

Number.	From	To	Miles.	Remarks.
50	Pennakonda....	Ruddam.....	11	Continued to Paughúr frontier.
51	Madaksira....	Amrapúr.....	26	
52	Madodi.....	Paughúr.....	17	Viâ Rollahalli.
53	Madagiri.....	Paughúr.....	8	Viâ Madaksira.
54	Madaksira....	Hindipúr.....	20	Viâ Purghi, gravelled.
55	Hindipúr.....	Somandapalli..	16	Meets No. 7, four miles below Pennakonda
56	Hindipúr.....	Chavulúr.....	7	To the Mysore frontier.
57	Hindipúr.....	Kodikonda....	23	
58	Kodúr.....	Kottacheruvu....	24	Connects Nos. 7 and 48. Meets No. 47 at Kottacheruvu viâ Peddapalli and Budali.
59	Budali.....	Gauniwarpalú....	11	For Kadiri, Cuddapah District.

CHAPTER XII.

S A N D U R E S T A T E.

(*Communicated by J. MACARTNEY, Esq., Agent to the Raja.*)

THE small State of Sandúr occupies a tolerably central position in the Bellary district, and lies in its extreme points between $14^{\circ} 58'$ and $15^{\circ} 12' 45''$ north latitude, and between $76^{\circ} 28' 30''$ and $76^{\circ} 43' 45''$ east longitude. Its area is estimated at about 140 square miles, of which probably considerably more than a third is hill territory. It is surrounded by a cordon of hills which completely isolate it from the surrounding district. In shape the valley is elliptical with a direction to the south-east. It is entered by three principal natural passes, viz., on the north-east by the Bhimagundi pass; on the north by the Ramanagundi pass; and on the west by that of Oblagundi, or Kannavihalli.

The Bhimagundi or North-eastern Pass.—The pass here is of considerable width, and the sides sloping and wooded: a little further on as they approach nearer, the sides become steeper and the bottom of the pass is encumbered by precipitated masses of rock. About the middle of the pass intersecting it at right angles, are two

singular looking rocks, nearly isolated from the chain, presenting precipitous faces in the line of the stream which runs between them. At first sight they appear to form a complete barrier across the pass. Their bases are about forty paces asunder: deeper and nearly vertical fissures, in a line nearly corresponding with that of elevation, cleave the rocks on both sides of the stream. A bed of rock harder than that which surrounds it, which has been worn away, is left projecting like an abutment from the face of the northern precipice, at the foot of which is a short *talus* of masses precipitated from the higher parts of the rock. These appear to have given way like the upper portions of sea-worn cliffs from the abrasion of the lower and supporting rock. As the sides of the precipices are of one homogeneous rock, they exhibit no marks of dislocation. About fifty feet above the bed of the stream were picked up by Lieutenant Newbold several water-worn pebbles; and among them one or two of the chloritic slate, which forms the lower rock; whence he infers the bed of an ancient and higher channel.

The compiler of this Memoir cannot over-estimate his obligations to an Essay by Lieut. Newbold, published in the transactions of the Madras Literary Society, 1838.

The Ramanagundi or Northern Pass.—This pass is formed by the convergence of the chain of hills running eastward, and that on the west running northward, till they form a narrow valley which was probably a dense jungle in former times. The eastward chain terminates in a mammiform hill near the walls of Hospett—while the western range takes a bend to the north-west and terminates on the south bank of the Túngabudra. From the top of the chain there is a fine prospect of the more prominent physical features of the country; the river winding along; the Hadagalli plains; and the rugged granitic elevations near the ruins of Vijianagar.

The Oblagundi, or Western Pass.—By this pass the stream which afterwards forms the principal feeder of the large tank or artificial lake of Daroji, enters the valley from the westward. The rock composing the ridge of hills is similar in character to that already described on the eastern flank of the valley, and the fissure through it has a similar direction. The course of the stream and the prevailing character of its bed, indicate a gradual fall of ground to the eastward—the fall being more marked as it debouches from the north-eastern pass. In the gorge to the left of the barrier gate, and in rear of the small white temple of Narsimha, the rocks rise precipitously to the apparent height of 180 feet on each side the

stream; being about ten paces asunder at the base, but gradually nearing as they ascend. Towards the summit is a convexity in the face of the precipice on the right, and an almost corresponding depression in that of the precipice on the left hand: a large fissure cleaves the substance of both rocks in a direction S. by E. The bed of the stream as in the eastern pass is choked up by blocks, pebbles, silt and sand. These cannot have been transported any distance as they are of the same nature as the surrounding formation, and the edges of the harder fragments are but little worn. The mineral character of the rock here is similar to that of the eastern pass. Beyond the pass and on a level with the surrounding country are the village and lands of Kannavihalli and Raghapur, belonging to Sandúr. As there is now no village of Raghapur—the name simply designates the lands formerly belonging to it. The pass at present is impracticable for carts. The formation of a road, however, is in contemplation—the only drawback being the want of the requisite funds. Such a work would be of great public benefit as well as of great advantage to Sandúr, as there would then be a continuous and direct line of road from the western taluqs to Bellary.

Geology.—The prevailing rock met with is a chloritic slate often highly impregnated with oxide of iron, and crested in many places with mural ridges of a ferruginous quartz rock embracing a variety of colours from a steel-gray to a deep liver-brown. This rock often forms whole hills, always, however, overlying the slate. On the ranges generally iron ore is obtained. It is often of a rich quality, easily got at, and usually of a friable description.

On Ramandrúg various colored clays are procurable without difficulty.

The prevailing soil in the valley is a rich heavy loam interspersed here and there with patches of cotton soil. In various parts lime is obtained near the surface, chiefly in the nodule form. The ascent to the Kumaraswami pagoda passes over an extensive bed of lava conglomerate; and the same feature characterises parts of the Ramandrúg range.

History.—This little State is interesting as the domain of one of the most ancient of the Mahratta families, and from having long maintained its integrity though holding a completely isolated position in the heart of a foreign territory. The Ghorepura family is said to have been identical with that of the Bhonslahs of Sattara:

and, according to the family legend, their ancestor acquired the surname, during the Bahmini dynasty, from having been the first to scale a fort in the Concan deemed to be impregnable, by fastening a cord round the body of a *Ghorepur*, or guana, and ascending by its help. The members of the present family bear the name of Hindu Rau Ghorepura. Malloji Rau, its founder, and the hero of the legend, was an officer in the army of Bijapur. His son *Biroji* entered the service of the Raja of Sattara, and was the first to bear the name of Hindu Rau. *Siddoji*, a son of his, was invested by Sambhaji, the successor of Sivaji, with the title of Sinapatti, or generalissimo—a title which has been borne by the lineal heir of the family down to the present time. Among other exploits, Siddoji took Sandúr from the Béders, and was the first Mahratta chief who settled there. Previously (though nominally under the Sultán of Bijapur) the district had been held by a *Béder Poligar*. Siddoji died in 1715, leaving a widow, Sik Bae, and four children. The eldest, Dowlut Rau, succeeded to his father's jaghir of Gudjandaghur. The second *Gopal Rau* received the principality of Sandúr. A younger brother was the celebrated Morari Rau, who soon after seized on Gooty. After the capture of Gooty in 1779, Hyder Ali took Raidrúg, Harpanhalli and Sandúr—but the fate of Gopal Rau is involved in obscurity. Hyder commenced the erection of a strong fort near the entrance of the valley by the Bhimagundi pass, and which was completed by Tippu, who stationed a strong garrison there. The fort is quadrangular, and of circumscribed extent—with screen curtain about 18 or 20 feet high, surmounted by a parapet of brick-work, and protected by bastions: while between the walls and glacis runs a deep moat about twenty paces in width. The gorges of the eastern and western passes were defended by stone barricades with narrow gateways, and commanded by rude works on the prominent points of the hills—the ridges of which were in many places crested by a low wall. The town of Sandúr is at some distance from the fort, and is entirely unprotected: the strength of the place depending wholly on the possession of the passes.

Siva Rau Ghorepura.—The son of Gopal Rau was killed in battle in 1785 in a vain attempt to recover his patrimony. *Siddoji*, his son, was placed under the guardianship of his uncle, Vencata Rau, who in 1790, attacked and drove out Tippu's killedar and garrison, but fearing the speedy vengeance of Tippu, he did not dare to occupy Sandúr till the fall of Seringapatam. On his then going to

take possession, the Peishwa, under the pretence that the principality was his, presented it to *Yeswunt Rau* Ghorepura, a distinguished officer in Scindia's army. His son, *Narain Rau*, proceeded to take possession—but was easily bought off; and soon after *Yeswunt Rau* resigned his pretensions. *Siddoji* appears to have died in 1796, and his widow adopted *Siva Rau*, son of *Kundi Rau*, a relative. Doubts have been entertained regarding *Siva Rau's* rights to the valley of *Sandúr*, and it is even stated by *Captain Grant Duff*, (*History of the Mahrattas*, volume ii, page 411) that the claims of *Yeswunt Rau*, *Ghorepura*, were just. Now the case is simply this: *Sandúr* was won in battle by *Siva Rau's* ancestor, and was confirmed to him and his heirs by his sovereign. The Peishwa, and the vassal of that sovereign, violates his allegiance, and assumes to bestow the principality on one of his followers, *Yeswunt Rau*, *Ghorepura*, the man who was so soon to betray him. *Yeswunt Rau* never took possession of the gift—a proof that he did not consider his own claims just—but asked for, and obtained, other lands in exchange. The chief of *Sandúr*, meanwhile having died without issue, his widow offered to adopt the son of *Yeswunt Rau*, who was of the same family: but *Yeswunt Rau*, having previously resigned his title to the Peishwa, was afraid to offend him by sending his son. However, being unwilling wholly to lose the opportunity, he sent *Siva Rau*, one of the sons of his younger brother, *Kundi Rau*, to be adopted, which was done accordingly. The Peishwa, subsequently having gained a knowledge of these facts, threw *Kundi Rau* into prison at *Poonah*, and being unwilling to let his pretensions to *Sandúr* sleep, he, in 1815, under pretext of a pilgrimage to the sacred shrine of *Kumaraswami*, set out to gain possession of *Sandúr*, whether by stratagem or open violence. He was met on the confines of the Company's territory, by a force commanded by *Sir Thomas Hislop*, under whose escort he was conducted to the neighbourhood of *Sandúr*, but finding the passes strongly defended, he turned aside, and after paying a hurried visit to the pagoda from

From Col. Mouro,
to Government, 11th
October 1814.

The British Government refused to mediate or interfere in any way between the parties, and *Sir T. Hislop's* force was sent out only to see that the unruly rabble the Peishwa brought with him, did no damage to the *Circular taluqs*. The Peishwa crossed the river at *Honnúr* on October 19, accompanied by 50,000 troops, 10,000 horsemen and 1,000 camels. *Siva Rau* refused to treat with the Peishwa, but offered to surrender his jaghire to the Honorable Company's Government. The Peishwa tried in vain to bring his troops into the valley, but all the passes were successfully held, and it was only on sufferance, that accompanied by a few personal attendants, he was allowed to visit *Komarasami*.—*J. K.*

the south, withdrew to Poonah. With reference to the claims of Siva Rau, Sir Thomas Monro, in a public letter to Mr. Elphinstone, after curiously noticing the facts of the case, observes: "Whatever may be the question of right, there can be none of possession. Sheo (Siva) Rau has held it during the long period of twenty-one years. He was in fact an independent prince, by the same right that so many other Mahratta chiefs have become so. He was independent before the treaty of Bassein, and can hardly, therefore, be included among the refractory vassals whom the British Government are bound by that treaty to reduce, any more than many other greater vassals, who had, before that time, shaken off their allegiance to the Peishwa."

Two years after the Peishwa's unsuccessful attempt on Sandúr, the great Mahratta confederacy against the British power was formed, and just before this the Peishwa had urged on the British Resident, Mr. Elphinstone, in conformity with the provisions of the treaty of Bassein, to aid him with troops in the reduction of several small States, and especially in that of Sandúr. As the real sentiments of the Peishwa towards the British power were doubtful, the Resident hesitated—for, in the event of a rupture with him, any division of the army detached for the reduction of Sandúr, would be far from the line of communication, and, in fact, completely isolated. Sir John Malcolm, however, after a personal interview with the suspected potentate, brought back so favorable a report, that Mr. Elphinstone's scruples vanished, and the reduction of Sandúr was forthwith recommended as a measure well-pleasing to the Peishwa. Instructions were accordingly given to Colonel Monro, then at Darwar, to proceed on the expedition. Colonel Monro marched from Darwar on the 13th of October 1817, and having crossed the Túngabadra by the ford of Hampságra, arrived before Sandúr on the 27th idem, when the fort and government were quietly surrendered by the Chief.

The events connected with this transaction cannot be better related than in the words of the commander of the expedition. In a letter, dated from Timbarahalli, 1st November 1817, to the address of the Resident, he writes as follows:—

"My letters of the 29th and 31st October will have informed you of the quiet surrender of Sandúr by its Chief Sheo Rau. I wrote to him on the 18th October, apprising him of the object of my march, and offering him a jagheer of eight thousand Rupees in any part of the Company's territory. I did not consider this sum as being an

adequate compensation for the loss of his district, but, as I was aware that many demands would be brought forward for relations and dependants, I thought it best to begin on a low scale.

On the 22nd October I received his answer, which expressed, in a general way, that it was his wish to conform to the desires of the British Government, and stated that he would send two vakeels to treat with me. The vakeels arrived in camp on the 24th October, bringing with them a paper containing a long list of Sheo Rau's demands, among which were a jagheer of twelve thousand Rupees for himself, smaller ones for his brother and sister, and provision for his principal servants. I promised that he should have a jagheer of nine thousand rupees; and that the vakeels should each receive an allowance of fifteen Star Pagodas monthly, and that the other claims should be taken into consideration on my arrival at Sandúr. The vakeels objected to the smallness of the jagheer; they said that their master might submit, but that he would not consent to the arrangement. They were despatched from camp on the 25th October with my answer, and were directed to inform Sheo Rau, that if he intended to submit, I should expect him to meet the detachment on the outside of the pass which leads into his valley.

On the 27th October the detachment, on approaching near the pass, was met by Sheo Rau, attended by a few horsemen and peons. He conducted it through the defile and barrier which defends the entrance into the valley of Sandúr. On reaching the glacis of the fort, he drew up his party, and as he delivered the keys, he said, that he threw himself entirely on the protection of the British Government. He then asked leave to go away, and having obtained it, he called out to me, so as to be heard by all his followers, "Think of my situation, have some consideration for us all." He went through all the ceremony of surrendering his fort and abdicating the government of his little valley with a great deal of firmness and propriety; but next day when he came to my tent with his brother and a number of his old servants and dependants, to solicit some provision for them, and to make some arrangements for the removal of his family to the Company's territory, he was so agitated and distressed, that he was obliged to let his brother speak for him. It was finally settled that the two Vakeels should each have an allowance of fifteen pagodas, and that his jagheer, instead of nine thousand, should be ten thousand rupees, from which he should make such allowance as he chose to his relations and followers, and

that the pensions and jagheers should be granted in whatever part of the Company's possessions they might be required.

Though I deemed it advisable to limit myself in promising a jagheer to ten thousand rupees, yet, when I consider what Sheo Rau has lost, that he was as much a sovereign in his own valley as any prince in India,—that it contained a regular fort, built by Hyder and Tippu Sultan at a great expense,—that it was besides so strong by nature, that no Mahratta power could have taken it from him,—and that he had ruled over it from his infancy, for the space of twenty-one years without interruption, I cannot think that even the twelve thousand rupees which he has demanded would be more than a very inadequate compensation for the sacrifice which he has been compelled to make.

Siva Rau retired to Hiréhal to live on the 10,000 rupees assigned to him. Then quickly followed the great Mahratta war, and when the Peishwa's government was broken up, Colonel Monro recommended that Sheo Rau should be restored to his principality, "and" says Mr. Gleig, "the British Government, well-disposed of itself to act with generosity, readily acceded to the proposition." The stipulations for the grant of a jagheer in exchange for his territory had been confirmed by the Government, but were not acted upon; and in the succeeding year his former territory was restored to Siva Rau by the Governor-General, and eight years afterwards he received a Sannad from the Government in the following form:—

Copied from the To
original Sannad.

Sheva Rau Goreparah
Jaghiredar of Sandúr.

The Honorable the Governor in Council of Fort St. George has been pleased to confer in jaghire on you and your Heirs for ever the Lands of Sandúr free of Peshkush and pecuniary demands.

You shall have the entire management of the Revenue and Police of your jaghire and also the duty of administering Civil justice subject to the undermentioned conditions.—

"You shall maintain at all times faith and allegiance to the Honorable Company, their enemies shall be your enemies, and their friends shall be your friends. You shall assist the Honorable Company to the utmost of your power against foreign and domestic foes. You shall maintain a strict watch over the public peace in your jaghire. You shall not afford an asylum to offenders from

the Company's districts, but shall either deliver them up, or assist the officer of the Company sent in pursuit of them. You shall cause justice to be rendered to the inhabitants of the Company's districts, and others, who may have pecuniary claims on any of the inhabitants of Sandúr.

You shall be answerable to the Honorable Company for the good government of your jaghire, and if ever it should happen that in consequence of misgovernment the interposition of the Honorable Company should become necessary, the Honorable the Governor in Council of Fort St. George will in such case take such measures as may appear just and proper for restoring order, and providing for the security of the people.

Given under the seal of the Honorable Company and signature of the Governor in Council in Fort St. George this 7th day of July, One thousand eight hundred and twenty-six."

With reference to the very inferior title of jaghiredar it may reasonably be assumed that it has slipped into the Sannad, without due consideration, and inadvertently. After the State of Sandúr was taken possession of by the British Government, a correspondence, as we have seen, ensued about a jagheer to be given in compensation for the loss sustained—but when the relations of the Government with the Peishwa were changed, it was resolved to restore the principality, more as an act of justice, it may be presumed, than as one of generosity. In fact it had been seized on grounds of mere State policy, the abstract justice of which was more than questionable, and political events having in the meantime turned out favourable, an early opportunity was embraced to remedy the wrong. The Chief of Sandúr had never been a mere Jaghiredar, but, as Sir Thomas Monro justly observes—"he was as much a sovereign in his own valley as any prince in India." It is clear even from the Sannad given that he was virtually re-instated in his ancient dignity as a prince—but with certain obligations to the paramount power. These, however, did not invalidate his sovereignty, nor materially affect his rank. It is not easy, therefore, to conceive why the barren title of Jaghiredar should be retained; a title, by the way, which has more than once given rise to contention as to the real standing of the Sandúr Chief. The opinion, however, of Her Majesty's Judges of the High Court of Madras, in the case of the "*Queen versus Vencanna*," is conclusive

on this point. After cursorily reviewing the history of the State, they go on to say :—“ From these facts it clearly appears that, on the restoration, the territory of Sandúr became as it had been before the State of a Native Chief or Ruler, and that it has so continued to the present time. The Sannads do no doubt grant the lands in jaghire and establish a relation of subordination to the paramount British Government. But the powers recognised and the obligations enjoined are wholly incompatible with the position of an ordinary Jaghiredar, and consistent only with that of the Ruler of a State. A strong confirmation of the territory being the State of a ruling Prince or Chief (if confirmation was wanted) is afforded by the Sannad addressed to the Rajah by Earl Canning in 1862 to the effect that the British Government would recognise the adoption of a successor made by himself or any future Chief of his State; and by the Order of the present Viceroy in Council, published in February 1867, declaring, under the Stat. 27 and 28, Vic, Cap. 15, the original Criminal jurisdiction of the High Court to extend to European British Subjects, being Christians, resident in the Native States and Chiefships, named therein, of which Sandúr is one.” There are Jaghiredars in Sandúr, who hold their lands under the authority of the Chief—but assuredly it is something more than an abuse of language to designate him as such.

The death of *Siva Rau* took place in 1840, when he was succeeded by one of his nephews *Vencat Rau Ghorepara*, to whom in the following year, a Sannad in the same form as that already quoted, was renewed; but, with the additional restriction,—“ that in the administration of Criminal justice, he should not mutilate criminals nor sentence capitally, nor execute persons capitally convicted without the sanction of Government previously obtained—but should refer all cases appearing to him to call for such punishments for the consideration and orders of the Governor in Council.”

Vencat Rau died in 1861, leaving five sons, the eldest of whom, *Siva Shum Mukho Rau*, the present Chief, being a minor, was not invested with the authority until November 1863; shortly before which he had attained his 16th year. A Sannad had been renewed in his name on the 13th day of the preceding month, under the same conditions as that held by his father. On his assuming the government he appointed the compiler of this Memoir as his agent and chief adviser.

During the period that has elapsed up to the present date, (September 1871) many important changes in the administration have been gradually introduced. Not a few obnoxious imposts have been abolished, which doubtless had their origin when the *Chout* and other similar exactions flourished. The legitimate authority of the police, and the personal liberty and rights of the subject, have been defined and established on a clearer and juster basis, domestic slavery for debt suppressed, equal laws for all classes enacted and enforced, and a regular system of executive justice instituted. In the administration of Criminal and Civil justice, the system followed is substantially that which is practised in Her Majesty's Courts. In order to facilitate judicial enquiries the Stamp and Registration Laws have been brought into operation. The Agent is invested with the chief executive powers—both as regards revenue matters, and the administration of justice. The decisions of his Court are final—but are open to a revision on just cause being shown—the principle being fully admitted that justice is of more consequence than an apparent consistency. In cases involving intricate points of Hindu law and custom, a jury of Pundits is empanelled, by whose opinion the Court is guided. One of the Raja's brothers, *Vittul Rau Ghorepara*, is now invested with authority as Honorary Assistant Magistrate, over a limited class of cases, the record being sent to the higher Court—and there being also a right of appeal from the decisions of this, as well as from those of every Subordinate Court, to that of the Agent. The Rajah, himself, holds a Court for the settlement of Inams, or ecclesiastical matters, at certain seasons.

The rendition of those charged with heinous offences, and who may have taken refuge in Sandúr, is prompt and speedy, and generally on the production of a Warrant signed by a Magistrate exercising full powers—and there has seldom been much delay on the part of Her Majesty's Government in similar cases on application being duly made. The number of such cases, has, in consequence, been considerably diminished, as might naturally be expected. For it must ever be to the public advantage that justice be freed from all unnecessary trammels. Doubtless in the case of subjects charged with offences in another State, it is the duty of a Government before handing them over to justice, to be satisfied that a *prima facie* case exists, and that the offence is of such a nature as to call for their rendition—but when the accused are subjects of the Government in pursuit of them, and there is no reason to believe that they will be

dealt with otherwise than in accordance with law—the policy of circumlocution becomes absurd and mischievous.

The population of the State, not including Ramandrúg, according to the recent census, is somewhat over 14,000; showing an increase, on the census of 1865, of more than 1,000 persons. Whether this increase is due to an actual growth of population, or to a more careful and accurate method of enumeration, or to both combined, cannot well be determined.

The revenue from all sources last year, ending 31st May 1871, somewhat exceeded Rupees 45,000. Of this sum about Rupees 24,000 was realized from land; Rupees 18,300 from various contracts; and the rest from miscellaneous sources. It is to be observed, however, that the land revenue includes grants of land to dependants, and service lands; and that these are generally estimated at the highest figure; and also, that contracts are a precarious and fluctuating source of income.

In addition to what has been mentioned of the resources of Sandúr, the following Inams are enjoyed: viz., Bramadaya, Rupees 4,571; Komaraswami Pagoda, Rupees 2,945; other temples, Rupees 2,332; by Fakirs and others, Rupees 1,298; and sundry small jaghires, Rupees 1,360; in all, lands to the value of Rupees 12,506 per annum; nor is there here any reason to believe that the estimates are too high.

It has been the policy of the present Raja's administration to increase the security of, and render more permanent, the land tenures. For if the cultivator is liable to be ousted as soon as any one offers a higher rate for his lands than he is paying himself, it is evident that his true interest lies, not in improvements, but in taking out of the land all that he can get. The ryots are allowed to cut wood for all agricultural purposes free from payment; nor are they liable to be charged for firewood which they themselves carry home. The poorer classes are permitted to cut firewood and grass in the jungles, and to sell in the bazaar free of tax.

Since November 1863 the sum of Rupees 83,000 has been paid towards the liquidation of debts; but, it is to be regretted, with far less practical result than might reasonably be anticipated. The system, however, of paying with one hand, and contracting fresh obligations with the other, is embarrassing and subversive of all true progress. Education is in a backward state. Roads are still urgently

required, and public buildings are wanted : but, the incubus of debt of former and of recent years, paralyses every effort.

The following account of the Temple of Komaraswami, is taken *verbatim* from Lieutenant Newbold's Essay :—

Passing down the valley in a S. E. direction, a range of hills, about equi-distant from the two principal chains, runs down the centre ; turning from them to the right, the western range is ascended to the famous temple of Komaraswami. The road lies over masses of lateritic rock, heavier and more compact than the laterite of Malabar. The rock caps the summit of the ridge in large irregular masses. Like limestone it abounds in caverns some of considerable extent. The summit of the ridge is a flat extensive table-land, descending in long flat step-like spurs to the plain of the British district. These spurs are separated by deep ravines, taking a southerly direction. The whole of these is of the laterite rock, presenting no appearance of stratification, and containing no fossil remains. Large beds of Kaolin occur, and one near the temple is considered peculiarly sacred as it is believed to be the congealed milk that flowed from the breast of Parvati, who wandered over these mountains in quest of her lost child, Komaraswami.

The temple of Komara or Karticaswami, the Hindu Mars, is situated near the bason of a ravine, near the summit of the S. W. part of the range of hills that enclose the valley ; and after an ascent of 4 miles. The pagoda is neither large nor magnificent, but has an air of antiquity, of which its white-washed exterior and gilded cupola cannot entirely divest it. The gopuram faces the east ; on the left of the entrance is the shrine of the goddess Parvati, consort of Siva ; to the west is the image of her son, Komaraswami, the presiding genius of the place ; and to the right stands the shrine of the destroyer, Shiva. In front is a square pool called " Aguste Tirtha." In front of the gopuram is a small octangular column of hewn stone, at the foot of which lie three trunkless stone heads. The largest belongs to the giant Tarakasaru, slain by Komaraswami. Marks of the footsteps of the god are shown in the jungles. The jatra occurs triennially. The number of pilgrims has latterly amounted to 25 or 30,000, and the temple revenue averages from 15 to 20,000 Rupees annually. A Shasanam in old Canarese is still preserved, which

NOTE.—The revenue here is much over-estimated. The annual revenue is not more than 10,000 Rs. and it has never reached the amount quoted by Lieutenant Newbold.

grants the endowment of the temple. It was given in S. 641 (A. D. 718) by a king of the Marala dynasty, named Bijala Naik.

Sanitarium of Ramandrug.—In the year 1846 the Government applied for, and obtained from the Raja, permission to establish a Sanitarium on Ramandrúg, and, for the better maintenance of order, the Raja, executed a Tahanamah, ceding to the Collector of Bellary for the time being, certain criminal jurisdiction over offences committed by others than subjects of the Raja in the plateau of Ramandrúg. It may be useful to quote here the opinion of Her Majesty's Judges of the High Court of Madras, as to the extent and legal force of that concession. In the case of the Queen *versus* Vencanna and Narasa, referred by the Magistrate of Bellary under Section 404 of the Code of Criminal Procedure for the opinion of High Court:

Held: That the Session Court of Bellary has no jurisdiction under the Penal Code, to try Native subjects of the Jaghirdar, or Raja of Sandúr, for offences committed in the plateau of Ramandrúg upon Native inhabitants of the village of Ramandrúg; that Ramandrúg is a portion of the territory of Sandúr, and the Raja is in the position of a Native Chief or Ruler; and that the Tahanamah or treaty did not give the Session Court of Bellary jurisdiction, but it surrendered exclusive criminal jurisdiction over a limited class of persons, namely, Europeans and their servants, and all other resident persons, not Native subjects of the Raja, and left the Government unfettered to provide in the way they deemed right for the trial and punishment of offences committed by such persons.

The Judges sum up their opinion, as follows:—"Under the concession, then, we are of opinion that persons, not Native subjects of the Raja, committing offences on the plateau, for which they are amenable to our criminal law, are protected from the Raja's power over offenders; and they alone can be apprehended, committed and tried by the Magistrates or Justices of the Peace and the Courts within Her Majesty's Indian Territories, or by a Judicial Officer empowered to exercise jurisdiction on the plateau. Offences committed by the subjects of another Prince or State, not made amenable to our criminal law, must be dealt with, if at all, by the Government, under the Tahanamah, as an international question." The following information, regarding the Sanitarium, has been kindly furnished, by Dr. Hayden, late Assistant Surgeon to the Depôt.

Ramandrúg or Ramanamullay, a Convalescent Depôt for the troops serving in the Ceded Districts, is situated in Latitude $15^{\circ} 7' N.$, and Longitude $76^{\circ} 3' E.$; it is distant from Bellary 38 miles, and from Secunderabad 270 miles. The station is built on an elevated plateau; 3,150 feet above sea-level; 1,825 above Bellary; and 1,200 feet above the surrounding plains.

The greatest extent of the plateau is from north to south one and a half miles; and it varies in breadth from half to three-quarters of a mile.

The general aspect of the surface is undulating; the eastern ridge of the hill being more than 100 feet higher than the western, and the ground gradually slopes down from the former to the latter, where in many places the descent to the western plains is very precipitous; owing to this conformation no rain water lodges on the hill. The soil on the plateau, formed by the disintegrated rock is scanty, but sufficient in some spots on the west and south sides of the hill to admit of a certain amount of cultivation; on the eastern side the rock is generally bare.

During the months of January, February and March, the air is cool, dry and bracing, being, generally 12° cooler than at Bellary during the same period.

April and May may be called the hot months; when the mean of the thermometer is about 80° . The mornings and evenings during these months are, however, cool and pleasant, and towards sunset a cool refreshing breeze sets in from the west.

Early in April and during May partial showers fall, and the air, except in the early mornings and evenings is close and sultry, and the sky becomes cloudy.

Towards the end of May banks of clouds are seen forming in the west, and occasional heavy showers of rain fall. This is soon followed by storms of wind, rain, thunder and lightning, ushering in the south-west monsoon. Rain continues with occasional breaks till the middle of October, after which, to the end of the year, the rainfall is inconsiderable. During the south-west monsoon fogs cover the hills, usually from sun-set till 9 or 10 o'clock next morning, but, at times, continuing throughout the day; the thermometer in the early morning falling to 62° fahrenheit. The damp, chilly state of the atmosphere at this period, necessitates the use of fires in barracks and houses. The N. E. monsoon sets in about the middle of October, and a strong, cold, dry wind prevails

from the N. E. quarter till the end of February, when it gradually veers round to the south-west.

During the south-west monsoon the sides of the hill and the ravines and nullahs at the base contain an immense amount of decaying vegetable matter. After the rains are over, the surface of the country rapidly dries up, and the atmosphere becomes loaded with impurities; this may account for the not unfrequent occurrence of malarious fever at this station during this period of the year.

The following table will indicate the nature of the climate, more in detail:—

Return showing the average amount of rainfall during the past year, and average temperature.

1870.	Temperature of Dry Bulb.	RAINFALL.		REMARKS.
		Inches.	Twentieths:	
January.....	71.50			
February.....	75.09			
March.....	78.91		8	
April.....	82.74	5	
May.....	80.86	2	2	
June.....	74.83	6		
July.....	69.51	6	7	
August.....	70.61	9	10	
September.....	71.27	4	17	
October.....	71.97	6	6	
November.....	72.00	1	6	
December.....	67.88		
	887.17	37	1	
Average for year.....	73.93	3	1½	

The climate of Ramandrúg is suitable for cases of general debility, unattended by organic disease. Hepatic, cardiac, rheumatic, pulmonic and bowel affections, appear to be aggravated by the climate, especially during the rains. All cases of glandular affections derive great benefit, and children of a scrofulous habit of body, thrive remarkably at Ramandrúg.

Return showing the average number of men sent up from Bellary during the past 5 years, and percentage of those returned to their corps benefited by the change.

Year.	Arrived from Bellary.	
1866	54	26
1867	77	63
1868	61	54
1869	101	98
1870	111	69
Total...	404	310
Average for 5 years.....	81	62
Percentage of recovered to number of arrivals.....	76

The Dépôt can accommodate 60 single men and 10 families.

The following table shows the temperature, &c., of Ramandrúg during four of the hotter months of the year as compared with that of Mahableshtar, the celebrated Bombay sanitarium. It was prepared in 1851 by Major Dallas of the Quarter Master General's Office, and he remarks that the season at Ramandrúg had been an unusually warm one:—

	MAHABLESHWAR.		RAMANDRUG.	
	Thermometer.	Percentage of moisture.	Thermometer.	Percentage of moisture.
March.....	75·3	45·9	78°	47
April.....	78·1	46·9	77·5	65
May.....	76·4	62·9	72·5	79
June.....	70·7	88·1	73°	86
Average.....	75°	74·5	

There are three good roads up to the Drúg, one by Yettinhatti and Bavihalli, which is the one used by travellers from Bellary; one from Hospett, and the third the steepest of all from Narayandeverkerra.

The hill of Ramanamullay appears to have been fortified in former times, as the various approaches to it have still the remains of barricades and loop-holed parapets with stone walls. Near the burial-ground are several walled excavations, which are described as the ruins of granaries, and there are to be seen in many places of the hill, though now in ruins, foundations of clumps of oblong buildings, which are supposed to have been the habitation of the people of the plains who sought protection here in troublous times. There are about fifteen houses on the Drúg, belonging to Bellary residents. Two good carriage roads run along the whole platform, and many excellent bridle roads have been cut along the sides of the hills to the north and south.

The soil is well adapted for the cultivation of European vegetables and during the rains the hill is covered with a profusion of wild flowers and creepers. The best gardens are those by the tank which has been formed in a natural basin on the west of the hill. Mineral springs have been discovered in several places. The principal chalybeate spring, not far from "The Lover's leap," was discovered by Major Henderson, R. E., and was tested by the Chemical Examiner

Chloride of Sodium.....	22.38
" of Soda.....	7.56
" of Lime.....	24.04
" of Iron.....	6.38
Alumina.....	8.00
Silicic Acid.....	12.46
Organic Matter.....	19.18

100—

with the following result: "The specific gravity of the water is 0.9978. An imperial gallon contains $16\frac{1}{2}$ grains of insoluble salts, and 5.97 gallons contain 100 grains in the proportions shown in the margin with a trace of magnesia and potash. The native population of the hills are Beders or Boyas, supposed by some to have been the aborigines of the Carnatic. An old manuscript belonging to the curmum of Girgum states, that at one time these hills were part of the possessions of the Poligars of Raidrúg.

The winds are occasionally hot during the hot season, but never uncomfortably so. While at Bellary the heat is both constant and oppressive, with the thermometer ranging from 96° to 100° in the shade, it has never been observed to rise higher than 87° at Raman-drúg during the hottest part of the season, and even then the mornings and evenings are cool, and there is generally a cool breeze.

The following table shows the difference of temperature at Bellary and Ramandrúg for six months of the year. The observations were taken simultaneously at 6 A. M., 2 P. M., and 6 P. M.

		6 A. M.	2 P. M.	6 P. M.
December.....	Bellary.....	63	85	76
	Drúg.....	62	68	67
January.....	Bellary.....	65	84	81
	Drúg.....	61	73	71
February.....	Bellary.....	65	90	85
	Drúg.....	72	76	71
March.....	Bellary.....	76	95	90
	Drúg.....	72	84	82
April.....	Bellary.....	80	100	89
	Drúg.....	74	87	80
May.....	Bellary.....	82	97	93
	Drúg.....	75	83	82
June.....	Bellary.....	78	93	88
	Drúg.....	70	80	79

The rainfall is greater than in the plains, but seems to have fallen off in the last few years, a fact which is probably due to the unlimited destruction of trees and shrubs which was unchecked during the minority of the present Raja.

