), Blumij, Jogi, Jalia Kaibartta (198), Rajput (195), Teli and Tili (192), Tanti (190), Sadgop (187), Bagdi (185) and Chamar (163). In Bihar and Orissa the aboriginal tribes are followed by Rajput (217), Bhuiya (212), Musahar (207), Brahman (194), Goala (194), Balshan (193) and Chasa (191). We should not forget, however, in comparing the figures for the different castes, that the figures are not very accurate, and that the degree of literacy, which affects the accuracy of their age returns, is not the same.

593. As shown in Subsidiary Table IX and illustrated in greater detail in the marginal diagram, the death-rate is abnormally high among infants under one year of age, being over 250 per mille. It then falls sharply to about 100 per mille at one year of age, and rapidly decreases as the age increases up to ten. After this the fall in the death-rate still continues, but very slowly, till it reaches the minimum somewhere between 10 and 15. The death-rate then begins its upward course, slowly up to 40-50, but more and more rapidly beyond that period.



males than among females, with one exception, viz., that at the reproductive age of 15-40 females in Bengal die at a more rapid rate than males. This is presumably due to child-birth with its attendant dangers, which are all the greater because of the want of skilled midwifery, the ignorance of hygiene, and last, but not least, premature motherhood. In Bihar, though marriage takes place at an early age, girls are not allowed to meet their husbands until they attain puberty. Moreover, being more accustomed to manual labour in the open air, they are physically better fitted to bear children without injurious after-effects. Turning to the causes of death, it will be seen from Subsidiary Table X that among females the mortality from all diseases is lower than among males, with one exception, viz., that in Bihar and Orissa they succumb more to plague—a feature which will be discussed in the next chapter.

594. Infantile mortality is extraordinarily high in the two Provinces dealt with in this report, one out of every 5 children dying within a year of birth. The incidence of deaths among children under one year of age is highest in Orissa, where they



account for 26 per cent. of the total number of deaths and represent one-fourth of the actual births. In four other natural divisions 20 per cent. or more die within a year, viz., West Bengal (22), North Bengal (21), South Bihar (21) and Central Bengal (20). The incidence of mortality is comparatively low in East Bengal (18), and is least in the Chota Nagpur Plateau and North Bihar (17). Calcutta, in spite of its medical facilities, and comparatively good sanitation, etc. (but, be it noted, on the other hand a bad milk supply) has the highest

death-rate among infants, viz., 31 per cent., and of the districts, Balasore and Jalpaiguri, with 27 per cent. each. Then come Patna (25), Cuttack (24), Puri (24), Burdwan (24) and Dinajpur (24). The mortality is comparatively small in Tippera (16), Bhagalpur (16), Manbhum (16) and Noakhali (15), and the minimum is reached in Singhbhum (13). The map in the margin shows the rates of infantile mortality in the different districts of the two provinces.

One noticeable feature of the statistics of infantile mortality is that the rate of mortality is universally higher among male than among female children, though it is an admitted and well known fact that in this country greater care is taken of male lives. It is, however, also a familiar fact that male infants are more delicate and difficult to rear than female infants.

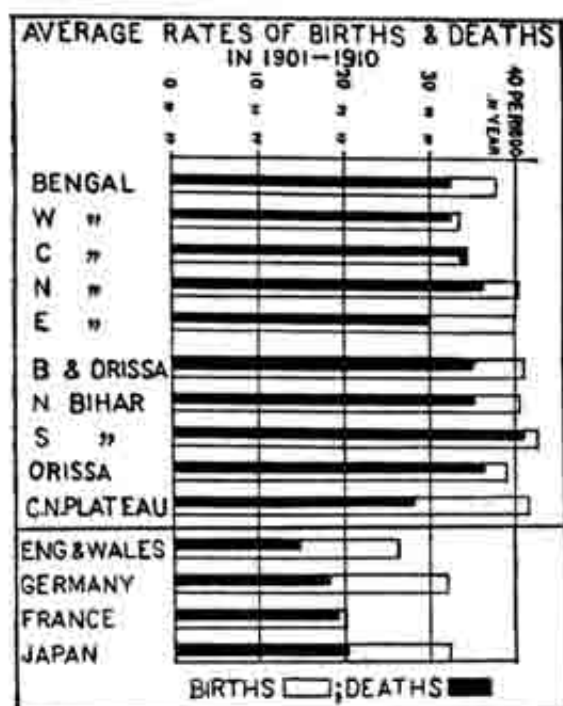
595. The causes of high infantile mortality are several. Debility from birth is the all too frequent consequence of early marriage, or the result of the poor vitality of parents, especially in malarious areas where persistent fever weakens the system. Among the labouring classes many of the mothers are poorly-fed cooly women, who continue to work to the very end of their pregnancy, with the result that they give birth to weakly, and not infrequently premature, infants, who succumb during the first few hours, days or weeks of external life. Of direct causes the principal are unskilful midwifery and disregard of the rules of hygiene, the lying-in-rooms being generally dark, damp and ill-ventilated out-houses. An account of the treatment of the mother and child will be given in Chapter VII. Here it may be stated that the practice of cutting the umbilical cord with dirty instruments (*e.g.*, a piece of split bamboo, or a conch shell) and of applying cow-dung ashes to the freshly cut end causes a very large number of deaths among healthy infants every year. Cleanliness is often conspicuous by its absence, and the application of antiseptic dressings is very rare. Other dangers that threaten the young child are caused by insufficient clothing, combined with exposure, and often in the case of girls neglect, as well as by ignorance of the proper treatment of infantile diseases. The most deadly of the latter are pulmonary diseases, bronchitis, diarrhoea and measles. It cannot be said that infants suffer from any wilful withholding of their natural nourishment, for Indian mothers are generally excellent nurses. On the other hand, owing to poverty and malaria, the failure of nursing powers is not uncommon. In such cases unsuitable substitutes for proper artificial food help to undermine the health of the infants.\*

\* Reports of the Sanitary Commissioner, Bengal, for 1901, 1903 and 1904.



596. A very large proportion of the deaths occur within the first month of life, but statistics are not available except for Calcutta. The number who fail to survive even for this short time may be gathered from the following note kindly contributed by Major W. W. Clemesha, I.M.S., Sanitary Commissioner of Bengal. The note is concerned primarily with the statistics compiled for 1909 by Dr. Pearse, the Health Officer of Calcutta, but throws so much light on the causes of infantile mortality, that it is quoted *in extenso*. It may, however, first be stated that over half of the children that died within a year of birth actually died in the first month. "All who have studied the subject of infant mortality in this country recognize that the causes of infant deaths fall under two main heads. First, conditions connected with the health of parents, such as premature marriage and the prevalence of such wasting diseases as malaria, which particularly affect the well-being of the mother. The second head is equally important, viz., the extremely insanitary conditions of child-birth and the appalling ignorance prevalent. The figures given by Dr. Pearse demonstrate these points to a most remarkable extent. Out of something like 2,700 children that die within the first month, more than 1,200, or nearly 50 per cent., come under the heads of premature birth and debility at birth. These deaths obviously come under the first heading named above: probably early marriage is the preponderating factor, because malaria is comparatively rare in Calcutta. Under the second heading practically another 1,000 children die of tetanus and convulsions, diseases which are occasioned by the ignorance in matters of hygiene relating to child-birth on the part of the mother and those attending to her. It appears that under these two heads about 2,200 out of 2,700 deaths can be accounted for. Grave social conditions, such as child marriage, are things which are difficult to alter and which the spread of education alone can hope to remedy. Deaths which are occasioned by tetanus are, however, entirely preventible. Even a little ordinary cleanliness and a little common knowledge would reduce the death-rate nearly one-half. Concerning the mortality of children between the ages of one month and one year, the causes are many and various. Bronchitis and chest troubles generally appear to account for a very large number of deaths. The children are not sufficiently clad in the cold weather, and, further, it is the weakly child (*i.e.*, the child of immature parents) which is most likely to contract fatal lung trouble."

597. Though the crude birth-rate is very high, the death-rate is also high, and hence the excess of births over deaths is much smaller than in European countries. As regards the natural divisions of the two provinces, the death-rate is highest in South Bihar (41·2) and next highest in Orissa (36·5) and North Bengal (36·2). Then follow in order North Bihar (35·4), Central Bengal (34·3) and West Bengal (32·4). The rate of mortality is comparatively low in East Bengal (30·1) and is lowest in the Chota Nagpur Plateau (28·0). The last two natural divisions are conspicuous for a rapid growth of population and for high birth-rates. As regards individual districts, the average rate of mortality was highest during the decade in Patna (47·50) and next highest in Gaya (41·56), both of which have suffered from plague. After Gaya come Dinajpur, a malarious district (40·77), Saran (40·50) and Shahabad (40·13), both of which are plague-stricken districts, Rajshahi (39·85), Nadia (38·94), Darjeeling (38·52), Balasore (37·70), Palamau (36·85), Monghyr (36·84), Jalpaiguri (36·66),



Jessore (36.41), Cuttack (36.39), Purnea (36.38) and Murshidabad (36.28).



The average death-rate during the decennium was under 30 per mille in Bogra (29.93), Ranchi (28.01), 24-Parganas (27.28), Sonthal Parganas (26.98), Manblum (26.52), Mymensingh (25.70) and Tippera (25.17), and was lowest in Sambalpur (22.89) and Singhbhum (22.81). The map in the margin will show at a glance the average rates of mortality during the decade in the different districts of the two provinces.

In Bihar and Orissa as a whole the rate of mortality is higher than in Bengal, except at the reproductive age. This seems

due in part to famine or scarcity, which affects the vitality of the young and the old more than that of adults: it is of rare occurrence in Bengal, but has visited parts of the new Province during the last decade.

598. The Muhammadans are believed to have greater vitality, i.e., greater ability to withstand disease, and therefore a lower death-rate than the Hindus. This seems true for Bihar and Orissa as a whole and for each of its natural divisions: the

Province and Natural Division.	All Religions.	Hindus.	Muhammadans.	Difference (columns 2-4).
<b>BENGAL, BIHAR AND ORISSA.</b>	<b>33.8</b>	<b>35.0</b>	<b>33.8</b>	<b>+ 1.2</b>
<b>Bengal</b> ... ..	<b>32.7</b>	<b>32.4</b>	<b>33.2</b>	<b>- 0.8</b>
West Bengal ... ..	29.4	29.6	29.2	+ 0.1
Central Bengal ... ..	34.2	32.2	32.4	- 2.1
North Bengal ... ..	36.2	34.7	37.3	- 2.6
East Bengal ... ..	30.1	29.7	30.2	- 0.6
<b>Bihar and Orissa</b> ... ..	<b>35.2</b>	<b>36.3</b>	<b>33.5</b>	<b>+ 2.8</b>
North Bihar ... ..	35.4	35.9	32.7	+ 3.1
South Bihar ... ..	41.2	41.2	39.8	+ 1.5
Orissa ... ..	34.5	36.9	28.4	+ 10.4
Chota Nagpur Plateau ... ..	28.0	29.0	28.0	+ 1.0

excess of the Hindu death-rate is especially noticeable in Orissa and North Bihar, which are centres of orthodox Hinduism. In Bengal, on the other hand, and in North Bengal, Central Bengal and East Bengal in particular, the figures do not appear to corroborate this belief, as in these natural divisions the Muhammadans have decidedly a higher average death-rate than the Hindus.

In West Bengal the difference (0.1 per mille) in the death-rate of the two communities is so small that their vitality may be regarded as equal.

599. Turning to the figures for individual districts as given in the Sanitary Commissioner's report for 1910, an abstract of

PROVINCE AND NATURAL DIVISION.	DEATH-RATE PER MILLE OF POPULATION OF 1901.		Excess of Hindu death-rate over Muhammadan death-rate.	NUMBER OF DISTRICTS IN WHICH THE DEATH-RATE WAS HIGHER IN 1910 AMONG—	
	Hindus.	Muhammadans.		Hindus.	Muhammadans.
<b>Bengal</b> ... ..	<b>29.4</b>	<b>33.0</b>	<b>- 3.6</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>17</b>
West Bengal ... ..	26.7	25.1	+ 1.1	3	1
Central Bengal ... ..	28.8	29.8	- 1.2	3	3
North Bengal ... ..	35.1	40.1	- 5.0	—	3
East Bengal ... ..	30.2	31.2	- 1.0	3	0
<b>Bihar and Orissa</b> ... ..	<b>37.6</b>	<b>33.5</b>	<b>+ 4.0</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>4</b>
North Bihar ... ..	38.0	34.1	+ 3.9	5	1
South Bihar ... ..	43.2	38.2	+ 5.0	4	—
Orissa ... ..	31.5	29.2	+ 2.3	3	—
Chota Nagpur Plateau ... ..	31.4	28.8	+ 2.6	3	3

for 1910, an abstract of which is given in the marginal table, we find that in 1910 the Hindus had a higher death-rate than the Muhammadans in every district of South Bihar and Orissa, and in all the districts of North Bihar except Saran. In the Chota Nagpur Plateau, however, they had a lower death-rate in Ranchi, Singhbhum and the Sonthal Parganas, and a

higher incidence of mortality in the remaining districts. The excess of the Hindu death-rate was greatest in Puri, which is visited every year by a large number of Hindus, many of whom die of cholera and other diseases and help to swell the death-roll of the district. In Bengal the Muhammadans had a higher rate of mortality in the majority of districts of Central Bengal and East Bengal and in all the districts of North Bengal. In most of the districts of West Bengal, however, the death-rate was higher among the Hindus both in 1910 and in the rest of the decade.

600. In order to draw any reliable inferences regarding longevity, as evidenced by a large or small proportion of old persons, it is desirable to eliminate persons at the other extreme of life, the relative excess or deficiency of whom necessarily affects the proportion of the aged as well as of adults. Where, for instance, the proportion of children to the total population is large, that of adults must necessarily be smaller and, *a fortiori*, the proportion of old persons smaller still. In order therefore to see how far a high or low proportion of the aged is due to greater or less longevity, the proportion of persons aged 60 and over should be calculated, not on the total population which includes children, but on the number of adults aged 15—40. The ratio so obtained may, after making allowance for the inaccuracy of the age returns, be taken as a fair indication of relative longevity. We must also, however, make allowance for the effects of migration, migrants being mainly persons in the prime of life. The statement in the margin gives comparative figures by sex for each of the main religions and for each natural division. As females have a greater mean

NATURAL DIVISIONS.	PROPORTION OF PERSONS AGED 60 AND OVER PER 100 AGED 15—40.							
	ALL RELIGIONS, 1911.		HINDU.		MUSALMAN.		ANIMIST.	
	Male.	Female.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
<b>BENGAL, BIHAR AND ORISSA.</b>	11	13	11	14.5	11	11	10.2	11.3
<b>Bengal</b> ...	11	12	11	14	10	10	11	11
West Bengal ...	11	12	11	14	11	12	11	14
Central Bengal ...	10	12	10	15	10	12	11	10
North Bengal ...	10	10	10	12	10	10	12	9
East Bengal ...	11	11	12	12	11	9	12	9
<b>Bihar and Orissa</b>	11	15	11	15	13	16	10	12
North Bihar ...	12	17	12	17	11	16	12	12
South Bihar ...	12	17	12	16	10	10	12	10
Orissa ...	11	12	11	14	12	16	9	16
Chota Nagpur Plateau ...	9	12	9	12	10	12	10	12

age and a lower death-rate than males, it might naturally be expected that they would be more long-lived, and that the proportion of the old per 100 adults aged 15—40 would consequently be higher among them than among males. Subsidiary Tables IV-A, V and V-A show that this is really the case—generally in Bengal and almost universally in Bihar and Orissa, though the proportion of aged males in the latter province is artificially raised by the emigration of its adult males. It might be suggested as a possible hypothesis that exaggeration of age is probably more common among females, but that is not a sufficient explanation of the fact that, compared with the other sex, females have a marked excess of old persons.

As regards religions, an apparent exception to this general rule is afforded by the Animists of Central Bengal, North Bengal and East Bengal, among whom old women are relatively less numerous than old men; but in these divisions the Animists are mostly immigrant labourers from Chota Nagpur, who naturally leave their old women at home. As regards localities, the greater longevity of females is common to all divisions except East and North Bengal, where their average duration of life is the same as that of the males. This is mainly the result of religion, for, as will be shown later, the longevity of females is greater among Hindus than among Musalmans, and the latter are in a majority in these two divisions. It is noticeable that it is among the Musalmans and Animists that the females yield place to the males, and not among the Hindus, who represent only 31 and 37 per cent. respectively of the population.

601. In Bengal the average span of life of Musalman and Hindu males is the same except in East Bengal, which is least affected by immigration from outside. Elsewhere,

BY RELIGION.

there is a large influx of adult Hindu males from Bihar and Orissa and the United Provinces, who reduce the proportion of old persons. The returns of religion for 1,350,000 immigrants enumerated in Calcutta and the metropolitan districts show that there are three Hindus to every Muhammadan. Bearing this factor in mind, it may be granted that on the whole the Hindu males have longer lives, though the difference is small. That this is not a

new feature will be seen from the marginal table. The Muhammadans of Bihar and Orissa, and especially of South Bihar, seem to have a longer span of life than their co-religionists in Bengal. The figures for Hindu females are especially interesting, as they show that the Hindu woman's chances of life are better than those enjoyed by the adherents of any other religion whether male or female. This phenomenon is probably due, in part at least,

NATURAL DIVISIONS.	1901.				1891.			
	HINDU.		MUSALMAN.		HINDU.		MUSALMAN.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
<b>BENGAL, BIHAR AND ORISSA.</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>15.5</b>	<b>11.2</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13.4</b>	<b>16.5</b>	<b>13.7</b>	<b>13.3</b>
<b>Bengal</b> ...	<b>12</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>
West Bengal ...	11	15	12	14	11	15	11	14
Central Bengal ...	12	17	11	12	12	18	12	14
North Bengal ...	11	12	10	10	12	14	11	12
East Bengal ...	12	15	11	11	14	17	12	13
<b>Bihar and Orissa</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>18</b>
North Bihar ...	12	17	14	16	12	17	14	17
South Bihar ...	12	17	17	20	14	18	19	21
Orissa ...	11	16	11	14	12	19	12	19
Chota Nagpur Plateau	9	12	10	12	11	14	11	12

to the comparative rarity of widow re-marriage and to the number of virgin widows in the Hindu community, which again is the result of early marriage. Hindu widows, not being allowed to marry again, are not exposed to the dangers of child-birth, and wives may escape them altogether if their husbands die before the marriage is consummated. Moreover, they lead a carefully regulated life, and it is matter of common knowledge among Hindus that their widows are less subject to disease and illness than other women. On the other hand, in Bihar and Orissa, where widow re-marriage is common among the lower classes, the Hindu females appear to have a shorter span of life than the Muhammadan women.

Among Animists the proportion of old persons to adults is lower than in any other religion, from which we may infer that their duration of life is shorter. The difference is slight, and in some divisions they appear at first sight to be longer lived than Hindus.

If, however, we base the calculation on the number of persons aged 40 and over (instead of 60 and over), it will be found that the Animists are inferior to the Hindus in every natural division. The explanation of this apparent anomaly seems to be the greater illiteracy of the Animists, and consequently the greater inaccuracy of their age returns: only 5 per mille of them can read and write. It is more than probable that many Animists who should have been returned as 40 to 60 years of age, were actually returned as 60 and over, so that the number of Animists aged 60 and over

NATURAL DIVISIONS.	PROPORTION OF PERSONS (BOTH SEXES) OVER 40 PER 100 PERSONS AGED 15-40.		
	Hindu.	Animist.	Musalman.
<b>Bengal</b> —	<b>49</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>42</b>
West Bengal	51	46	49
Central Bengal	49	44	46
North Bengal	48	43	41
East Bengal	49	39	41
<b>Bihar and Orissa</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>54</b>
North Bihar	55	43	54
South Bihar	55	46	53
Orissa	54	41	52
Chota Nagpur Plateau	46	44	43

was swelled at the expense of those aged 40—60.

602. From what has already been said, it may be assumed that the difference in the longevity of the people in different localities is largely determined by the extent to

which migration proceeds and by the religion of the population. North Bihar, where there is a high death-rate, has the largest proportion of old persons. The co-existence of a high death-rate and a large proportion of the old seems to be due partly to the migration of adults who have a comparatively small death-rate, and partly to a really longer duration of life. The proportion is least in the Chota Nagpur Plateau, though it has a healthy climate and low birth-rate; but here the short-lived Animists are in greatest strength, and the majority of the Hindus are of the same stock as the Animists.

In North Bengal also the proportion of old persons is small, but the death-rate there is higher than elsewhere in Bengal. In this division therefore it is probably the unhealthy climate that is mainly responsible for the short span of life of the people.

603. One curious feature of the returns of age for different castes has already been alluded to, viz., that the Hinduized members of the aboriginal tribes have greater longevity than the non-Hinduized. Remembering that the degree of literacy,

CASTE OR TRIBE.	PROPORTION OF PERSONS OVER 40 PER 100 AGED 15—40.			
	ANIMIST.		HINDU.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.
<b>Bengal.</b>				
Garo ... ..	51	20	37	36
Munda ... ..	43	24	46	20
Orissa ... ..	53	38	47	27
Santal ... ..	55	41	55	50
Tipera ... ..	51	20	48	27
<b>Bihar and Orissa.</b>				
Bhumij ... ..	42	41	42	60
Kaund ... ..	20	27	45	44
Munda ... ..	44	53	50	55
Pod ... ..	35	33	45	43
Santal ... ..	37	37	55	42

the old among such varied castes as Namasudra, Brahman, Kayasth, Bagdi, Pod, Jogi, etc., is practically the same, viz., 50 or 51 per 100 aged 15—40. The figures for females are however very different, and show that women belonging to castes that have a low status in Hindu society have shorter lives than the males. The figures given in the margin are for Bengal: but the proportions are similar in Bihar and Orissa, where for instance the ratio for Musahar males is 55 and for Musahar females 45.

604. One of the most remarkable features of the returns is the long age enjoyed by Hindu widows. Both in Bengal and in Bihar and Orissa, the number of those aged 60

or more is nearly half the total number of Hindus of that age including both males and females, whether married, unmarried or widowed. If, moreover, we calculate the proportion of widows aged 60 and over on the number of adult widows (*i.e.*, aged 15-40), we find that it is 55 per cent. in Bengal, while in Bihar and Orissa the aged widows actually outnumber those of an adult age. Even after allowing for exaggeration of age, it must be admitted that Hindu widows have exceptionally long lives. This is due to the causes already referred to, viz., that so many escape the dangers of attending child-birth either partially or altogether, and that they lead carefully regulated and sheltered lives. On this point, I may be permitted to quote from a Hindu author,\* who writes:—"It has been remarked, and I believe it is in most cases borne out by facts, that a Hindu widow generally lives to a very great age. Her simple and abstemious habits, her devotional spirit, her scanty meal once a day, her abstinence from food of any kind on the eleventh day of the increase and decrease of the moon, besides other days of close fasting, all contribute to prolong her existence. It is a common expression used by a Hindu widow, 'Shall I ever die? Yama seems to have forgotten me?' If the statistics of the land are consulted, it will assuredly be found that Hindu widows enjoy a longer life than the adult male population, because the latter are subject to irregularities and other adverse contingencies of life, from which the former are almost entirely free. It is not uncommon to see a

\* S. C. Bonn, *The Hindus as they are* (1883), pages 243-44.

Hindu widow of eighty, ninety or a hundred years of age." It is a commonplace of writers to lay stress on the hardships of the life of the Hindu widow—the author just quoted, in fact, says that in the Hindu widow "nature seems to have exemplified the symbol of misery associated with longevity"—but the fact remains that her lot, hard as it may often be, ensures an unusually long span of life.

605. An interesting fact, first pointed out by M. Sundbårg before the International Statistical Institute at Christiania in 1899, may be mentioned here, viz., that in

AGE DISTRIBUTION.

almost all countries the proportion of persons aged 15—50 to the total population is uniformly about half. Emigration tends to reduce the proportion slightly and immigration to increase it, unless the immigrants are married. It is a logical inference that in a progressive community the number in the age group 0—15 is far greater than the number of persons aged

50 and over, while in a stationary population the proportions are more equal. After allowing for the fact that the age statistics of this country are not very accurate, it will be seen that the figures for the two provinces (given in the marginal table) corroborate, to a certain extent, M. Sundbårg's theory and the inference drawn therefrom. Another fact noticed

LOCALITY.	DISTRIBUTION PER 1,000 IN 1901.			Variation per cent. in 1901—1910.
	0—15.	15—50.	50 and over.	
<b>BENGAL, BIHAR AND ORISSA.</b>	<b>404</b>	<b>493</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>5.7</b>
<b>Bengal</b> ... ..	<b>408</b>	<b>497</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>5.0</b>
West Bengal ... ..	365	521	114	7.3
Central Bengal ... ..	365	529	106	4.3
North Bengal ... ..	418	464	99	8.0
East Bengal ... ..	445	474	91	12.1
<b>Bihaar and Orissa</b> ...	<b>402</b>	<b>488</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>5.1</b>
North Bihaar ... ..	391	490	117	1.9
South Bihaar ... ..	362	497	120	0.7
Orissa ... ..	362	489	119	0.9
Chota Nagpur Plateau ...	422	472	92	14.0

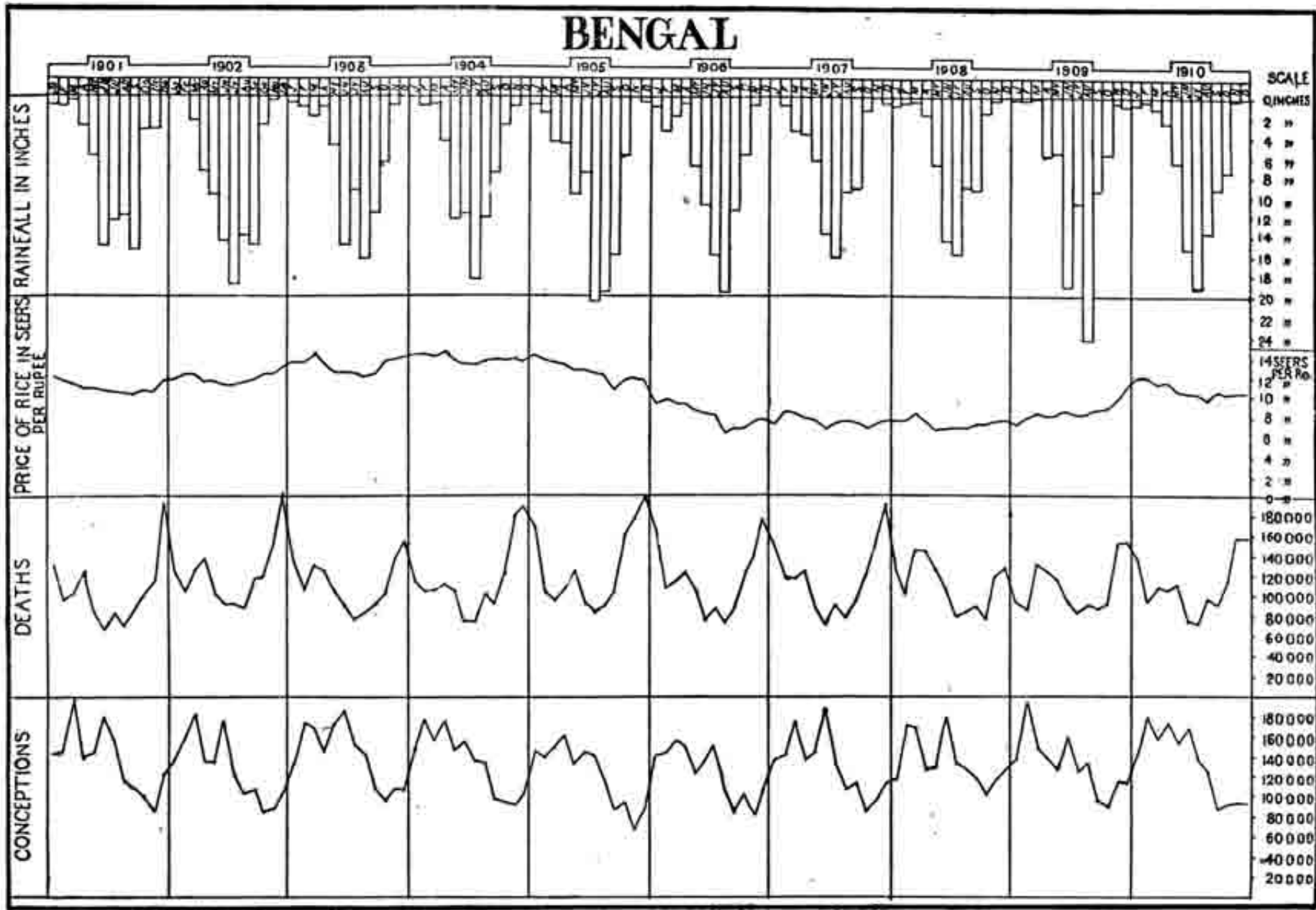
by M. Sundbårg, viz., that the rates of mortality in the age groups 0—15 and 50 and over are much the same, and the inference that variations in the age distribution do not affect the general rate of mortality, do not appear to hold good in this country.

606. The full-page diagrams given in this chapter illustrate some interesting interrelations between the seasons and vital occurrences. These diagrams, it may be explained,

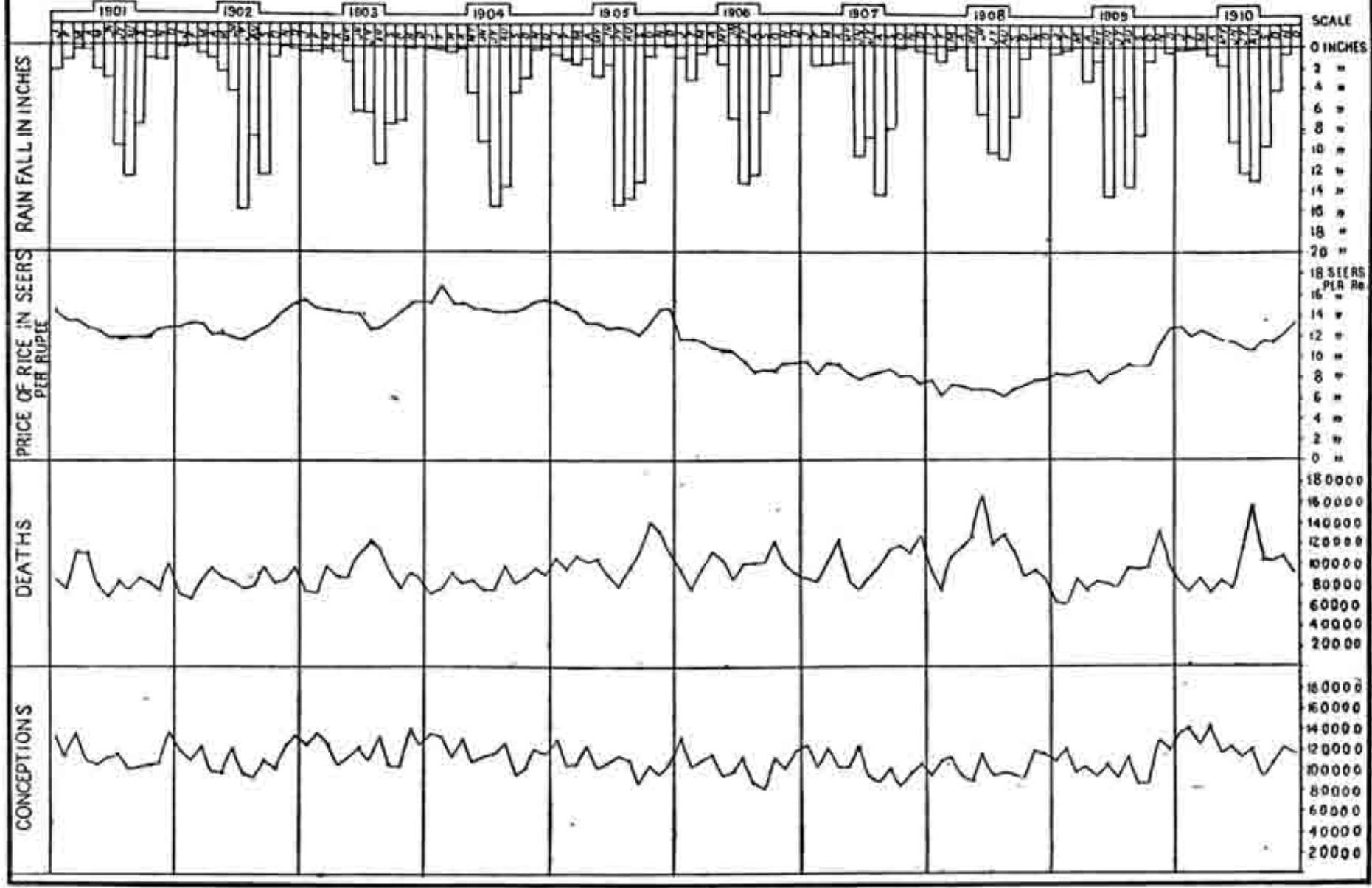
VITAL STATISTICS AND SEASONS.

show the range of prices, the quantity and monthly distribution of rainfall (which directly affect the outturn of the crops), and the rise and the fall of the death-rate and birth-rate in both provinces in the 10 years 1901-1910. The rainfall is shown at the top of the diagrams, the vertical columns representing the quantity in each month from January to December. The curve next to this shows the prices of food in seers per rupee; as prices rise, the curve falls. The third curve shows the number of deaths for the same months as the rainfall and food-prices curves. The bottom curve shows the births occurring in the ninth month later, i.e., with the rainfall, food-price and deaths of January are plotted the births of the following October and so on, so that the curve relates to conceptions and not to actual births.

In Bengal mortality is greatest in December and falls rapidly until February, which marks the culminating point of the people's recovery from the fever season (September to December). The death-rate rises slightly in March and April, owing probably to epidemics of cholera, and then steadily decreases till it reaches the minimum in June or July, when the rains break. After July the mortality rises slowly as the monsoon progresses, but rapidly when the monsoon recedes and the malaria season sets in. Briefly, February, June and July may be regarded as the healthiest, and the early part of the cold weather as the unhealthiest, period of the year. It is in the healthy months that the reproductive forces are most likely to come into play. That this is really the case will be seen from the conception curve, the course of which is the inverse of death curve, i.e., when the mortality curve rises, the conception curve falls, and vice versa. There are two seasons for conceptions—one in February and March and the other in June and July, months which precede and follow the hot weather. The number of conceptions steadily decreases from July to November when the minimum is reached. After November it rapidly rises till it reaches its maximum in



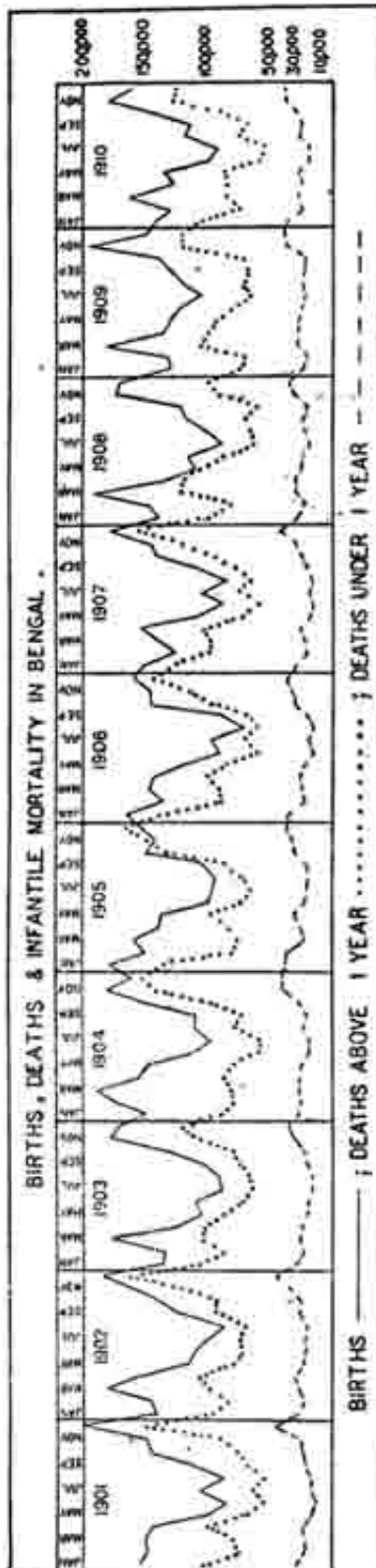
# BIHAR & ORISSA





February or March, the first season of conceptions. It then falls slightly in April or May, to rise again during the second season in June or July.

In Bihar and Orissa fluctuations are smaller but more numerous than in Bengal. Further, the Bengal curves are better defined and follow a more regular monthly course during each year of the decade. This is due to the fact that Bengal is a homogeneous province, while Bihar and Orissa consists of three sub-provinces, which have very little in common and present very marked contrasts. The larger fluctuations in Bengal are also partly due to its larger population. The graphs represent absolute figures, and hence, even if the birth and death-rates were the same in the two provinces, the fluctuations must be in the ratio of their populations, *i.e.*, as 23 to 19. This effect of population may be eliminated if ratios are taken instead of the absolute figures, as in the diagram at the end of the chapter, where the conditions of each natural division are briefly discussed.



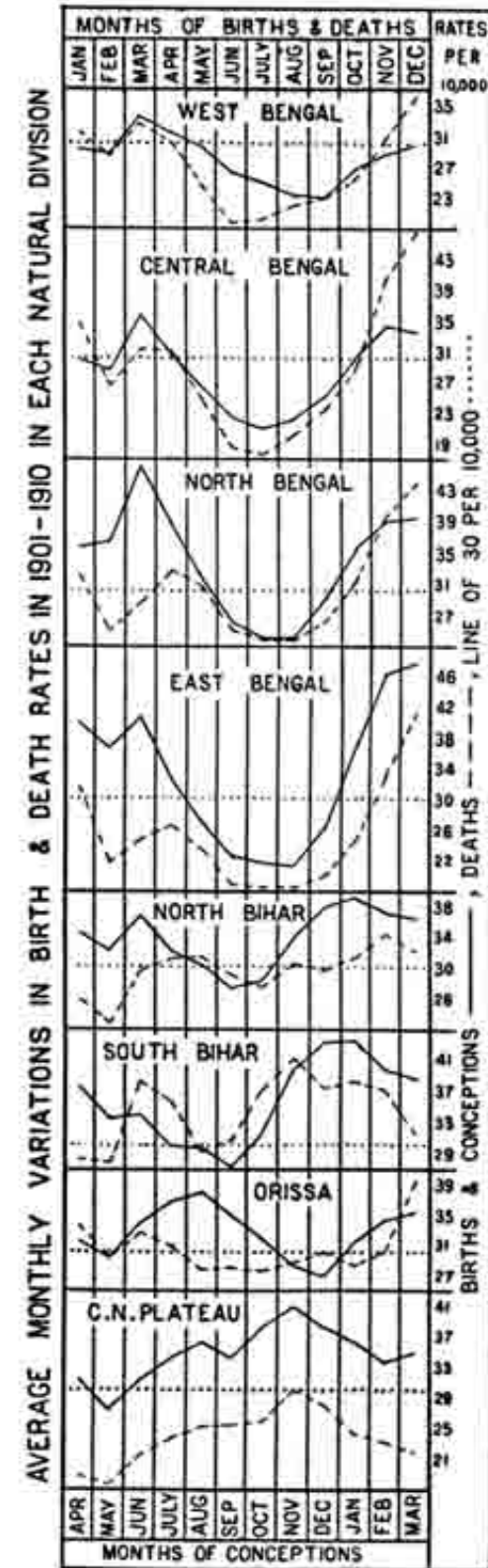
607. Some inter-relations between conceptions, deaths, the price of food-grains and rainfall may be briefly noticed here. In each year the food-grain curve rises (*i.e.*, food-grains become cheaper), shortly after the rainy season, and is at its height in the cold weather. This is only to be expected, for first the early rice and then the winter rice comes into the market. Prices, however, take some time to make their effect felt, and consequently a period of cheapness is not altogether synchronous with an increase of conceptions. The latter are most numerous, not when the price of grains is lowest, but shortly afterwards. In Bengal there is not so close a connection between deaths and prices owing largely to the fever season. The effect of this disturbing factor is that mortality rises steadily as prices fall; after December, however, there is a decrease in mortality accompanying a fall in the range of prices till March or April.

608. If the conception curve is moved forward nine months, so as to convert it into a birth-curve, it will be found that it rises and falls synchronously with the death-curve: in other words, the number of births and deaths increases and decreases simultaneously. At the very moment when death is reducing the number of the living, their vacant places are being filled by new births. *A priori*, it might seem possible that this phenomenon is due to infantile mortality. Deaths among infants under one year of age constitute one-fifth of the total number of deaths, and a very large proportion of infants do not even live a month. The marginal diagram, however, in which deaths under one year and

deaths over one year have been separately plotted with the births, shows that this theory is not tenable. The explanation is, of course, that the birth-rate depends on the conditions obtaining at the time of conception. Conceptions are most numerous in the healthiest months, whereas the periods (9 months later) at which births take place are unhealthy, so that a high birth-rate

is synchronous with a high death-rate. The reverse is equally true, viz., that births are fewest in healthy months, when deaths are fewest, because there are less conceptions in the unhealthy season, nine months earlier. It may perhaps be added that infantile mortality, by shortening the period of suckling, diminishes the intervals of child-bearing,\* and therefore helps to keep up a high birth-rate.

609. In the marginal diagram the average monthly rates of births and deaths in 1901—1910 (and not the absolute numbers) have been plotted for each natural division: the months of births and deaths are placed at the top, and the months of conception at the bottom. The birth and death



curves are much the same in all the divisions of Bengal, and are nearly identical in Central Bengal, North Bengal and East Bengal, which are more homogeneous than West Bengal. The description already given of the movement of the curves for Bengal also applies to its natural divisions; but some differences in detail may be noticed. In East Bengal, which is the healthiest of all the divisions in the Presidency, the death-rate never exceeds the birth-rate, whereas in the other three divisions the rate of mortality exceeds that of birth in the unhealthy months of the year.

Turning to the graphs for Bihar and Orissa, we see that the conception and birth curves for North Bihar and South Bihar correspond closely. What is more striking is that the death curve for South Bihar very closely follows that for Chota Nagpur from June to December, the fever season and the season of recovery being apparently the same. In both cases the maximum death-rate is reached in August, after which mortality steadily decreases till the end of the year. The curves for Bihar Proper (North Bihar and South Bihar) show that there are two seasons for conceptions. One occurs in June, as in Bengal, but the other, which is more important, comes earlier, viz., in January. At this time, be it noted, the winter rice crop has been reaped, and the people being in good condition, their reproductive forces are active. After June the conception curve steadily falls until September, as in Bengal, but then, unlike Bengal, it begins its upward course and goes on rising till it reaches the zenith in January. In North Bihar the death-rate is lowest in February, after which it rises steadily until May. Then it remains fairly constant, but with small fluctuations, till it rises to its maximum height in November. In South Bihar, however, the maxima are reached in March, the culminating point of the plague season, and in August.

\* Newsholme's Vital Statistics, pp. 74-75.

In Orissa the number of conceptions is highest in March and August, *i.e.*, somewhat later than in Bengal, and is at its minimum in May and December. The death-curve, which does not follow the birth-curve so closely as in the other natural divisions, is at its zenith in December, as in Bengal, and then, after a slight fall in February and a rise again in March, goes on falling up to July, after which it begins to rise as in Bengal. In the Chota Nagpur Plateau the birth and death-rates are at a minimum in February. They then rise steadily, and after a slight fall in June or July reach the maximum in August, after which they begin going down until February. In Chota Nagpur, as in East Bengal, the death-rate is always below the birth-rate, which it follows very closely. The reproductive principle shows the greatest strength in November, when it is least active in Bengal.

From the above account it will be seen why the graphs for Bihar and Orissa as a whole, which are only a combination of the dissimilar graphs for heterogeneous natural divisions, are not only ill-defined, but also show numerous small fluctuations, which are otherwise inexplicable.

SUBSIDIARY TABLE I.—AGE DISTRIBUTION OF 100,000 OF EACH SEX BY ANNUAL PERIODS.

AGE.	MALE.			FEMALE.		
	Hindu.	Muslims.	Average.	Hindu.	Muslims.	Average.
	1	2	3	4	5	7
Total	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000
0	2,037	2,069	2,152	2,279	2,424	2,305
1	1,444	1,470	1,525	1,617	1,649	1,594
2	2,461	2,199	2,595	2,601	2,172	2,779
3	2,746	2,401	2,861	2,131	2,405	2,197
4	2,291	2,060	2,678	2,462	2,074	2,735
5	2,407	2,284	2,494	2,371	2,262	2,373
6	2,541	2,017	2,860	2,585	2,754	2,602
7	2,641	2,172	2,728	2,901	2,974	2,814
8	2,162	2,289	2,239	2,752	2,009	2,801
9	2,021	2,264	2,087	2,092	2,022	2,080
10	2,229	2,910	2,852	2,922	2,058	2,980
11	1,229	1,274	1,428	1,412	1,464	1,422
12	2,750	4,192	3,636	2,901	2,728	2,870
13	1,108	1,384	1,155	1,027	1,072	1,043
14	1,226	1,920	1,871	1,612	1,798	1,647
15	2,104	1,225	2,055	1,890	1,529	1,842
16	2,094	2,099	2,062	2,119	2,210	2,135
17	968	948	980	1,009	965	1,071
18	2,212	2,220	2,465	2,444	2,205	2,544
19	2,001	2,022	2,227	2,422	1,029	2,274
20	2,429	2,722	2,327	2,242	4,064	3,882
21	426	724	816	1,092	649	1,055
22	2,421	2,144	2,380	2,220	2,216	2,299
23	942	742	824	809	714	761
24	1,222	1,108	1,291	1,296	1,221	1,287
25	2,099	2,254	4,800	4,249	4,240	4,601
26	1,227	1,108	1,214	1,026	1,171	1,077
27	921	921	929	929	907	931
28	1,244	1,790	1,925	2,014	1,296	1,992
29	512	561	522	709	541	678
30	2,606	4,122	3,329	3,212	3,006	3,175
31	246	402	389	420	262	459
32	2,062	1,942	2,050	1,754	1,220	1,789
33	442	432	450	422	299	401
34	620	604	623	602	420	499
35	2,412	2,647	3,272	2,099	2,642	3,016
36	1,272	1,216	1,280	1,225	1,121	1,231
37	427	426	435	420	240	410
38	910	1,022	930	962	851	862
39	207	221	212	201	202	207
40	4,621	2,968	4,492	4,495	4,274	4,500
41	246	312	259	229	248	321
42	799	899	807	742	724	741
43	144	126	155	220	121	228
44	240	207	255	221	226	236
45	2,277	2,027	2,315	2,290	1,994	2,162
46	294	214	295	242	224	242
47	199	199	198	264	170	247
48	492	527	498	517	472	509
49	154	120	157	290	126	188
50	2,074	2,722	3,014	2,289	2,220	3,288
51	146	146	148	165	127	151
52	295	404	397	429	422	428
53	117	121	116	122	70	112
54	124	140	151	201	162	194
55	954	912	947	1,012	994	1,000
56	249	214	242	229	220	254
57	119	121	118	124	99	126
58	127	171	184	250	226	246
59	82	90	82	99	92	88
60	1,910	2,061	1,927	2,299	2,226	2,797
61	75	111	82	118	122	115
62	177	227	192	247	269	251
63	41	78	48	42	51	60
64	27	20	22	72	22	78
65	291	428	399	552	474	529
66	69	78	71	51	57	52
67	46	22	47	26	20	55
68	71	61	69	84	72	82
69	22	25	24	22	21	30
70	552	571	555	509	522	522
71	29	21	29	21	29	24
72	66	97	72	69	78	71
73	17	12	16	12	12	13
74	12	17	14	10	12	17
75	142	108	146	178	176	178
76	12	11	12	19	17	19
77	11	10	12	19	21	12
78	19	16	18	20	27	29
79	7	14	8	5	11	9
80	244	220	247	226	292	362
81	14	10	13	12	17	14
82	22	24	22	16	29	18
83	4	9	5	4	2	7
84	8	4	7	4	8	5
85	22	45	34	41	29	41
86	7	4	6	4	4	8
87	2	4	3	4	4	6
88	10	4	9	2	8	5
89	44	9	38	4	5	4
90	91	71	87	26	28	63
91	2	6	3	—	2	1
92	2	20	2	—	2	1
93	1	1	1	—	2	1
94	2	1	2	—	4	1
95	11	11	11	10	12	10
96	4	6	5	2	1	3
97	—	—	—	2	2	3
98	2	4	3	2	4	2
99	2	1	2	—	4	2
100	18	22	21	22	26	25

The figures in columns 4 and 7 show the averages for both religions, the figures being combined in proportion to the relative numbers of these religions to the area for which they were compiled, viz., Bengal as constituted at the time of the census.

SUBSIDIARY TABLE II.—AGE DISTRIBUTION OF 10,000 OF EACH SEX IN EACH PROVINCE AND NATURAL DIVISION.

AGE.	1911.		1901.		1891.		1881.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
<b>BENGAL, BIHAR AND ORISSA.</b>								
0-1	310	296	296	291	317	332	282	320
1-2	137	146	150	150	141	152	225	250
2-3	292	310	297	328	292	323	290	322
3-4	313	291	314	321	335	373	351	354
4-5	394	398	393	396	397	319	350	320
5-10	13,81	1,358	1,621	1,490	1,636	1,474	1,354	1,444
10-15	1,209	994	1,247	1,015	1,219	974	1,139	901
15-20	840	890	824	896	818	827	796	765
20-25	789	903	762	894	792	827	711	842
25-30	909	932	896	906	840	894	899	924
30-35	806	777	756	779	808	819	859	836
35-40	637	559	673	551	643	566	619	551
40-45	573	547	596	544	627	609	652	633
45-50	370	326	372	330	365	318	353	316
50-55	267	294	292	409	294	410	409	441
55-60	170	189	169	188	167	169	178	165
60 and over	427	532	449	647	498	606	479	639
Unspecified	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	5
MEAN AGE	24.4	24.5	24.3	24.5	24.0	24.8	24.2	25.2
<b>WEST BENGAL.</b>								
0-5	1,160	1,122	1,196	1,237	1,236	1,312	1,295	1,278
5-10	1,200	1,244	1,297	1,256	1,424	1,306	1,366	1,180
10-15	1,751	968	1,221	860	1,121	894	1,112	850
15-20	951	1,085	990	896	891	807	693	892
20-25	2,145	2,206	2,142	2,120	2,178	2,290	2,290	2,439
25-30	1,894	1,600	1,675	1,692	1,649	1,678	1,692	1,699
30-35	454	591	545	619	620	522	496	646
Unspecified	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	5
MEAN AGE	25.4	25.9	24.8	25.8	24.7	26.1	24.8	26.6
<b>CENTRAL BENGAL.</b>								
0-5	1,165	1,203	1,209	1,207	1,361	1,241	1,229	1,213
5-10	1,290	1,263	1,228	1,240	1,296	1,246	1,234	1,247
10-15	1,122	966	1,159	867	1,122	871	1,074	966
15-20	927	991	954	909	890	894	760	791
20-25	3,511	2,220	2,214	2,142	2,200	2,194	2,250	2,204
25-30	1,264	1,238	1,049	1,056	1,047	1,099	1,079	1,070
30-35	473	459	479	606	493	628	519	705
Unspecified	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	5
MEAN AGE	25.5	25.7	25.7	25.5	24.9	25.7	25.7	26.2
<b>NORTH BENGAL.</b>								
0-5	1,296	1,616	1,260	1,663	1,449	1,643	1,296	1,527
5-10	1,662	1,709	1,634	1,642	1,674	1,316	1,619	1,632
10-15	1,090	894	1,127	906	1,069	842	1,100	861
15-20	792	868	779	923	786	885	715	814
20-25	2,298	2,171	2,215	2,194	2,192	2,211	2,100	2,178
25-30	1,461	1,229	1,470	1,291	1,315	1,352	1,266	1,470
30-35	490	426	412	459	446	529	494	614
Unspecified	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	5
MEAN AGE	24.2	25.6	23.8	23.7	24.7	23.8	24.3	24.7
<b>EAST BENGAL.</b>								
0-5	1,473	1,600	1,452	1,584	1,341	1,679	1,341	1,630
5-10	1,234	1,296	1,602	1,643	1,392	1,394	1,374	1,317
10-15	1,294	1,014	1,292	1,091	1,232	1,002	1,169	942
15-20	860	1,039	899	1,003	827	864	789	868
20-25	3,981	2,012	2,951	2,271	2,266	2,261	2,269	2,016
25-30	1,254	1,198	1,263	1,225	1,412	1,204	1,473	1,409
30-35	426	430	464	453	465	544	517	610
Unspecified	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	5
MEAN AGE	23.6	23.3	23.3	22.8	22.5	23.4	23.6	24.2
<b>NORTH BIHAR.</b>								
0-5	1,298	1,210	1,274	1,200	1,296	1,274	1,379	1,449
5-10	1,679	1,496	1,643	1,453	1,616	1,606	1,672	1,457
10-15	1,211	942	1,261	967	1,214	967	1,144	892
15-20	798	692	824	749	764	640	718	643
20-25	3,053	2,222	2,909	2,221	2,961	2,196	2,084	2,270
25-30	1,526	1,228	1,599	1,619	1,654	1,642	1,642	1,544
30-35	492	661	491	642	492	642	460	623
Unspecified	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	5
MEAN AGE	25.0	26.2	24.4	25.7	24.6	25.7	24.4	25.5
<b>SOUTH BIHAR.</b>								
0-5	1,292	1,220	1,269	1,298	1,301	1,362	1,442	1,306
5-10	1,515	1,411	1,372	1,281	1,326	1,306	1,472	1,320
10-15	1,197	947	1,219	975	1,262	1,000	1,177	967
15-20	742	672	732	726	769	600	696	624
20-25	2,150	2,242	2,127	2,224	2,202	2,140	2,024	2,216
25-30	1,628	1,629	1,647	1,696	1,672	1,699	1,664	1,704
30-35	496	668	511	702	518	704	525	726
Unspecified	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	5
MEAN AGE	25.3	26.3	25.0	26.5	24.7	26.7	24.9	26.3

SUBSIDIARY TABLE II.—AGE DISTRIBUTION OF 10,000 OF EACH SEX IN EACH PROVINCE AND NATURAL DIVISION—concluded.

AGE	1911		1901		1891		1881	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
<b>ORISSA.</b>								
0-5	1,352	1,314	1,308	1,300	1,248	1,268	1,447	1,482
5-10	1,434	1,322	1,318	1,347	1,486	1,348	1,361	1,416
10-15	1,217	1,122	1,272	1,093	1,270	1,164	1,148	978
15-20	878	834	852	841	1,070	947	800	719
20-25	3,116	3,198	3,048	3,032	3,862	3,804	3,122	3,062
25-30	1,551	1,672	1,562	1,747	1,614	1,649	1,461	1,420
30-35	450	612	427	644	449	700	427	724
35-40	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	8
40-45	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45-50	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
50-55	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55-60	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
60 and over	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Unspecified	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
MEAN AGE	24.9	26.1	24.4	25.9	24.1	25.8	23.7	25.7
<b>CHOTA NAGPUR PLAYSAT.</b>								
0-5	1,470	1,531	1,418	1,524	1,494	1,600	1,568	1,718
5-10	1,664	1,616	1,600	1,620	1,770	1,648	1,771	1,694
10-15	1,292	1,092	1,382	1,144	1,272	1,120	1,316	961
15-20	844	834	894	897	922	814	734	728
20-25	3,072	3,096	3,092	3,069	3,762	3,941	3,346	3,090
25-30	1,350	1,341	1,320	1,326	1,396	1,324	1,361	1,322
30-35	361	476	327	470	362	494	360	502
35-40	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	8
40-45	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45-50	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
50-55	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55-60	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
60 and over	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Unspecified	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
MEAN AGE	23.1	23.6	22.6	23.1	22.4	23.1	22.6	23.0

AGE	BENGAL.		BIHAR AND ORISSA.		AGE	BENGAL.		BIHAR AND ORISSA.	
	1911.		1911.			1911.		1911.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.		Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
0-1	305	296	225	227	30-35	792	719	826	844
1-2	142	142	130	131	35-40	665	516	644	609
2-3	297	241	262	270	40-45	571	517	576	587
3-4	309	359	316	342	45-50	270	302	362	349
4-5	291	212	299	299	50-55	225	263	292	407
5-10	1,522	1,272	1,592	1,491	55-60	187	184	174	146
10-15	1,192	961	1,241	1,059	60 and over	420	490	445	600
15-20	867	1,011	806	781	MEAN AGE	24.4	23.7	24.4	25.4
20-25	745	948	729	861					
25-30	924	936	976	926					

SUBSIDIARY TABLE III.—AGE DISTRIBUTION OF 10,000 OF EACH SEX IN EACH MAIN RELIGION.

PART I.

BENGAL, BIHAR AND ORISSA.

AGE.	1911.		1901.		1891.		1881.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
<b>HINDU.</b>								
0-5	1,280	1,344	1,322	1,340	1,224	1,296	1,367	1,441
5-10	1,478	1,490	1,433	1,400	1,482	1,419	1,494	1,367
10-15	1,183	974	1,218	994	1,202	966	1,118	891
15-20	845	950	871	871	830	809	771	742
20-40	2,221	2,230	2,143	2,147	2,066	2,150	2,152	2,224
40-60	1,546	1,549	1,415	1,408	1,432	1,409	1,409	1,420
60 and over	415	398	465	422	478	451	404	470
Unspecified	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	5
MEAN AGE	25.0	25.4	24.6	25.5	24.6	25.6	24.6	25.8
<b>MUSLIMAN.</b>								
0-5	1,467	1,601	1,451	1,572	1,550	1,603	1,527	1,619
5-10	1,692	1,696	1,661	1,628	1,645	1,654	1,648	1,624
10-15	1,242	1,029	1,253	1,032	1,230	992	1,171	913
15-20	829	969	822	942	791	891	729	813
20-40	2,298	2,074	2,265	2,054	2,008	2,059	2,062	2,100
40-60	1,857	1,229	1,292	1,294	1,422	1,224	1,474	1,426
60 and over	412	438	425	477	448	327	475	369
Unspecified	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	5
MEAN AGE	23.4	22.6	23.1	23.0	23.2	23.5	23.6	24.3
<b>CHRISTIAN.</b>								
0-5	1,229	1,436	1,268	1,546	1,509	1,674	1,412	1,608
5-10	1,497	1,574	1,478	1,585	1,511	1,579	1,360	1,502
10-15	1,321	1,210	1,242	1,247	1,212	1,223	1,098	1,056
15-20	814	871	827	812	804	876	808	815
20-40	2,166	2,019	2,174	2,062	2,078	2,073	2,500	2,115
40-60	1,227	1,264	1,272	1,293	1,244	1,226	1,370	1,227
60 and over	247	420	280	425	262	428	329	301
Unspecified	...	...	...	...	...	...	12	12
MEAN AGE	23.0	22.7	23.1	22.7	22.6	22.5	23.6	23.3
<b>ASIATIC.</b>								
0-5	1,372	1,654	1,377	1,613	1,629	1,720	...	...
5-10	1,756	1,696	1,616	1,732	1,698	1,767	...	...
10-15	1,201	1,134	1,432	1,212	1,412	1,196	...	...
15-20	840	904	860	914	818	859	Not available.	...
20-40	2,227	2,072	2,080	2,061	2,424	2,707	...	...
40-60	1,215	1,219	1,294	1,220	1,300	1,224	...	...
60 and over	278	428	269	429	402	472	...	...
MEAN AGE	22.6	22.6	21.9	22.2	21.8	22.2	...	...

PART II.

CENSUS OF 1911.

AGE.	HINDU.		MUSLIMAN.		CHRISTIAN.		SIKHIST.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
<b>BENGAL.</b>								
0-5	1,187	1,248	1,476	1,621	1,172	1,291	1,222	1,022
5-10	1,356	1,411	1,690	1,706	1,191	1,247	1,691	1,726
10-15	1,119	922	1,241	1,017	1,061	1,111	1,142	1,029
15-20	802	1,017	830	1,000	810	896	748	822
20-40	2,269	2,206	2,012	2,049	2,202	2,409	2,269	2,119
40-60	1,602	1,516	1,229	1,181	1,494	1,305	1,681	1,092
60 and over	464	470	602	406	526	446	427	416
MEAN AGE	25.6	25.3	23.3	22.4	25.4	24.1	23.6	22.0
<b>BIHAR AND ORISSA.</b>								
0-5	1,210	1,245	1,402	1,414	1,714	1,744	1,267	1,622
5-10	1,642	1,574	1,718	1,542	1,620	1,674	1,774	1,698
10-15	1,229	1,000	1,255	989	1,429	1,244	1,242	1,162
15-20	806	746	764	697	814	818	865	804
20-40	2,117	2,227	2,097	2,224	2,779	2,761	2,706	2,626
40-60	1,528	1,567	1,474	1,512	1,245	1,244	1,270	1,250
60 and over	448	611	499	629	521	417	562	442
MEAN AGE	24.8	25.6	24.2	25.4	21.8	22.1	22.1	22.7

SUBSIDIARY TABLE IV.—AGE DISTRIBUTION OF 1,000 OF EACH SEX IN CERTAIN CASTES.

CASTE.	Locality.	NUMBER PER MILLE MALES AGED.					NUMBER PER MILLE FEMALES AGED.				
		0-5	5-17	15-18	19-40	40 and over.	0-5	5-15	15-18	19-40	40 and over.
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
AGARWALA (Hindu)	Bengal	84	89	51	275	278	91	118	57	294	272
	Bihar and Orissa	122	185	70	267	239	104	164	44	432	265
AJLAF (Muslim)	Bengal	131	218	71	291	199	157	206	54	411	169
	Bihar and Orissa	133	159	81	433	194	143	157	68	498	213
ANGLO-INDIAN (Christian)	Bihar and Orissa	171	178	91	447	163	144	157	77	461	159
BABHAN (Hindu)	Bihar and Orissa	908	180	66	408	530	110	173	45	294	274
BAGFI (Hindu)	Bengal	128	160	77	412	268	129	164	64	428	217
BAIDYA (Hindu)	Bengal	127	192	78	397	198	144	190	57	367	217
	Bihar and Orissa	107	163	69	404	257	96	129	60	418	208
BAIHANAB (Hindu)	Bihar and Orissa	116	214	59	410	201	176	103	46	409	226
BANIYA (Hindu)	Bihar and Orissa	145	209	71	366	214	121	197	60	365	247
BARAI (Hindu)	Bengal	126	184	75	397	208	149	160	63	412	186
	Bihar and Orissa	140	222	89	284	203	136	198	57	398	218
BARHI (Hindu)	Bengal	129	212	103	269	164	129	168	62	407	197
BAURI (Hindu)	Bihar and Orissa	137	200	82	289	192	147	183	78	411	190
	Bengal	169	144	90	396	267	104	131	54	406	243
BHOTTA (Buddhist)	Bengal	128	171	67	423	211	156	160	64	419	179
BHUIYA (Hindu)	Bihar and Orissa	141	221	74	379	175	168	169	70	401	178
	Bengal	123	165	66	409	219	126	131	54	424	208
BHUNMALI (Hindu)	Bengal	128	208	69	414	187	146	192	61	406	199
	Bihar and Orissa	118	188	103	407	177	142	162	91	346	219
BHUMIJ (Aristocrat)	Bihar and Orissa	145	249	78	374	197	150	228	30	407	160
BHUMIJ (Aristocrat)	Bengal	112	167	71	433	221	123	173	63	403	230
BRABMAN (Hindu)	Bihar and Orissa	114	184	72	408	223	119	171	56	396	256
BRABMO (Brahmo)	Bengal	101	179	85	491	214	44	162	113	475	194
CHAKMA (Hindu)	Bengal	149	224	79	354	193	128	228	76	367	140
	Bengal	82	116	60	271	221	124	168	50	465	187
CHAMAR (Hindu)	Bihar and Orissa	145	224	69	267	182	124	160	34	401	204
	Bihar and Orissa	127	199	79	298	200	131	182	60	282	218
CHARA (Hindu)	Bengal	17	19	8	696	358	129	267	—	240	164
CHINPANG (Confucian)	Bengal	25	27	14	734	181	66	98	21	461	226
CHINKAR (Buddhist)	Bengal	130	220	59	381	210	127	189	48	403	222
CHANGK (Hindu)	Bengal	119	160	76	422	204	125	184	49	430	197
	Bihar and Orissa	123	211	71	268	195	133	190	61	404	211
DHUNIA (Hindu)	Bihar and Orissa	146	242	83	323	194	143	207	49	367	215
	Bengal	110	177	78	423	210	119	146	74	429	210
DOM (Hindu)	Bihar and Orissa	241	211	90	343	173	145	207	73	367	196
DUPADH (Hindu)	Bengal	54	77	49	267	224	92	118	36	463	276
EUROPEANS AND ALLIED RACES (Christian)	Bengal	80	47	26	624	213	106	107	26	510	231
	Bihar and Orissa	92	89	15	294	224	124	102	29	511	294
GANDHABANIK (Hindu)	Bengal	118	168	69	420	227	142	163	64	420	211
	Bengal	166	229	67	227	181	183	222	64	416	216
GARO (Aristocrat)	Bengal	170	188	43	260	229	123	202	46	440	167
GARA (Hindu)	Bihar and Orissa	150	200	80	296	192	123	178	66	405	221
GOALA (Hindu)	Bengal	100	146	68	469	223	123	162	66	414	233
	Bihar and Orissa	126	212	64	292	202	133	196	27	386	216
GOLO (Hindu)	Bihar and Orissa	167	210	79	332	112	173	200	64	299	172
GURUNG (Hindu)	Bengal	127	194	79	429	180	133	187	70	409	196
	Bengal	127	174	98	408	182	140	192	70	414	224
INDIAN CHRISTIAN	Bihar and Orissa	174	210	110	351	185	175	196	102	363	205
	Bengal	129	178	72	422	209	122	176	61	418	210
HAJJAM and NATTY (Hindu)	Bihar and Orissa	126	219	75	360	192	126	188	59	400	217
	Bengal	115	197	100	402	187	126	169	91	423	196
HAJJAM (Muslim)	Bihar and Orissa	147	211	63	337	223	136	187	49	397	226
	Bengal	128	189	72	411	206	124	175	60	420	197
HARI (Hindu)	Bihar and Orissa	142	219	73	379	182	124	214	27	397	166
	Bengal	124	191	72	408	208	124	189	64	423	199
JOOI (Hindu)	Bengal	123	169	74	424	190	142	187	63	417	199
JOLAHA (Muslim)	Bihar and Orissa	126	223	72	245	191	146	201	26	365	210
KAJAR (Hindu)	Bengal	21	36	61	418	224	98	97	97	477	241
	Bihar and Orissa	129	212	71	379	196	129	171	51	406	242
KAIRATTA (Unspecified Hindu)	Bengal	109	180	100	465	210	91	169	62	422	222
KAIRATTA JALIYA (Hindu)	Bengal	122	162	74	417	206	129	178	63	427	162
KAIRATTA CHARI (Hindu)	Bengal	128	178	80	413	202	124	172	62	420	208
KALWAR (Hindu)	Bihar and Orissa	120	214	60	387	204	132	184	21	384	228
	Bengal	118	169	76	424	213	122	169	66	418	215
KAMAR (Hindu)	Bihar and Orissa	122	182	78	409	206	119	179	63	412	222
KANDH (Aristocrat)	Bihar and Orissa	120	209	67	417	181	164	194	61	420	261
KANDH (Hindu)	Bihar and Orissa	140	200	67	412	176	124	180	62	420	195
KANDU (Hindu)	Bihar and Orissa	125	217	68	382	198	126	184	49	398	223
KAORA (Hindu)	Bengal	78	115	67	515	222	77	91	72	222	227
KAPALI (Hindu)	Bengal	149	188	70	399	191	142	192	56	399	199
KARAN (Hindu)	Bihar and Orissa	109	186	77	411	222	104	172	53	383	267
	Bengal	121	174	72	418	212	129	177	57	404	225
KAYASTH (Hindu)	Bihar and Orissa	112	178	82	401	240	116	173	30	399	204
KRWAT (Hindu)	Bihar and Orissa	122	198	75	404	192	120	190	62	405	214
KHAMBU AND JIMDAR (Hindu)	Bengal	127	169	72	420	206	149	164	63	417	187
	Bengal	24	22	29	620	242	91	60	56	497	297
KHANDAIT (Hindu)	Bihar and Orissa	123	197	64	400	194	119	176	67	402	224
	Bihar and Orissa	170	242	99	326	192	165	226	70	383	176
KHAR (Aristocrat)	Bengal	129	186	68	423	172	124	198	73	406	163
	Bengal	52	56	46	609	224	88	104	63	424	260
KHATRI (Hindu)	Bengal	124	222	80	364	190	166	202	77	395	190
KOCH (Hindu)	Bengal	48	44	24	656	216	105	105	65	268	222
	Bihar and Orissa	129	201	68	392	212	126	190	52	400	221
KUKI (Hindu)	Bengal	171	198	67	396	170	166	198	26	429	189
KULU (Muslim)	Bengal	14.	224	63	368	174	126	209	57	428	140
	Bengal	121	175	74	418	212	127	171	60	419	213
KUMBAR (Hindu)	Bihar and Orissa	127	208	75	381	196	144	200	72	367	196



SUBSIDIARY TABLE IV.—AGE DISTRIBUTION OF 1,000 OF EACH SEX IN CERTAIN CASTES—concluded.

CASTE.	Locality.	NUMBER PER THOUSAND MALES AGED.					NUMBER PER THOUSAND FEMALES AGED.				
		0-4.	5-12.	13-18.	19-40.	40 and over.	0-4.	5-12.	13-18.	19-40.	40 and over.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
KUNJRA (Musliman)	Bihar and Orissa	154	242	96	349	199	140	206	50	399	312
KURMI (Hindu)	Bengal	120	185	80	431	194	155	199	66	416	194
	Bihar and Orissa	100	178	83	402	217	156	143	69	401	221
LEI CHA (Christian)	Bengal	147	214	74	437	139	171	190	90	343	187
LEI CHA (Hinduis)	Bengal	98	166	63	409	264	204	143	55	407	265
LOHAR (Hindu)	Bihar and Orissa	146	216	79	373	136	147	190	56	336	209
MAGH (Hinduis)	Bengal	146	217	78	365	196	156	197	66	408	186
MALLAH (Hindu)	Bihar and Orissa	163	250	69	345	206	139	176	40	404	243
MALD (Hindu)	Bengal	121	172	66	413	227	156	167	61	419	219
MAL PAHARIA (Hindu)	Bihar and Orissa	162	253	91	354	170	169	215	70	376	190
MAYRA (Hindu)	Bengal	52	79	46	371	250	119	127	74	443	283
MCHH (Animist)	Bengal	156	212	63	329	227	260	231	144	296	80
MCHH (Hindu)	Bengal	122	163	76	399	240	171	182	42	426	178
MOOHAI (Musliman)	Bengal	89	66	78	543	211	106	88	62	505	249
MUCHI (Hindu)	Bengal	121	184	71	431	199	143	184	68	422	183
MUNDA (Animist)	Bengal	136	189	52	432	183	196	183	54	454	110
	Bihar and Orissa	160	214	62	373	184	161	211	74	361	192
MUNDA (Hindu)	Bengal	123	184	60	394	198	179	225	56	428	109
MURMI (Hinduis)	Bihar and Orissa	160	198	75	365	194	139	193	71	366	211
MUSAHAR (Hindu)	Bengal	143	190	64	412	171	127	199	65	398	301
NAMAHUDLA (Hindu)	Bihar and Orissa	126	234	68	365	199	150	221	52	397	190
NUNIYA (Hindu)	Bengal	136	193	71	399	201	145	166	58	424	187
	Bihar and Orissa	143	221	74	366	193	143	186	48	400	223
OBAON (Animist)	Bengal	169	169	55	389	200	173	204	59	448	116
	Bihar and Orissa	194	204	70	276	150	156	176	38	443	253
OBAON (Hindu)	Bengal	147	184	59	416	194	269	194	69	449	119
PAN (Animist)	Bihar and Orissa	179	221	74	334	173	192	203	67	366	171
PAN (Hindu)	Bihar and Orissa	144	222	78	414	144	158	219	50	425	142
PATMAN (Musliman)	Bengal	142	229	79	386	183	148	214	61	404	172
	Bihar and Orissa	105	166	77	447	203	150	181	63	424	189
	Bengal	134	221	69	369	207	181	156	62	393	239
PATNI (Hindu)	Bengal	110	169	58	444	229	190	159	60	437	220
POD (Hindu)	Bengal	148	210	73	379	190	166	199	66	401	196
RAJBANSI (Hindu)	Bengal	133	196	65	397	207	139	199	51	416	172
RAJPOT (Hindu)	Bengal	84	119	94	516	217	113	172	76	421	216
RAJWAR (Hindu)	Bihar and Orissa	110	185	69	406	220	114	177	48	392	271
	Bihar and Orissa	134	224	72	354	209	133	193	63	406	205
RAUNIAR (Hindu)	Bihar and Orissa	138	216	72	381	195	133	204	60	334	227
SADGOP (Hindu)	Bengal	111	162	79	416	230	116	127	67	410	250
SALIYAD (Musliman)	Bengal	120	172	74	429	206	123	183	66	413	203
	Bihar and Orissa	123	213	71	365	223	121	187	36	399	237
SANTAL (Animist)	Bengal	152	224	75	369	187	163	213	67	394	181
	Bihar and Orissa	108	223	80	367	184	194	202	103	371	139
SANTAL (Hindu)	Bengal	148	212	71	376	194	161	206	66	411	137
	Bihar and Orissa	141	189	100	361	198	123	194	122	398	184
SONAR (Hindu)	Bengal	94	110	70	448	273	87	119	48	501	243
	Bihar and Orissa	134	216	67	363	204	136	183	52	400	225
SUBARNABANIK (Hindu)	Bengal	100	110	75	460	253	103	118	66	418	234
SUDHA (Hindu)	Bengal	139	203	62	373	205	139	177	60	417	223
SUNRI (Hindu)	Bengal	114	174	84	395	243	180	190	71	364	224
SUTRADHAR (Hindu)	Bihar and Orissa	145	212	74	370	194	134	199	63	391	219
	Bengal	118	183	71	413	213	123	190	64	420	208
TANTI AND TATWA (Hindu)	Bengal	116	155	73	439	214	177	183	66	418	226
	Bihar and Orissa	138	217	71	369	205	123	168	38	400	229
TELI AND TYLI (Hindu)	Bengal	112	161	79	431	216	151	168	66	418	239
	Bihar and Orissa	127	213	69	368	193	137	193	69	396	216
TIPARA (Animist)	Bengal	160	210	62	345	194	156	215	49	406	184
TIPARA (Hindu)	Bengal	166	243	60	349	173	148	230	68	379	189
TIYAR (Hindu)	Bengal	137	195	89	378	213	169	177	87	386	171
	Bihar and Orissa	145	222	86	378	202	161	200	46	401	192

SUBSIDIARY TABLE IV-A.—PROPORTION OF CHILDREN UNDER 12 AND OF PERSONS OVER 40 TO THOSE AGED 15—40; ALSO OF MARRIED FEMALES AGED 15—40 PER 100 FEMALES.

CASTES.	PROPORTION OF CHILDREN, BOTH SEXES PER 100.		PROPORTION OF PERSONS OVER 40 PER 100 AGED 15—40.		Number of married females aged 15—40 per 100 females of all ages.
	Persons aged 15—40.	Married females aged 15—40.	Male.	Female.	
1	2	3	4	5	6
<b>BENGAL.</b>					
Bardhi ... ..	71	192	51	51	22
Baidya ... ..	83	208	50	52	22
Bairahab and Bairagj ... ..	60	184	54	72	27
Bhumi ... ..	62	186	40	60	22
Brahman ... ..	69	199	51	57	21
Chamar ... ..	46	162	42	40	46
Goan ... ..	61	201	49	36	29
Hajjam and Napti (Hindu) ... ..	72	190	49	50	24
Jati and Jati ... ..	77	196	51	47	22
Kalbaria (Chad or Mahishya) ... ..	74	200	49	50	21
Kalbaria (Jatta) ... ..	74	198	49	62	22
Kalbaria (unspecified) ... ..	74	200	49	49	21
Kayasth ... ..	73	201	51	56	21
Namasudra ... ..	80	221	50	44	30
Pod ... ..	53	236	50	42	21
Rajbans ... ..	66	214	52	42	22
Rajput (Chatri) ... ..	49	195	47	51	20
Badgop ... ..	64	187	50	51	29
Santal (Hindu) ... ..	92	214	52	38	24
Santal (Animist) ... ..	100	226	52	41	22
Suri ... ..	67	210	54	45	27
Tanti and Tawa ... ..	62	190	49	54	21
Tel and Tili ... ..	62	182	50	57	20
<b>BIHAR AND ORISSA.</b>					
Babhan (Bihar Brahman) ... ..	72	193	50	49	21
Bhojya ... ..	62	212	46	45	22
Brahman ... ..	72	194	50	54	26
Chamar ... ..	62	190	51	51	22
Chas ... ..	62	191	51	50	22
Dhanuk ... ..	60	161	50	50	22
Gaur ... ..	79	170	49	57	24
Gonia ... ..	64	194	51	54	24
Jatba ... ..	100	205	50	54	24
Kahar ... ..	62	174	52	60	25
Khandait ... ..	77	196	49	55	22
Kotri ... ..	62	179	54	55	24
Kurmi ... ..	76	199	54	55	22
Munda (Animist) ... ..	102	265	54	52	26
Munhar ... ..	97	207	55	45	25
Orao (Animist) ... ..	108	242	60	74	23
Rajput ... ..	76	217	54	69	26
Santal (Hindu) ... ..	99	212	55	42	29
Santal (Animist) ... ..	108	266	57	57	30
Tanti and Tawa ... ..	66	182	56	57	24
Tel and Tili ... ..	67	193	50	54	24

SUBSIDIARY TABLE V.—PROPORTION OF CHILDREN UNDER 10 AND OF PERSONS OVER 60 TO THOSE AGED 15—40; ALSO OF MARRIED FEMALES AGED 15—40 PER 100 FEMALES.

DISTRICT AND NATURAL DIVISION.	PROPORTION OF CHILDREN BOTH SEXES PER 100.						PROPORTION OF PERSONS OVER 60 PER 100 AGED 15—40.						NUMBER OF MARRIED FEMALES A 100 FEMALES OF ALL AGES.		
	PERSONS AGED 15—40.			MARRIED FEMALES AGED 15—40.			1911.		1901.		1891.		1911.	1901.	1891.
	1911.	1901.	1891.	1911.	1901.	1891.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	1911.	1901.	1891.
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
<b>BENGAL, BIHAR AND ORISSA.</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>177</b>	<b>174</b>	<b>181</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>33</b>
<b>BENGAL</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>181</b>	<b>182</b>	<b>187</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>32</b>
WEST BENGAL	61	64	64	157	163	167	11	13	11	15	11	15	33	32	31
Burdwan	39	60	50	147	157	157	11	14	11	16	10	16	33	31	31
Birbhum	49	72	99	167	172	169	12	14	12	16	12	18	34	32	32
Bankura	67	74	50	162	182	180	11	14	12	16	10	14	32	31	31
Midnapore	41	43	43	158	161	168	10	12	10	13	10	13	33	33	33
Hooahy	46	54	60	152	148	164	11	15	11	16	12	16	32	31	32
Howrah	37	51	69	150	166	184	10	14	10	15	12	17	33	32	31
CENTRAL BENGAL	60	64	68	167	174	181	10	13	11	15	12	16	33	32	31
24 Parganas	63	67	71	170	176	180	11	12	12	13	13	14	34	32	32
Cuttack	36	27	27	132	120	120	6	14	7	16	7	14	34	32	29
Kulin	68	74	79	171	183	180	11	12	12	13	14	14	34	31	30
Murshidabad	74	78	74	183	191	188	11	13	12	17	12	19	33	30	30
Jessore	62	64	71	161	163	177	10	11	11	13	12	13	33	32	32
NORTH BENGAL	78	77	77	195	191	190	10	10	10	11	12	13	34	34	33
Bajshahi	75	78	78	181	182	176	9	11	9	11	10	12	35	34	35
Dinajpur	81	79	78	204	191	187	9	8	9	9	10	10	34	36	35
Jalpaiguri	70	70	72	184	176	180	10	8	11	10	11	12	36	34	34
Darjeeling	61	59	56	179	160	166	9	11	8	10	9	10	33	34	33
Rangpur	69	75	72	190	192	187	11	10	11	11	11	12	34	34	33
Boota	86	84	83	202	192	192	10	9	9	11	11	12	35	35	35
Palna	77	82	83	194	192	199	10	12	12	13	14	16	34	33	32
Maha	85	78	83	205	190	200	10	13	11	14	11	17	32	31	31
Cooch Bihar	72	72	75	200	212	210	11	10	11	10	14	13	31	30	30
EAST BENGAL	81	81	84	190	191	197	11	11	12	12	13	14	34	33	33
Khulna	75	71	75	187	185	194	12	11	12	13	13	14	34	33	33
Barua	82	82	88	199	190	200	13	12	13	13	14	15	34	33	33
Myrinsingh	88	82	82	204	199	206	11	10	10	11	12	14	34	34	33
Fardpur	79	79	82	181	181	192	12	13	13	14	14	14	34	32	32
Backergunge	72	74	78	174	172	185	10	10	12	12	12	13	33	33	34
Tippura	82	84	83	189	197	199	10	8	12	10	12	11	33	34	34
Nondhal	98	98	96	202	201	204	12	9	14	13	15	17	34	34	34
Chittagong	84	90	83	182	195	201	11	11	12	14	13	16	34	32	32
Chittagong Hill Tracts	75	75	...	209	203	...	12	10	12	11	...	...	32	32	...
Hill Tippera	77	77	...	190	196	...	10	9	10	9	...	...	32	35	...
<b>BIHAR AND ORISSA</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>164</b>	<b>173</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>33</b>
<b>NORTH BIHAR</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>164</b>	<b>162</b>	<b>168</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>34</b>
Patna	73	72	79	159	152	162	15	19	12	19	16	20	33	33	33
Champaran	69	67	72	157	157	165	12	16	12	16	13	17	33	34	34
Munsherpur	73	70	76	159	164	164	10	20	10	20	12	19	34	34	33
Darbhanga	73	74	75	187	162	173	14	17	13	17	13	16	33	34	34
Bhagalpur	73	73	77	168	166	172	10	16	11	15	11	14	35	35	34
Purnea	76	73	78	190	187	187	9	12	10	13	11	14	33	32	32
<b>SOUTH BIHAR</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>147</b>	<b>163</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>33</b>
Patna	64	57	57	153	133	150	13	18	13	19	15	20	34	32	34
Gaya	71	65	74	161	150	166	13	16	13	16	14	17	34	34	33
Shahabad	65	64	72	154	150	162	10	16	10	16	12	19	34	32	33
Monbhyl	79	69	60	169	154	171	14	18	12	17	14	18	34	34	33
<b>ORISSA</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>151</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>32</b>
Cuttack	67	69	71	159	154	163	12	17	11	17	13	19	33	33	32
Balaso	61	64	65	145	148	154	9	13	10	15	10	16	33	34	32
Puri	63	63	63	153	149	156	12	14	11	16	11	17	34	34	33
<b>CHOTA NAGPUR PLATEAU</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>192</b>	<b>197</b>	<b>214</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>31</b>
Hazaribagh	83	77	99	190	174	200	10	11	9	11	10	12	33	33	32
Ranchi	93	93	96	210	218	229	11	14	10	12	10	13	30	29	30
Palamu	82	82	...	180	191	...	8	12	7	10	...	...	32	32	...
Manbhum	79	75	87	181	190	202	10	12	10	12	11	13	34	33	32
Slughbun	79	77	89	216	218	243	9	11	9	10	11	12	34	34	36
Southern Parganna	82	89	94	210	210	218	11	13	12	15	13	15	32	31	31
Starul	76	73	77	188	196	198	8	11	8	11	10	12	32	32	32
Sambalpur	70	...	...	155	...	...	10	15	...	...	...	...	33	...	...
Orissa Feudatory States	79	...	...	188	...	...	8	11	...	...	...	...	33	...	...
Chota Nagpur States	78	...	...	201	...	...	10	13	...	...	...	...	30	...	...
<b>SIKKIM</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>...</b>	<b>188</b>	<b>157</b>	<b>...</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>...</b>	<b>...</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>...</b>

NOTE.—In the calculations for each Province and Natural Division those areas for which figures are not available have been left out of account.

SUBSIDIARY TABLE V-A.—PROPORTION OF CHILDREN UNDER 10 AND OF PERSONS OVER 60 TO THOSE AGED 15—40, ALSO OF MARRIED FEMALES AGED 15—40 PER 100 FEMALES.

RELIGION AND NATURAL DIVISION.	PROPORTION OF CHILDREN, BOTH SEXES PER 100.						PROPORTION OF PERSONS OVER 60 PER 100 AGED 15—40.						NUMBER OF MARRIED FEMALES AGED 15—40 PER 100 FEMALES OF ALL AGES.		
	Persons aged 15—40.			Married females aged 15—40.			1911.		1901.		1901.		1911.	1901.	1901.
	1911.	1901.	1901.	1911.	1901.	1901.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	1911.	1901.	1901.
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
<b>BENGAL—</b>															
All religions	76	72	72	181	190	187	11	12	11	12	12	14	24	22	22
Hindu	62	64	63	171	175	170	11	14	12	12	12	16	22	21	20
Muslim	92	82	83	188	198	199	10	10	11	11	12	12	26	24	24
Animist	65	—	—	201	—	—	11	11	—	—	—	—	24	—	—
<b>WEST BENGAL—</b>															
All religions	81	84	84	157	163	167	11	12	11	12	11	15	23	22	21
Hindu	58	62	62	146	152	157	11	14	11	12	11	15	22	21	21
Muslim	65	66	66	131	137	138	11	12	12	12	11	14	26	24	22
Animist	79	—	—	145	—	—	11	14	—	—	—	—	24	—	—
<b>CENTRAL BENGAL—</b>															
All religions	80	84	80	147	174	181	10	12	11	12	12	10	23	22	21
Hindu	64	66	66	168	174	179	10	12	12	12	12	14	22	20	20
Muslim	87	70	72	168	172	182	10	12	11	12	12	14	22	20	22
Animist	84	—	—	220	—	—	11	10	—	—	—	—	22	—	—
<b>NORTH BENGAL—</b>															
All religions	78	77	77	192	191	190	10	10	10	11	10	12	24	24	22
Hindu	62	67	66	194	190	192	10	12	11	12	12	14	22	21	21
Muslim	82	82	82	194	191	188	10	10	10	10	11	12	22	22	22
Animist	82	—	—	219	—	—	12	8	—	—	—	—	24	—	—
<b>EAST BENGAL—</b>															
All religions	81	81	84	190	191	197	11	11	12	12	12	14	24	22	22
Hindu	66	66	70	176	181	188	12	12	12	12	14	17	22	21	20
Muslim	80	87	91	194	199	201	11	9	11	11	12	12	22	22	24
Animist	84	—	—	198	—	—	12	9	—	—	—	—	22	—	—
<b>BIHAR AND ORISSA—</b>															
All religions	72	71	76	170	184	173	11	12	12	12	12	14	22	22	22
Hindu	72	62	70	162	159	159	11	12	12	12	12	17	24	24	22
Muslim	80	76	81	178	169	177	12	12	14	14	15	18	22	22	22
Animist	88	—	—	220	—	—	10	12	—	—	—	—	22	—	—
<b>NORTH BIHAR—</b>															
All religions	72	72	76	164	162	166	12	17	12	17	12	17	24	24	24
Hindu	72	71	72	161	160	162	12	17	12	17	12	17	24	24	24
Muslim	80	76	80	177	172	176	11	16	14	16	14	17	22	22	22
Animist	104	—	—	224	—	—	12	12	—	—	—	—	22	—	—
<b>SOUTH BIHAR—</b>															
All religions	70	64	74	160	147	162	12	17	12	17	14	19	24	24	22
Hindu	62	62	72	160	147	162	12	16	12	17	14	18	24	24	22
Muslim	72	71	78	162	147	159	12	19	17	20	19	21	22	22	22
Animist	102	—	—	222	—	—	12	16	—	—	—	—	21	—	—
<b>ORISSA—</b>															
All religions	62	62	62	122	121	122	11	12	11	12	12	14	22	22	22
Hindu	64	62	62	121	121	122	11	12	11	12	12	14	22	22	22
Muslim	72	71	74	172	162	172	12	16	11	16	12	19	22	22	22
Animist	90	—	—	208	—	—	9	10	—	—	—	—	22	—	—
<b>GHOTA NAGPUR PLATAU—</b>															
All religions	81	82	87	192	197	214	9	12	10	12	11	14	22	21	21
Hindu	78	79	86	193	194	204	9	12	9	12	11	14	22	22	22
Muslim	82	84	92	192	192	210	10	12	10	12	11	15	24	24	22
Animist	89	—	—	222	—	—	10	12	—	—	—	—	22	—	—

SUBSIDIARY TABLE VI.—VARIATION IN POPULATION AT CERTAIN AGE PERIODS.

NATURAL DIVISION.	Period.	VARIATION PER CENT. IN POPULATION (INCREASE + DECREASE —).					
		All ages.	0—10	10—15	15—20	20—25	25 and over.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
<b>BENGAL, BIHAR AND ORISSA.</b>	1881 to 1891	+ 7.0	+ 6.5	+ 14.5	+ 6.2	+ 11.4	- 8.7
	1891 to 1901	+ 4.7	+ 1.9	+ 8.2	+ 7.1	+ 3.4	- 0.6
	1901 to 1911	+ 8.0	+ 10.3	+ 5.2	+ 9.3	+ 4.2	+ 3.4
<b>Bengal</b>	1881 to 1891	+ 7.5	+ 9.6	+ 11.5	+ 7.0	+ 15.4	- 19.7
	1891 to 1901	+ 7.6	+ 6.1	+ 14.3	+ 8.6	+ 6.1	+ 0.6
	1901 to 1911	+ 8.0	+ 9.3	+ 5.8	+ 10.1	+ 3.6	+ 0.9
West Bengal	1881 to 1891	+ 4.0	+ 7.0	+ 9.6	+ 1.0	+ 7.0	- 13.4
	1891 to 1901	+ 7.2	+ 5.4	+ 13.4	+ 6.3	+ 8.1	+ 7.5
	1901 to 1911	+ 2.8	+ 1.1	+ 2.3	+ 8.3	- 1.9	+ 0.6
Central Bengal	1881 to 1891	+ 2.2	+ 2.8	+ 6.3	+ 6.2	+ 14.3	- 2.7
	1891 to 1901	+ 5.2	+ 0.6	+ 11.7	+ 6.7	+ 7.1	- 0.2
	1901 to 1911	+ 4.4	+ 2.1	+ 3.2	+ 9.4	- 2.2	- 4.9
North Bengal	1881 to 1891	+ 4.0	+ 5.9	+ 2.0	+ 7.2	- 1.8	- 8.0
	1891 to 1901	+ 5.7	+ 8.2	+ 11.8	+ 6.0	+ 1.4	- 3.4
	1901 to 1911	+ 1.9	+ 10.3	+ 4.9	+ 8.0	+ 5.2	+ 2.1
East Bengal	1881 to 1891	+ 14.0	+ 16.3	+ 20.3	+ 14.5	+ 8.6	+ 4.1
	1891 to 1901	+ 10.3	+ 8.4	+ 17.2	+ 12.2	+ 7.3	+ 0.9
	1901 to 1911	+ 12.2	+ 14.3	+ 8.8	+ 12.6	+ 9.2	+ 3.5
<b>Bihar and Orissa.</b>	1881 to 1891	+ 6.4	+ 3.4	+ 16.0	+ 5.2	+ 7.0	+ 7.9
	1891 to 1901	+ 1.1	- 3.4	+ 1.4	+ 5.2	+ 0.3	- 1.9
	1901 to 1911	+ 8.1	+ 11.5	+ 4.8	+ 8.3	+ 4.8	+ 6.7
North Bihar	1881 to 1891	+ 8.0	+ 4.8	+ 12.9	+ 4.2	+ 6.2	+ 11.8
	1891 to 1901	+ 0.1	- 2.0	+ 3.5	+ 2.7	- 2.3	- 0.9
	1901 to 1911	+ 3.0	+ 4.0	- 2.4	+ 2.3	+ 0.2	+ 2.8
South Bihar	1881 to 1891	+ 2.4	- 0.7	+ 12.0	+ 2.4	+ 1.9	- 0.8
	1891 to 1901	- 3.6	- 10.9	- 6.3	+ 2.8	- 4.4	- 4.4
	1901 to 1911	+ 0.7	+ 7.7	- 2.0	- 1.4	- 1.9	- 2.7
Orissa	1881 to 1891	+ 8.3	- 2.2	+ 22.3	+ 8.8	+ 10.3	+ 7.5
	1891 to 1901	+ 7.1	+ 4.3	- 0.2	+ 10.7	+ 10.7	+ 0.4
	1901 to 1911	+ 0.9	+ 1.8	+ 4.4	+ 1.4	- 4.6	- 0.5
Chota Nagpur Plateau	1881 to 1891	+ 11.1	+ 8.6	+ 22.5	+ 8.2	+ 12.0	+ 14.0
	1891 to 1901	+ 3.3	- 0.4	+ 7.3	+ 10.3	+ 7.1	- 2.4
	1901 to 1911	+ 10.8	+ 28.7	+ 17.6	+ 27.8	+ 23.6	+ 27.3

SUBSIDIARY TABLE VII.—REPORTED BIRTH-RATE BY SEX AND NATURAL DIVISIONS.

## BENGAL.

YEAR.	NUMBER OF BIRTHS PER 1,000 OF EACH SEX (CENSUS OF 1901).									
	PROVINCE.		WEST BENGAL.		CENTRAL BENGAL.		NORTH BENGAL.		EAST BENGAL.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1901	36	37	34	33	33	33	41	41	40	39
1902	39	34	33	31	34	30	41	42	43	42
1903	37	36	34	32	32	32	34	36	40	39
1904	41	40	33	36	36	36	43	44	43	42
1905	38	37	35	35	32	34	39	40	41	40
1906	36	35	32	30	30	31	39	39	38	36
1907	36	35	32	32	32	32	37	39	34	36
1908	38	37	31	30	32	33	41	41	43	41
1909	40	39	32	33	37	36	43	43	41	40
1910	38	37	35	35	36	37	41	41	38	36
<b>Average of decade</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>39</b>

SUBSIDIARY TABLE VII.—REPORTED BIRTH-RATE BY SEX AND NATURAL DIVISIONS—concluded.

**BIHAR AND ORISSA.**

NUMBER OF BIRTHS PER 1,000 OF EACH SEX (CENSUS OF 1901).

YEAR.	PROVINCE.		NORTH BIHAR.		SOUTH BIHAR.		ORISSA.		CHOTA NAGPUR PLATEAU.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1901	42	36	43	39	40	41	36	34	39	36
1902	44	40	46	41	45	41	38	35	42	39
1903	44	40	43	38	39	44	44	39	44	41
1904	47	43	46	42	49	43	42	39	40	47
1905	44	40	43	40	46	41	46	42	39	36
1906	42	39	40	36	45	41	44	40	44	41
1907	42	38	37	33	46	42	43	38	47	44
1908	40	36	42	38	41	37	38	33	37	35
1909	41	37	44	40	40	37	39	31	39	36
1910	44	40	41	37	41	37	45	41	49	46
<b>Average of decade</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>40</b>

SUBSIDIARY TABLE VIII.—REPORTED DEATH-RATE BY SEX AND NATURAL DIVISIONS.

**BENGAL.**

NUMBER OF DEATHS PER 1,000 OF EACH SEX (CENSUS OF 1901).

YEAR.	PROVINCE.		WEST BENGAL.		CENTRAL BENGAL.		NORTH BENGAL.		EAST BENGAL.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1901	32	29	33	29	32	31	34	31	39	36
1902	36	33	36	33	40	39	38	35	33	39
1903	33	31	34	31	37	36	34	32	31	36
1904	34	32	30	28	37	36	36	36	33	31
1905	37	35	36	33	39	38	40	39	36	34
1906	34	32	36	33	35	34	37	35	31	39
1907	34	32	40	37	39	38	37	35	38	36
1908	33	30	39	35	35	31	36	34	34	36
1909	32	30	37	34	36	36	40	36	32	30
1910	32	30	36	33	39	39	39	36	32	30
<b>Average of decade</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>39</b>

**BIHAR AND ORISSA.**

NUMBER OF DEATHS PER 1,000 OF EACH SEX (CENSUS OF 1901).

YEAR.	PROVINCE.		NORTH BIHAR.		SOUTH BIHAR.		ORISSA.		CHOTA NAGPUR PLATEAU.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1901	34	30	33	30	40	40	41	37	34	30
1902	34	29	37	31	33	30	34	30	29	29
1903	37	33	40	34	41	39	38	34	36	32
1904	33	30	36	31	39	39	41	27	28	27
1905	41	37	42	36	36	35	39	31	28	24
1906	39	35	41	35	44	40	38	32	32	28
1907	39	36	37	34	44	42	45	45	29	27
1908	42	38	35	31	43	39	42	36	44	41
1909	34	31	39	34	39	36	36	35	27	25
1910	34	34	40	35	43	41	33	30	30	26
<b>Average of decade</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>26</b>

SUBSIDIARY TABLE IX.—REPORTED DEATH-RATE BY SEX AND AGE IN DECADE, AND IN SELECTED YEARS, PER MILLE LIVING AT THE SAME AGE ACCORDING TO THE CENSUS OF 1901.

AGE.	AVERAGE OF DECADE.		1903.		1905.		1907.		1909.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<b>All ages</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>BENGA.</b>										
Under 1 year	270	229	263	221	292	249	248	212	266	228
1-5	45	39	42	37	54	46	43	39	42	37
5-10	19	15	19	15	22	18	20	16	17	14
10-15	14	12	14	13	16	14	14	12	11	10
15-20	19	21	19	21	21	24	20	21	17	20
20-25	20	21	19	21	21	24	21	23	19	21
25-30	32	28	25	22	34	24	25	25	22	22
30-40	28	25	28	25	29	27	30	27	27	24
40-50	42	37	40	36	42	40	46	41	41	35
50-60	79	64	78	66	63	68	68	70	77	58
<b>BHAR AND ORISSA.</b>										
<b>All ages</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>31</b>
Under 1 year	304	262	314	267	329	294	291	287	271	232
1-5	49	42	46	42	49	41	46	44	44	46
5-10	20	17	20	17	24	21	22	20	18	16
10-15	14	14	14	14	19	17	17	16	12	11
15-20	16	14	14	14	19	17	18	17	13	11
20-25	20	19	20	19	23	21	22	21	17	15
25-30	25	23	22	19	25	23	23	22	21	17
30-40	30	28	29	25	32	27	33	26	28	22
40-50	46	42	43	39	49	46	50	46	45	42
50-60	83	77	80	71	100	84	101	87	100	66

SUBSIDIARY TABLE X.—REPORTED DEATHS FROM CERTAIN DISEASES PER MILLE OF EACH SEX.

BENGA.

YEAR.	BENGA.					ACTUAL NUMBER OF DEATHS IN—							
	ACTUAL NUMBER OF DEATHS.			RATIO PER MILLE OF EACH SEX.		WEST BENGA.		CENTRAL BENGA.		NORTH BENGA.		EAST BENGA.	
	Total.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1901	84,324	34,999	29,425	3	1	7,532	6,772	9,034	7,337	2,096	1,751	15,917	12,265
1902	90,797	49,296	41,511	3	2	12,266	10,877	15,014	11,670	4,344	4,037	17,263	14,707
1903	93,845	50,490	43,229	3	2	10,296	9,297	12,196	12,671	5,794	5,067	19,345	16,340
1904	102,480	54,372	46,068	3	2	7,279	6,335	16,057	13,190	7,500	6,847	22,599	21,716
1905	172,178	89,180	82,998	4	4	12,066	11,693	13,972	11,668	20,616	20,294	41,576	39,499
1906	135,621	71,792	63,829	3	3	14,908	13,779	13,296	11,064	9,514	8,714	24,144	20,292
1907	168,190	83,111	75,079	4	4	20,947	19,899	23,740	21,090	12,372	11,460	26,222	22,637
1908	123,471	66,644	56,922	3	3	26,687	23,691	18,772	14,872	6,218	5,377	19,372	17,367
1909	86,356	46,327	41,979	2	2	4,125	3,495	8,943	6,281	9,790	10,066	24,361	22,001
1910	119,668	62,928	56,746	3	2	6,955	5,943	10,137	8,448	17,418	16,371	26,431	26,066
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,148,928</b>	<b>609,194</b>	<b>539,734</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>123,102</b>	<b>111,511</b>	<b>142,251</b>	<b>118,579</b>	<b>95,752</b>	<b>90,613</b>	<b>247,089</b>	<b>219,631</b>
1901	944,528	501,170	443,258	23	22	89,936	80,928	89,272	81,946	147,169	126,300	173,791	164,229
1902	1,083,553	570,933	512,630	27	25	99,225	93,134	114,629	104,363	161,282	141,477	199,797	173,425
1903	989,486	517,693	471,802	24	23	91,323	83,707	100,976	93,332	148,263	124,890	181,992	167,874
1904	1,012,850	527,757	469,123	29	24	79,960	72,430	100,620	93,663	137,224	141,310	199,923	177,321
1905	1,068,975	566,203	512,772	36	29	96,499	89,999	108,240	100,892	156,272	142,012	199,946	179,768
1906	979,185	512,476	468,769	24	23	96,526	91,296	94,244	84,497	132,294	133,755	167,043	154,180
1907	987,773	515,664	470,109	24	23	106,539	101,139	97,032	89,089	131,509	133,931	177,468	164,421
1908	844,853	496,996	447,867	23	22	97,994	89,948	82,675	74,035	122,303	125,263	161,973	149,419
1909	828,089	468,237	428,732	22	22	75,167	66,141	68,043	60,819	140,841	136,313	127,386	124,483
1910	921,813	479,316	442,437	22	21	71,491	64,527	74,318	68,265	132,474	126,127	161,105	168,200
<b>Total</b>	<b>9,856,105</b>	<b>5,143,575</b>	<b>4,712,530</b>	<b>240</b>	<b>230</b>	<b>902,618</b>	<b>836,550</b>	<b>931,366</b>	<b>863,582</b>	<b>1,518,301</b>	<b>1,379,689</b>	<b>1,791,290</b>	<b>1,642,701</b>

SUBSIDIARY TABLE X.—REPORTED DEATHS FROM CERTAIN DISEASES PER MILLE OF EACH SEX—*continued.*

BENGAL.

YEAR.	BENGAL.					ACTUAL NUMBER OF DEATHS IN—							
	ACTUAL NUMBER OF DEATHS.			RATIO PER MILLE OF EACH SEX.		WEST BENGAL.		CENTRAL BENGAL.		NORTH BENGAL.		EAST BENGAL.	
	Total.	Ma's.	Fema's.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Ma's.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.	11.	12.	13.	14.
BUBONIC PLAGUE.													
1901	20,187	11,228	8,964	1	4	3,847	4,687	2,142	1,385	904	798	2,220	1,903
1902	30,737	16,194	14,343	1	1	10,294	9,508	1,109	958	2,622	2,291	1,870	1,711
1903	12,887	6,973	6,012	3	2	3,148	2,789	404	340	2,227	1,917	1,166	966
1904	9,497	4,961	4,329	3	2	1,216	1,292	241	299	2,094	1,953	1,217	983
1905	4,513	2,669	2,044	3	1	540	464	216	481	221	264	1,090	835
1906	13,577	7,010	5,958	3	2	2,558	1,990	2,748	2,187	552	426	1,731	1,363
1907	15,318	8,329	6,907	3	2	3,143	2,650	2,748	2,305	808	821	1,546	1,311
1908	11,173	6,136	5,018	2	2	2,184	1,714	1,284	1,057	1,336	1,037	729	590
1909	37,820	20,292	17,078	1	1	3,222	4,049	4,226	3,424	3,748	7,745	2,306	1,813
1910	11,485	6,323	5,260	2	2	1,178	1,047	263	242	2,233	1,901	3,422	2,019
<b>Total</b>	<b>187,291</b>	<b>90,638</b>	<b>76,453</b>	<b>4.6</b>	<b>3.8</b>	<b>35,739</b>	<b>30,270</b>	<b>18,013</b>	<b>12,674</b>	<b>22,539</b>	<b>19,813</b>	<b>16,547</b>	<b>13,496</b>
PLAGUE.													
1901	8,241	—	—	—	—	251	—	7,384	—	—	—	—	—
1902	7,598	—	—	—	—	776	—	7,313	—	—	—	—	—
1903	8,708	—	—	—	—	337	—	8,355	—	—	—	—	—
1904	4,986	—	—	—	—	239	—	4,724	—	—	—	—	—
1905	9,321	8,217	3,004	2	1	1,147	469	3,160	2,532	—	—	—	—
1906	2,985	2,181	834	1	0.4	127	59	1,997	728	—	14	17	23
1907	3,743	2,699	1,044	1	1	113	10	3,549	1,024	11	—	4	—
1908	1,845	1,436	469	1	0.1	27	9	1,396	460	1	—	—	—
1909	2,164	1,548	619	1	0.2	20	—	1,525	619	—	—	—	—
1910	1,421	1,048	378	0.4	0.1	82	18	906	339	—	—	25	31
<b>Total</b>	<b>51,012</b>	—	—	—	—	<b>3,198</b>	—	<b>47,636</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>46</b>	—	<b>134</b>	—

The above figures are exclusive of Cooh-Bihar, Hill Tippera and the Chittagong Hill Tracts for which vital statistics are not available. The sex details of deaths from plague for 1901 to 1904 are not available.

BIHAR AND ORISSA.

YEAR.	BIHAR AND ORISSA.					ACTUAL NUMBER OF DEATHS IN—							
	ACTUAL NUMBER OF DEATHS.			RATIO PER MILLE OF EACH SEX.		NORTH BIHAR.		SOUTH BIHAR.		ORISSA.		CHOTA NAAGPUR PLATEAU.	
	Total.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.	11.	12.	13.	14.
CHOLERA.													
1901	46,479	23,627	22,799	1	1	4,759	4,512	4,028	2,792	13,874	12,751	846	746
1902	60,174	31,007	29,167	2	2	16,128	15,008	7,426	7,043	2,401	2,299	2,023	1,715
1903	109,550	56,331	55,729	4	3	26,302	23,922	15,712	14,848	11,183	10,603	3,624	3,173
1904	35,241	18,279	16,945	1	1	10,714	9,697	3,050	2,849	2,964	2,327	1,570	1,291
1905	93,590	48,304	47,204	3	3	19,536	17,000	18,204	17,809	7,894	7,323	2,670	2,414
1906	131,571	66,523	63,018	4	4	37,947	33,310	14,206	13,382	2,294	2,291	7,106	6,704
1907	115,801	58,130	57,671	4	3	14,508	13,319	9,344	8,404	24,802	27,330	3,576	3,798
1908	182,377	94,145	90,232	6	5	19,819	17,625	19,145	17,204	30,061	30,738	23,120	22,649
1909	32,011	16,790	15,221	1	1	9,081	7,808	4,525	4,184	1,594	1,763	1,560	1,424
1910	126,382	63,123	61,319	4	4	34,607	32,149	26,070	24,665	2,456	2,561	2,000	1,834
<b>Total</b>	<b>933,136</b>	<b>480,798</b>	<b>452,338</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>2.7</b>	<b>193,397</b>	<b>174,593</b>	<b>121,620</b>	<b>114,402</b>	<b>109,636</b>	<b>112,608</b>	<b>56,245</b>	<b>50,734</b>
FEVER.													
1901	672,491	346,763	325,726	22	20	158,000	138,212	100,660	105,772	28,915	28,611	59,252	55,120
1902	638,368	326,844	302,024	21	19	169,212	147,999	76,168	71,572	26,798	26,639	64,184	61,794
1903	665,455	347,561	317,994	22	19	170,691	149,196	98,334	96,658	27,596	26,567	59,910	53,478
1904	647,348	324,128	314,215	21	19	164,296	144,941	86,432	85,432	24,707	24,777	52,727	49,045
1905	784,121	406,879	377,342	26	22	194,279	164,388	118,634	118,108	31,323	24,665	77,459	70,091
1906	728,434	379,098	349,330	24	21	97,890	93,334	175,470	156,764	24,740	26,046	81,041	73,174
1907	745,817	361,901	363,916	24	21	170,930	160,336	94,019	87,368	24,662	27,102	66,099	60,374
1908	809,036	418,415	390,621	26	22	165,362	157,159	100,048	93,954	36,196	42,447	114,677	105,001
1909	757,206	386,218	370,991	24	22	169,491	160,317	103,635	102,630	21,101	21,610	71,984	66,434
1910	717,707	373,722	343,902	22	20	173,708	155,636	100,969	92,726	23,991	26,418	70,337	70,104
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,160,983</b>	<b>3,705,014</b>	<b>3,455,949</b>	<b>23.3</b>	<b>20.6</b>	<b>1,645,024</b>	<b>1,485,438</b>	<b>1,049,862</b>	<b>1,009,140</b>	<b>265,243</b>	<b>277,002</b>	<b>744,905</b>	<b>684,369</b>



SUBSIDIARY TABLE X.—REPORTED DEATHS FROM CERTAIN DISEASES PER MILLE OF EACH SEX—concluded.

## BINAR AND ORISSA.

YEAR.	BINAR AND ORISSA.					ACTUAL NUMBER OF DEATHS IN—							
	ACTUAL NUMBER OF DEATHS.			RATIO PER MILLE OF EACH SEX.		NORTH BINAR.		SOUTH BINAR.		ORISSA.		CHOTA NAGPUR PLATEAU.	
	Total.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1901 ...	17,493	8,859	8,634	1	1	1,043	1,059	1,194	1,362	2,091	2,031	1,540	1,397
1902 ...	26,693	13,868	12,825	1	1	1,426	1,350	4,908	4,607	2,866	2,821	4,772	2,847
1903 ...	17,472	8,801	8,511	1	1	2,379	2,292	2,992	2,971	896	812	2,694	2,323
1904 ...	7,833	3,910	3,923	2	2	1,559	1,949	1,014	1,023	734	671	203	220
1905 ...	5,184	2,687	2,507	1	1	1,152	968	428	455	1,008	1,001	99	83
1906 ...	12,907	6,521	6,386	4	3	1,621	1,579	1,094	1,041	2,169	2,229	686	687
1907 ...	18,191	9,330	8,861	1	1	2,267	2,813	2,270	2,188	2,321	2,232	822	657
1908 ...	29,567	15,294	14,273	1	1	2,843	2,474	8,253	7,794	1,514	1,017	2,982	2,476
1909 ...	21,480	11,340	10,120	1	1	2,943	2,734	4,619	4,507	767	684	2,901	2,196
1910 ...	4,448	2,283	2,165	1	1	1,331	1,056	499	546	207	180	336	301
<b>Total</b> ...	<b>160,978</b>	<b>83,143</b>	<b>77,835</b>	<b>6.8</b>	<b>6.7</b>	<b>19,204</b>	<b>18,324</b>	<b>28,165</b>	<b>27,566</b>	<b>18,572</b>	<b>17,962</b>	<b>17,202</b>	<b>13,983</b>
1901 ...	70,388	—	—	—	—	20,945	—	48,010	—	22	—	1,394	—
1902 ...	25,368	—	—	—	—	17,922	—	6,961	—	12	—	471	—
1903 ...	58,972	—	—	—	—	22,596	—	24,327	—	26	—	11	—
1904 ...	70,450	—	—	—	—	23,416	—	44,795	—	53	—	206	—
1905 ...	116,769	48,940	47,828	2	4	19,329	27,267	29,264	40,170	27	—	819	282
1906 ...	56,708	22,881	22,827	1	2	10,479	15,330	13,226	17,290	8	1	108	202
1907 ...	79,867	32,668	31,761	2	2	16,004	21,070	17,836	24,423	8	1	229	314
1908 ...	14,103	4,945	4,156	2	4	2,922	4,083	2,866	4,049	2	—	24	24
1909 ...	9,615	4,196	4,429	2	2	2,257	2,731	1,929	2,678	—	—	1	3
1910 ...	45,209	19,060	20,149	1	2	10,249	13,446	8,813	12,708	1	—	1	—
<b>Total</b> ...	<b>545,450</b>	—	—	—	—	<b>240,085</b>	—	<b>301,394</b>	—	<b>159</b>	—	<b>3,812</b>	—

The above figures are exclusive of Angul, Orissa Feudatory States and Chota Nagpur States for which vital statistics are not available. Those for 1901-05 are also exclusive of Sambalpur. The sex details of deaths from plague for 1901 to 1904 are not available.

SUBSIDIARY TABLE XI.—INFANTILE MORTALITY.

DISTRICT AND NATURAL DIVISION.	1901-1910.				PERCENTAGE OF DEATHS UNDER ONE YEAR TO BIRTHS.			Total number of deaths.	Percentage of deaths under one year to total deaths (both sexes).
	NUMBER OF BIRTHS.		NUMBER OF DEATHS UNDER ONE YEAR.		Male.	Female.	Total.		
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<b>BENGAL, BIHAR AND ORISSA.</b>	<b>14,946.9</b>	<b>14,153.9</b>	<b>3,037.5</b>	<b>2,633.7</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>25,373.3</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>Bengal</b> ... ..	<b>8,139.9</b>	<b>7,657.4</b>	<b>1,666.4</b>	<b>1,439.8</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>13,726.3</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>WEST BENGAL</b> ... ..	<b>1,422.0</b>	<b>1,336.7</b>	<b>322.7</b>	<b>272.9</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>2,665.8</b>	<b>22</b>
Burdwan ... ..	255.8	278.6	54.8	50.1	25	22	24	514.6	23
Birbhum ... ..	160.9	156.9	40.9	36.6	25	21	23	303.5	24
Bankura ... ..	204.8	192.6	44.7	37.4	22	19	20	342.4	24
Midnapore ... ..	477.7	453.5	102.1	92.5	21	20	21	876.3	22
Hooghly ... ..	171.9	168.4	39.5	32.0	22	20	22	366.1	20
Howrah ... ..	146.5	133.4	31.9	25.3	22	19	20	263.0	22
<b>CENTRAL BENGAL</b> ... ..	<b>1,352.0</b>	<b>1,263.3</b>	<b>279.3</b>	<b>248.6</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>2,652.4</b>	<b>20</b>
24-argamue ... ..	348.2	319.5	65.2	53.0	19	17	18	667.1	21
Calcutta ... ..	78.7	71.5	20.2	17.7	25	20	21	295.7	16
Nadia ... ..	255.5	216.1	68.4	63.3	26	20	20	645.8	20
Murshidabad ... ..	285.0	271.7	60.5	54.3	21	20	21	483.7	24
Jessore ... ..	204.8	205.5	60.0	54.0	20	20	20	660.2	18
<b>NORTH BENGAL.</b> ... ..	<b>1,843.5</b>	<b>1,845.9</b>	<b>420.8</b>	<b>365.0</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>3,396.6</b>	<b>23</b>
Rajshahi ... ..	314.0	299.2	60.5	54.4	19	18	19	582.1	20
Dinajpur ... ..	349.8	354.0	57.4	50.3	25	23	24	648.8	26
Jalpaiguri ... ..	130.1	142.8	42.2	36.1	28	24	27	265.2	27
Darjeeling ... ..	44.0	41.4	10.2	8.2	23	20	22	96.0	19
Bangpur ... ..	440.7	427.7	102.9	87.2	22	20	22	734.8	26
Bocha ... ..	184.2	172.2	35.4	29.3	19	17	18	255.5	25
Palta ... ..	248.7	227.9	65.2	59.2	18	17	18	487.9	17
Malda ... ..	211.9	199.9	37.4	33.4	18	17	17	313.4	23
<b>EAST BENGAL.</b> ... ..	<b>3,422.5</b>	<b>3,211.6</b>	<b>663.5</b>	<b>553.1</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>5,013.4</b>	<b>24</b>
Khulna ... ..	257.4	244.1	49.9	40.9	25	21	22	408.4	27
Decan ... ..	548.4	517.8	105.5	86.9	18	17	18	807.0	24
Mysoresingh ... ..	739.2	717.8	140.0	116.2	19	18	17	1,006.8	25
Faridpur ... ..	401.8	379.0	65.7	50.7	21	19	20	679.2	23
Bachergunge ... ..	479.4	466.9	111.9	92.2	22	21	22	793.2	23
Tiptera ... ..	419.1	391.3	72.3	58.9	17	16	16	533.1	25
Koekhal ... ..	271.9	265.0	42.4	36.2	18	14	15	361.6	22
Chittagong ... ..	265.2	259.9	49.7	41.0	17	16	17	424.2	21
<b>Bihar and Orissa</b> ... ..	<b>6,805.9</b>	<b>6,498.5</b>	<b>1,351.1</b>	<b>1,194.1</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>11,498.8</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>NORTH BIHAR</b> ... ..	<b>2,865.8</b>	<b>2,727.1</b>	<b>511.6</b>	<b>446.3</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>4,692.1</b>	<b>20</b>
Bharn ... ..	497.3	469.2	101.1	76.5	20	17	19	978.5	18
Champaran ... ..	298.0	275.2	76.1	68.5	20	18	19	584.8	25
Muzaffarpur ... ..	295.3	276.2	105.4	96.7	18	17	17	973.1	21
Darbhanga ... ..	268.5	249.2	82.7	76.0	14	13	14	972.6	16
Biagalpur ... ..	414.0	391.3	89.9	61.4	17	16	16	702.9	19
Patna ... ..	372.7	345.8	74.9	63.2	20	18	19	683.0	20
<b>SOUTH BIHAR</b> ... ..	<b>1,685.0</b>	<b>1,607.7</b>	<b>388.7</b>	<b>333.4</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>3,177.5</b>	<b>22</b>
Patna ... ..	338.2	321.8	87.9	77.7	26	24	25	771.7	21
Gaya ... ..	468.6	457.1	99.7	91.1	21	20	21	856.0	22
Shahabad ... ..	417.0	390.3	99.5	88.6	24	23	23	787.6	24
Monghyr ... ..	460.9	438.4	82.0	78.0	18	17	18	762.2	21
<b>ORISSA</b> ... ..	<b>832.7</b>	<b>791.8</b>	<b>208.1</b>	<b>191.4</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>1,518.9</b>	<b>26</b>
Cuttack ... ..	434.5	411.8	100.8	90.3	24	23	24	749.7	27
Balanes ... ..	208.6	198.1	58.9	52.9	27	27	27	404.7	27
Puri ... ..	189.6	181.9	49.8	43.2	24	23	24	361.4	24
<b>CHOTA NAGPUR PLATEAU...</b>	<b>1,423.5</b>	<b>1,369.9</b>	<b>262.7</b>	<b>223.0</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>1,913.3</b>	<b>24</b>
Hazaribagh ... ..	379.6	369.9	62.4	46.7	19	17	18	378.9	26
Ranchi ... ..	269.1	260.1	50.2	41.6	19	16	17	332.7	28
Palam ... ..	150.8	146.1	34.6	31.1	23	21	22	228.3	29
Manbhum ... ..	262.9	249.1	46.1	38.2	18	15	16	345.1	24
Siopahbhum ... ..	119.4	111.8	18.2	15.9	14	12	13	139.9	22
South-Parganas ... ..	343.7	322.2	62.1	51.3	18	15	17	466.3	23

Those districts for which vital statistics are not available have been left out of account.

## CHAPTER VI.

## SEX.

610. Throughout the census tables separate figures are given for each sex according to the subjects dealt with, but the tables which are most relevant to a consideration of the statistics are Tables I, II, VII and XI, and, for individual castes, Tables IX and XIV. Proportional figures illustrating the more important features of the returns are, as usual, given in Subsidiary Tables at the end of the chapter, viz.—

*Subsidiary Table I.*—General proportion of the sexes by natural divisions and districts.

*Subsidiary Table II.*—Number of females per 1,000 males at different age periods by religion at each of the last three censuses.

*Subsidiary Table III.*—Number of females per 1,000 males at different age periods by religions and natural divisions.

*Subsidiary Table IV.*—Number of females per 1,000 males for certain selected castes.

*Subsidiary Table V.*—Number of births and deaths reported for each sex during the decades 1891-1900 and 1901-1910.

*Subsidiary Table VA.*—Comparative statistics of births and deaths by sex during the same two decades.

*Subsidiary Table VI.*—Number of deaths of each sex at different ages.

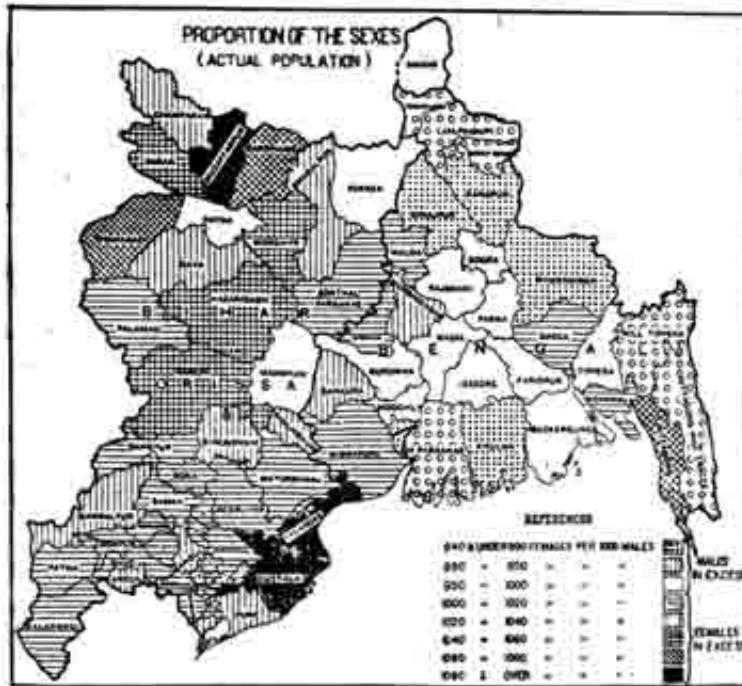
611. The proportion of the sexes in European countries (excluding those in the south-east of Europe) is very different from what it is in those other parts of the world for which reliable statistics are available. In the former females outnumber males in spite of a general excess of males at birth, as shown in the marginal table, from which it will be seen that this is a phenomenon common to both Latin and Teutonic countries. In India, the south-eastern countries of Europe, North America and other countries, such as Egypt and Japan, the reverse is the case. The deficiency of females in India has been ascribed by European statisticians, such as Von Mayr and Kirchhoff, to a supposed incomplete return of females, which is ascribed largely to "the unwillingness of Muhammadans, and to some extent of Hindus also, to mention to the enumerators the young women living in their zenana." The subject will be discussed later in this chapter, and here it will be sufficient to invite attention to the fact that the relative paucity of women is not confined to India.

COUNTRY.	NUMBER OF FEMALES PER 1,000 MALES.			
	At birth.		In total population.	
	1870.	1900.	1870.	1900.
England ...	963	964	1,054	1,069
Scotland ...	945	955	1,096	1,057
Ireland ...	951	944	1,050	1,057
Germany ...	930	948	1,040	1,032
France ...	952	961	1,038	1,042
Italy ...	937	947	989	1,010
Spain ...	926	905	1,044	1,049

COUNTRY.	Year of census.	Number of females per 1,000 males.
Bulgaria ...	1905	962
Serbia ...	1900	946
Greece ...	1907	986
Egypt ...	1907	992
United States ...	1910	942
Canada ...	...	952
Japan ...	1901	990
India ...	1901	932
Bengal, Bihar and Orissa ...	1911	961
	1901	999
	1911	950

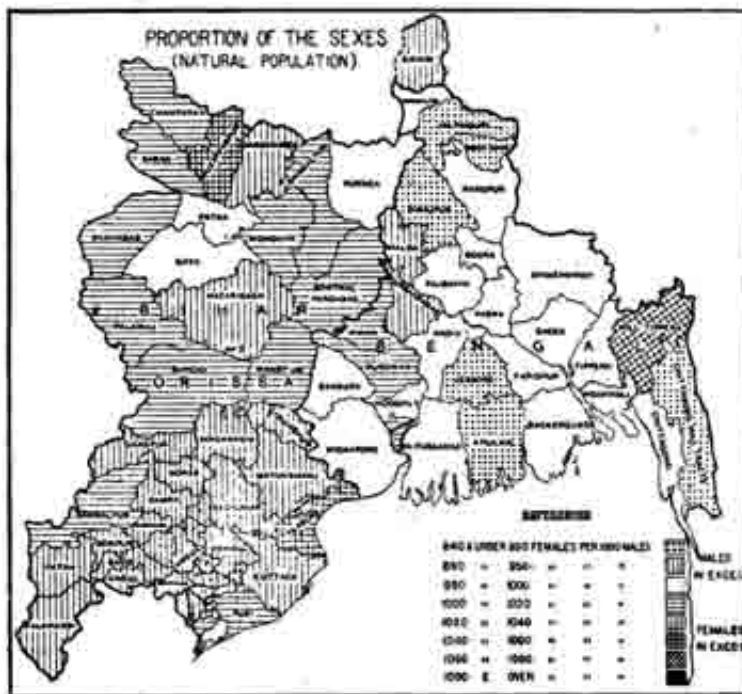
612. The excess of males in Bengal, Bihar and Orissa, which has been shown in the marginal table above, is due to the preponderance of males in Bengal, for there is an excess of females in Bihar and Orissa. In the actual population of Bengal, *i.e.*, the population actually enumerated in each district, including immigrants from outside, there are 945 females to every 1,000 males, whereas there are 1,043 females to every 1,000 males in Bihar and Orissa. Females are in defect

in every district of Bengal, except Birbhum, Bankura, Midnapore, Murshidabad, Malda, Dacca, Noakhali and Chittagong; in the latter eight districts the proportion of females to 1,000 males varies from 1,000 in Midnapore to 1,087 in Chittagong.



In Bihar and Orissa females are in marked excess in every district except Purnea (957), Patna (988) and Manbhum (963). To a small extent the difference between the two provinces is due to the large number of immigrants that pour into Bengal from Bihar and Orissa, the United Provinces and elsewhere.

The actual number of immigrants enumerated in Bengal is nearly 2 millions, among whom there is, roughly, only one female to every two males. In the actual population, therefore, the real proportion of the sexes is partially obscured by migration. The effect of migration on any tract may, however, be eliminated, if we exclude the immigrants from outside and include those who have emigrated, so as to get what is known as the natural population, i.e., the population born in that tract, regardless of the place of enumeration.



The proportion of the sexes in the actual and natural population of each district and natural division is shown in Subsidiary Table I, from which it will be seen that the volume of migration is not sufficient to change the excess of females into a defect, or conversely, except in the marginally-noted districts. The net gain of males or loss of females on the census day turned the balance in the actual population in favour of males only in the colliery districts of Burdwan and Manbhum, and in the State of Hill Tippera. In the natural population of Bengal females are in excess only in the border districts of Burdwan,

to get what is known as the natural population, i.e., the population born in that tract, regardless of the place of enumeration.

613. The proportion of the sexes in the actual and natural population of

DISTRICT.	NUMBER OF FEMALES PER 1,000 MALES.	
	Actual population.	Natural population.
Burdwan	997	1,018
Bankura	1,024	912
Midnapore	1,000	996
Dacca	1,003	979
Noakhali	1,016	994
Chittagong	1,087	994
Hill Tippera	880	1,081
Gaya	1,052	992
Manbhum	963	1,010

each district and natural division is shown in Subsidiary Table I, from which it will be seen that the volume of migration is not sufficient to change the excess of females into a defect, or conversely, except in the marginally-noted districts. The net gain of males or loss of females on the census day turned the balance in the actual population in favour of males only in the colliery districts of Burdwan and Manbhum, and in the State of Hill Tippera. In the natural population of Bengal females are in excess only in the border districts of Burdwan,

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