



SHIMOGA DISTRICT

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

Situation.—A District in the north-west; situated between $13^{\circ} 28'$ and $14^{\circ} 38'$ north latitude, and between $74^{\circ} 41'$ and $76^{\circ} 9'$ east longitude. Its greatest length is 95 miles from east to west. From north to south the longest line is 80 miles.

Area.—Its area is computed at 4,009 square miles; of which 1,132 square miles are under cultivation, and 2,463 square miles unculturable and waste.

Boundaries.—It is bounded on the east and south by the Chitaldroog and Kadur Districts respectively, on the north by Dharwar, and on the north west by North Kanara, both belonging to the Bombay Presidency, and on the west by South Kanara of the Madras Presidency.

Divisions.—The Ságar Sub-Division, formed in 1891, comprises the Sorab, Ságar and Nagar taluqs. The whole District consists of the following taluqs. Kumsi is a sub-taluq under Shimoga taluq.

No.	Taluq.	Area, sq. miles.	No. of Hoblis.	No. of Villages or Towns.	Population.	Per sq. mile.
1	Channagiri	465	5	243	74,218	159'60
2	Honnáli	329	3	167	63,527	193'09
3	Nagar	529	6	204	42,841	80'98
4	Ságar	666	6	246	58,999	88'58
5	Shikárpur	428	6	197	64,404	150'47
6	Shimoga	659	7	393	94,716	143'72
7	Sorab	461	6	306	70,047	151'94
8	Tirthahalli	472	5	244	59,229	125'48
	Total	4,009	44	2,000	527,981	131'69

Physical features.—A line drawn from Talguppa to Anantapur and thence to the Ghats through Masarur and Kavaledurga, with one from this last point to Kodachádri Parvata, would nearly correspond with the watersheds which separate the main lines of drainage. All the streams to the south, east and north of the line flow to the Tunga-

bhadra ; those on the west to the Sharavati, and those on the south-west to the Gargita. The main part of the District therefore consists of the western slopes of the upper Tungabhadra valley.

This river is formed by the union, at Kudali, of the Tunga and the Bhadra, of which the former runs most of its course within this District, in a north-easterly direction. From the point of confluence of the united streams the river runs north to the frontier, which it follows north-eastwards to beyond Harihara, receiving on the left bank the Choradi and on the right the Haridra. Thence, leaving the Mysore, it runs north, separating Madras from Bombay until joined on the left by the Varada, when again turning north-east, it marks the boundary between Madras and the Nizam's dominions, and receiving on the right the Haggari or Vedavati, flows past Hampe, the site of the ancient cities of Kishkindha, Anegundi and Vijayanagar, into the Krishna beyond Karnul.

The Sharavati rises near Kavaledurga and, uniting with the Haridravati on the right, pursues a north-west course to the frontier. Thence turning west it hurls itself down the Ghats by the Jóg or far-famed Falls of Gersoppa, a sheer descent of over 900 feet, and runs into the sea at Honavar (Honore).

The streams rising between Kodachádri Parvata and Kavaledurga flow west or south-west into the sea at Kundapur, the principal one being the Gargita, which descends to S. Kanara from the head of the Haidar Ghar Ghat.

The western side of the District, resting upon the Ghats, is very mountainous and covered with magnificent forest, the highest point being the Kodachádri Parvata, a fine peak situated 10 miles north-west of Nagar. Its elevation is 4,411 feet above the level of the sea. Govardhangiri in Ságar, and Chandragutti in Sorab, are also conspicuous hills, the height of the latter being 2,794 feet.

The interior of the District is crossed at the central watershed by a chain of hills running from Mandagadde on the Tunga northwards, between Anantapur and Kumsi, towards Sorab, and by a range from Atavádi westwards through Ikkéri to Tálguppa. On the east are two lines of low, stony hills stretching from the south of Channagiri to the frontier, one following the course of the Tungabhadra northwards, the other crossing that river near Hole Honnur and passing near Shikarpur. The south-west around Nagar and Kavaledurga is full of hills.

The general elevation of the District along the watershed is about 2,100 feet above sea level, falling to 1,900 in the east and west. The height of Anantapur has been determined as 2,101 feet ; east of which, Shimoga is 1,899 and Benkipur 1,872 ; while on the west, Tálguppa is

1,956, Ságar 1,973, Kollur Katte 1,928, Nagar 1,887, and Haidarghar 1,896. The head of the chasm at the Falls of Gersoppa is 1,670 feet.

The greater part of the District is reckoned as Malnáḍ or hill country, which, roughly speaking, may be described as occupying all to the west of a line drawn from Shikarpur to Gajanur; the eastern portion being Maidán or Bailu síme, open country. The whole of the first-named region presents a range of scenery abounding with every charm of tropical forests and mountain wilds. Trees of the largest size stand thickly together over miles of unbroken ranks, their giant trunks entwined with creepers of python dimensions, their massive arms decked with a thousand bright blossoming orchids. Birds of rare plumage flit from bough to bough. From the thick woods, which abruptly terminate on verdant swards, bison issue forth in the early morn and afternoon to browse on the rich herbage, while large herds of elk pass rapidly across the hillsides. Packs of wild dogs cross the path, hunting in company, and the warning boom of the great *langur* monkey is heard from the lofty trees. The bamboo forest has beauties of its own, whether waving in immense fronds of delicate green foliage, or whitening with its rice-like grain. Lively gardens of the elegant areca palm, for which Nagar is famous; the *háns* of Sorab, with the rich hues of wild cinnamon and the sombre green of the jack, intermingled with the truncated leaf of the *bagni* palm, and the waving bunches of the pepper vine; the magnificent avenues of the *dhúpa* tree in Ságar:—all unite to vary the attractions of a region replete with every natural beauty. The view from the head of the descent to the Falls of Gersoppa is probably one of the choicest bits of scenery in the world.

The features of the open country are tame in comparison with those of the woodland tracts, but there is much that is picturesque in the fertile taluq of Channagiri with its large Súlekere lake, the finest reservoir with one exception in the south of India.

Rocks.—Laterite is abundantly found and quarried in the western taluqs. The square blocks form the most common building material, being used not only for dwelling-houses, but for bridges and other public erections. Broken up it forms metalling for roads.

Minerals.—Iron ore is extracted in some parts. On the summit of the Ghats stones are frequently found possessing magnetic properties, as at Kodachádri. Gold is widely diffused and a broad auriferous tract extends throughout the eastern half of the District. Gold-mining under European direction has been commenced in the Honnáli gold-field and south of Benkipur on the Bhadra.

Soil.—The general substratum of laterite in the western taluqs, wherever it approaches the surface, checks vegetation. The soil in the

rice valleys, so characteristic of the Malnád, is loose and sandy, while that of garden lands is stiff and clayey. The richest soil of the District is in the north-east, from the Súlekere northwards. The black soil here prevails, as also around Nyámti and Belgutti in Honnáli taluq.

Climate.—Approaching as it does at one point within 8 miles of the sea, and extending eastwards nearly 100 miles, the District presents much variety of climate in different parts. For about 25 miles from the Ghats the south-west monsoon is felt in full force, the annual fall of rain at Nagar being from 150 to 170 inches. East of this line, however, the quantity rapidly diminishes, being at Shimoga about 31, and at Channagiri only about 25, or less. At Shimoga, which is 40 miles from the nearest Ghats, the south-west monsoon often produces nothing more than driving clouds with a strong steady breeze and moist cool atmosphere, with occasional drizzle and a few days of moderately heavy rain. East of the junction of the Tunga and Bhadra, the wind blows during the height of the monsoon with much force, but the clouds which are carried along with it rarely break. The heaviest rains on this side are in May and October, and come in thunder-storms from the eastward. The order of the seasons has been observed as follows by Mr. Stokes :—

“In the middle of March, or a little before the commencement of the Hindu year, the weather becomes close and hot, the prevailing wind from the west being frequently interrupted by calms. In the course of the next fifteen days thunder-showers fall, which are sometimes very violent, and the first or second is usually a hail-storm, the hailstones varying from the size of a musket-ball to that of a pigeon’s egg. These occasional showers continue through the month of April, but the heat is relieved on the western side of the District by the sea-breeze, which is felt distinctly at Shimoga. In May the weather gets still more uncertain, and before the close of the month one or more violent squalls occur, accompanied with heavy rain. About the end of the first week in June the south-west monsoon generally sets in and blows almost without intermission until the end of July or middle of August. A break then ensues, which lasts for 15 or 20 days, usually with a clear sky and little wind or rain. The monsoon, however, returns again, sometimes with much force, and continues till the end of September, when the weather again becomes unsettled, and thunder-storms from the east alternate with hot sunshine, till about the 10th of October, soon after which the north-east monsoon sets in. A dry north-east wind, mostly with a clear sky, blows daily from nine o’clock A.M. till sunset, sometimes with great violence. The rapidity with which evaporation goes on during this wind is astonishing. The roads which

have been broken up into deep quagmires become in a few days dusty, and not a vestige is left of the numerous pools which had been visible all over the country. The water in the paddy fields is dried up, and the crops, till then green, become immediately dry. At this time the nights are calm and very clear, and a heavy dew falls. The mornings are very cool and sometimes foggy. The cold increases till about the 10th of January, and from the middle of December till the end of January the thermometer at daylight is not often more than 50°; the cold then moderates, and the sea-breeze is sometimes felt in the evening and at night, and commonly brings with it a heavy fog, which in the Malnád is so thick in the morning that objects cannot be seen at the distance of 10 yards. It seldom clears till past nine o'clock.

Temperature.—The following are given as the results of thermometric observations at Shimoga in 1892, the latest procurable :—

	Mean.		Highest Reading.	Lowest Reading.
	Max.	Min.		
May	92·45	56·23	98	53
July	84·71	55·94	92	55
December	83·85	54·40	85	49

The average temperature in the preceding years was :—

	9 A.M.	3 P.M.		9 A.M.	3 P.M.
1890 ...	74·98	78·73	|	1891 ...	69·83 ... 78·20

Rainfall.—The average annual rainfall at Shimoga, calculated on the observations recorded for 26 years (1870–95) is 34·50 inches, or, according to another register for 14 years, 36·99 inches. As previously stated, this rate is very greatly exceeded in the Malnád districts according to their greater or less proximity to the Ghats. The monthly average is given under each taluq, but the average annual rate at other taluq and sub-taluq stations was as follows :—

Channagiri	25·90 or 26·34	Ságar	71·06 or 69·71
Honnáli	22·69 ,, 22·99	Shikárpur	30·13 ,, 31·33
Kumsi	38·94	Sorab	56·20 ,, 57·48
Nagar	184·43 ,, 192·59	Tirthahalli	116·10 ,, 110·35

The actual annual fall at Shimoga has been recorded as below :—

1837 ...	In.c.	27·4	1846 ...	In.c.	32·7	1855 ...	In.c.	15·6	1864 ...	In.c.	34·7
1838 ...	15·8	1847 ...	31·3	1856 ...	24·7	1865 ...	34·1				
1839 ...	31	1848 ...	33·6	1857 ...	22·1	1866 ...	36·3				
1840 ...	23·9	1849 ...	39·5	1858 ...	33·4	1867 ...	—				
1841 ...	23·8	1850 ...	38·5	1859 ...	31·8	1868 ...	34·8				
1842 ...	29	1851 ...	20·3	1860 ...	20·5	1869 ...	26·27				
1843 ...	15·3	1852 ...	42·8	1861 ...	25·8	1870 ...	42·74				
1844 ...	30·7	1853 ...	29·4	1862 ...	24·7	1871 ...	35·28				
1845 ...	24·1	1854 ...	26·1	1863 ...	31·3	1872 ...	64·46				

	In.c.		In.c.		In.c.		In.c.
1873 ...	29·12	1884 ...	31·82	1888 ...	38·40	1892 ...	26·51
1874 ...	39·89	1885 ...	39·60	1889 ...	40·70	1893 ...	34·10
		1886 ...	38·30	1890 ...	35·05	1894 ...	26·07
1882 ...	56·57	1887 ...	36·64	1891 ...	29·80	1895 ...	37·30
1883 ..	47·57						

Vegetation.¹—The Western Ghats and the country immediately below them are covered with magnificent evergreen forest. Many of the hills are heavily wooded up to their summits. In some parts the undergrowth is dense, elsewhere the forest is open, and on all sides trees with clear stems to the first branch of from 80 to 100 feet meet the eye. The great bulk of these trees can scarcely be realized except by actual measurement. The more valuable kinds are poon, wild jack, ebony, somé, heigni, erool, dúpada mara, the large dévadáram, gamboge and a species of cedar. The wealth of timber in these forests is almost entirely unproductive, owing to the inaccessible nature of the country.

More to the east, as far as a line from Anavatti to midway between Shikárpur and Honnáli and thence to Sakrebail, is a rich and productive belt of vegetation, including the káns of Sorab, areca palm and cardamom gard. . . and the rich rice-flats of Ságar, Nagar and Tirthahalli. Within this tract are the State and District forests. The more important trees are teak, black wood, honne, matti, sampaji, arsentéga, alale, biridi, bilvára, bági, ságade or chendála, jambe, dindiga, hulvati or námadári, húnal and mashi, jani, kadaga, kuli, kaltéka, nelli, navaládi, nandi, pachári, shi-anvige, tapasi, and kendatsal.

Teak, not of the largest size, is found in Shikárpur, Kumsi and Sakrebail. Bamboo is abundant everywhere. Sandal is most plentiful in Sorab, Ságar and Nagar taluqs. It also grows in parts of Shimoga and Shikárpur, and a little in Channagiri and Honnáli.

The taluq of Sorab abounds with káns, many of which are cultivated with pepper vines, and sometimes coffee. The sago palm (*caryota urens*) is also much grown for the sake of its toddy. These káns are apparently the remains of the old forests, which appear once to have stretched as far east as Anavatti. At the present day at Anavatti itself there is no wood, and the surrounding country is clothed with either scrub jungle or small deciduous forest, generally pentapterous. Káns are found also in Ságar, Nagar, and the other Malnád taluqs, but those in Sorab are, from their number, situation and accessibility, the most valuable.

The Ságar taluq is not so thickly wooded as that of Sorab, except along the Ghats. The adjoining taluq of Nagar possesses heavy forests

¹ Compiled from the Annual Report of the Forest Department.

in the west (though several of the hills are cleared), but the wood grows generally in large káns, which are scattered unequally over the taluq. Going south to Tirthahalli much fine timber is found to the north of the Tunga, while to the south of the river the country is comparatively open. From Mandagadde in this taluq is a long stretch of wooded country, which runs north *viâ* Hannigeri through portions of the Shimoga taluq to the confines of Sorab and Ságar. In this strip there is good teak, much fine second-class timber, and a vast quantity of *inga xylocarpa*, which is largely used for making charcoal for the iron mines that abound near Masrúr, Shrigeri and other places in Anantapur and Shimoga.

Between Shikárpur and Kumsi is a belt of jungle, parts of which have been placed on the State forest lists. In the eastern portions of Shikárpur and Honnáli taluqs there is comparatively little wood. Between Shikárpur and Sorab is a quantity of small pentapterous jungle near Udagani and Sirálkoppa, which only requires conservation to grow up into a valuable second-class forest.

The Honnáli taluq is poorly wooded. Near Malébénnúr, in the low hills to the east of the Tungabhadra, are the remains of old jungles, which apparently yielded small timber and much fuel. In Channagiri there is very little wood; in the south-west of the taluq is a small jungle.

Forests.—The reserved or State Forests occupy an area of 355 square miles, according to the following detailed statement :—

Name.	Sq. miles.	Name.	Sq. miles.
Shankargudda }	37	Are Telgadde	1
Butanbail }		Karadi-betta	30
Sakrabail	23	Belandur	25
Male Bennur	11	Chandrakal	11
Telagadde	5	Gangavansara	25
Kukvada Ubrani	70	Chandragatti	6
Chorna Yedehalli	10	Bettadakurli	3
Masarur... ..	10	Kavadi	2
Kumsi	20	Malandur	11
Kunchinhalli	6	Umblibail }	16
Togarsi	1	Hunsekatte }	
Kavali	1	Aldhara... ..	17
Basava Nandihalli	3	Purdhai... ..	10

Plantations.—There are 9 Forest plantations, occupying an area of 873 acres; and 2 Revenue plantations, covering 411 acres. *Avenue trees* have been planted on 611 miles of public road, giving a total of 126,654. *Groves* or topes number 261, containing 9,045 trees.

Cultivation.—Rice is the principal cultivated product of the District, of which more than 60 kinds are enumerated. Areca-nut is extensively grown in Nagar, Ságar and Tirthahalli, that of the first-named place

being considered superior to any in the Province. Sugar-cane is largely reared in Shikárpur. Honnáli chiefly produces different kinds of dry grains as well as cotton. Pepper grows wild in the forests of Nagar and Sorab, while cardamoms are produced in the jungles about Agumbi, though not so good as those raised in areca gardens.

The sowing of rice commences in April and continues on till well in July. Reaping commences in November, and by the end of February or so is concluded. By the close of March, or a little after, the grain is threshed, and by the close of April or May is ready for the market.

The following are the names of the different kinds grown in the District:—

Sakaláti sanna	Chekkali bhatta	Varnagilli bhatta
Dásar „	Jangali „	Chale „
Nerlagiri „	Hasar meluge bhatta	Nerogoli „
Putti „	Kare dádi „	Haluganna „
Bili „	Hunse huvina „	Kamariganna bhatta
Kempu „	Bidane bija „	Kempu dádi banna sále
Marutra „	Kalave „	Bili „
Nirlagiri „	Togarigina „	Nirada „
Gauri „	Siddasále „	Billikana hegge
Bhangár kaddi bhatta	Sómasáli „	Juddi „
Mentyasále „	Jrige sáli „	Mardara „
Kesari „	Motalingana „	Putti „
Hasar kesari „	Hasibilevina „	Sampige dála
Kempu „	Bili hasadi „	Betta kendála
Hanesále „	Mara hasadi „	Bále suli
Keruvina „	Kugalli „	Hunkal mardiga
Ambe mori „	Kirvannana „	Kavade doddiga
Hasadi „	Hasangana „	Kambu tige
Haralu honisana „	Kodde „	Pusta manjari
Hudri „	Kurni „	Bili mundakara
Jolasina „	Gúgigonda „	Kempu „

Next to rice the most important wet crop is sugar-cane, of which the principal varieties cultivated are *kiri kabbu*, *mara kabbu*, *rastali*, and *pattapatti* or *rám rastali*. Planting operations commence in January and continue till June. The crop takes a twelvemonth or more to arrive at maturity, when it is cut and for the most part converted into jaggory, which is ready for the market about July of the year following that in which the cane was put down.

The coffee zone of the District is estimated to extend over 1,000 square miles, but a considerable portion of this area is not of the most favourable description. The number of plantations is 250, of which only half-a-dozen belong to Europeans. The area actually under coffee is 979 acres, distributed in the following taluqs:—Nagar, 165; Ságar, 5; Shimoga, 129; Tirthahalli, 680.

In 1861 an effort was made to stimulate the production of cotton, by the establishment in convenient localities of cotton gins manufactured in a workshop set up at Shimoga, and by the distribution of

American and Egyptian seed. But the attempt, owing to various causes, among others unfavourable seasons and the ravages of insects, to which the foreign plants seemed more particularly liable, was abandoned after a trial for two years.

Channels.—There are 165 anicuts on the rivers of the District and their feeders, from which are drawn channels for irrigation, having an aggregate length of 168 miles 1,007 yards. The following are the particulars :—

Feeders of what Stream.	No. of Anicuts.	Length of Channels.
Sharavati	70	m. 26 y. 102
Varada... ..	51	40 328
Choradi	12	33 780
Tunga	29	68 1,557
Tungabhadra	3	...

Acreage under Crops.—The number of acres cultivated with the principal crops in 1892 was :—Rice, 202,422 ; wheat, 525 ; other food grains, 315,243 ; oil seeds, 3,750 ; sugar-cane, 7,920 ; cotton, 1,633 ; fibres, 340 ; tobacco, 290 ; coffee, 707 ; vegetables, 2,400 ; cocoa-nut and areca nut, 18,859.

Crops.—The following list shows the quantity and value of each article of produce in the District, together with the quantity and value exported and imported in one year :—

Kannada.	Botanical.	English.	Produced in the District.		Exported.		Imported.	
			Quantity. Tons.	Value. Rs.	Quantity. Tons.	Value. Rs.	Quantity. Tons.	Value. Rs.
CEREALS.								
Bhatta ...	Oryza sativa ...	Rice ...	144,772	50,67,020	44,000	15,40,000	—	—
Góthi ...	Triticum aristatum ...	Wheat ...	117½	10,855	—	—	100	28,000
Háraka ...	Panicum semiverticillatum ...	—	50	200	—	—	—	—
Jola ...	Holcus sorghum ...	Great Millet	20,000	7,00,000	10,000	3,50,000	1,000	28,000
Navane ...	Panicum italicum ...	Italian millet	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rági ...	Eleusine corocana ...	Rági ...	35,340	9,89,520	4,000	1,12,000	—	—
Sáffe ...	Holcus spicatus ...	Spiked millet	7	100	—	—	—	—
Same ...	Panicum frumentaceum ...	Little millet	400	5,000	—	—	—	—
PULSES.								
Alasandi ...	Dolichos catiáng ...	—	20	900	—	—	20	900
Avare ...	Dolichos lablab ...	Cow gram ...	188	11,698	85	5,288	103	6,400
Illesaru ...	Phaseolus mungo ...	Green gram ...	82	7,654	53	4,946	145	13,530
Huráli ...	Dolichos uniflorus ...	Horse gram ...	734	—	157	8,792	710	39,760
Kadale ...	Cicer arietinum ...	Bengal gram	125	9,333	73	5,450	145	10,820
Korasáni ...	—	Panic seed ...	158	11,000	58	4,000	86	5,600
Togari ...	Cajanus indicus ..	Pigeon pea, doll	80	4,480	30	1,680	353	19,760
Uddu ...	Phaseolus minimus ...	Black gram ...	70	6,334	14	1,306	110	10,260
OIL SEEDS.								
Agase ...	Linum usitatissimum ...	Linseed	7	250	—	—	—	—
Dod haralu ...	Ricinus communis ...	Castor	532	37,250	24	1,700	285	19,950
Oillellu ...	Sesamum orientale ...	Gingelli	125	14,080	33	3,470	66	7,390
Pundi ..	Hibiscus cannabinus ...	Dekhan hemp	7	50	—	—	—	—

Kannada.	Botanical.	English.	Produced in the District.		Exported.		Imported.	
			Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
			Tons	Rs.	Tons.	Rs.	Tons.	Rs.
VEGETABLES.								
Belluli ...	Allium sativum ...	Garlic	3	450	—	—	6	900
Kotambari ...	Coriandrum sativum ...	Coriander	2½	600	—	—	7	1,800
Mensinakayi ...	Capsicum annum ...	Chilly	150	18,160	62	7,440	230	27,600
Mentya ...	Trigonella fenugroecum	Fenugreek	4	740	1	186	4	740
Nirulli ...	Allium cepa ...	Onion	70	6,000	3	2,000	3	2,000
Sásive ...	Sinapis dichotoma	Mustard	210	8,000	150	2,500	3	200
Suntti ...	Amomum zinziber	Dry ginger	1	180	—	—	1	180
MISCELLANEOUS.								
Adike ...	Areca catechu ...	Areca-nut	3,800	16,72,000	3,750	16,50,000	—	—
Arsina ...	Curcuma longa ...	Turmeric	7	2,100	—	—	14	4,200
Bále hannu ...	Musa sapientum ...	Plantain	No. 3,200,600	6,500	150,000	2,130	100,000	700
Ganja ...	Cannabis sativa ...	Hemp	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hatti ...	Gossypium indicum	Cotton	171	15,372	33	2,970	15	1,300
Hogesoppu ...	Nicotiana tabacum	Tobacco	9	3,600	5	2,000	100	40,000
Hunase ...	Tamarindus indica	Tamarind	255	—	1,700	1,36,000	2	160
Kabbu ...	Saccharum officinale	Sugar-cane	3,194	2,55,578	—	—	—	—
Kobbari ...	—	Dry cocoa-nut	—	—	—	—	105	27,300
Menasu ...	Piper nigrum ...	Black pepper	93	61,580	77	52,080	—	—
Sige káyi ...	Mimosa alstergens	Soap-nut	50	4,500	25	2,250	—	—
Tengina káyi ...	Cocos nucifera ...	Cocoa-nut	No. 117,000	4,680	10,200	408	350,000	12,250
Yelchambu ...	Piper betle	Betel leaf	Bl. 80,000,000	12,48,000	40,000,000	6,34,000	200,000	2,000
Ylakkki ...	Amomum repens	Cardamom	23	77,640	21	72,376	—	—

Besides the articles contained in the above list, almost all the varieties of native vegetables are grown in gardens; where also are reared different kinds of fruits, such as mango, orange, lime, citron, guava, jack, jambalum, rose-apple, custard-apple, pine-apple, and rāmphal (bull's heart).

The places to which the agricultural productions of the District are exported are :—Dharwar, Canara, Bellary, Birur, Chitaldroog, Harihar, Davangere, Koppa, Yedehalli, and Tarikere. The imports are chiefly from Dharwar, Canara, Coompta, Bellary, Kadur and Chitaldroog districts, Chiknayakanhalli, Mysore and Bangalore.

Wild Animals.—The larger game is most abundant in Ságar, where bison are common and elephants occasionally met with. Tigers, panthers and bears, which are the most feared by the people, are found principally to the west of Shimoga and in Shikárpur. In Channagiri their numbers have been very greatly reduced. The wild boar, so destructive to crops, abounds in Channagiri, Nagar and other parts. Sambar, chital and jungle sheep are general in the wooded tracts. Elephants latterly became so numerous and destructive to the crops that attempts were made to reduce their numbers by shooting. But this was found ineffectual, and Keddah operations were started, resulting in the capture of over 60 elephants at Sakrebail at the end of 1894.

Birds.—Wild geese, ducks, and teal frequent the tanks in Channagiri and Shimoga, while pea-fowl and jungle-fowl are to be had in the woods.

Reptiles.—The crocodile is to be found in some of the streams, especially in the Tunga and in the tanks communicating with it.

Domestic Animals.—The best cattle in the District are to be met with in Channagiri, where there are several large kávals belonging to the Amrit Mahal. About Shimoga the bullocks are a short, thickset breed, well adapted for agricultural purposes. The cows are very indifferent and give but little milk. Buffaloes are reared for the Malnad, the females being reserved for the dairy. These powerful animals are much used in Shikárpur for all purposes, some being of enormous size. Drovers of pack bullocks are kept in Nagar for the transport of grain to the coast. They are small in size and poorly nourished. During the rainy season they are driven to the large pasture grounds of Ságar, the grass in which, though very coarse, is considered good for cattle, as they thrive here better than in any other part of the Malnad. Asses are numerous in the neighbourhood of Shimoga, where also a few sheep and goats of inferior breed are reared.

Live Stock.—The District in 1893 contained 420,876 cows and buffaloes, 2,094 horses and ponies, and 46,771 sheep and goats.

HISTORY

There are four copper-plate inscriptions in the District claiming to be grants made by the Pándava emperor Janamejaya, son of Parikshit, of the Lunar line. This is the monarch to whom the Mahá Bhárata was originally recited. The grant at the Bhímankatte maṭha, near Tirthahalli, is dated in the year 89 of the Yudhishṭhira era, or B.C. 3012. The king is stated to be ruling at Kishkindha, and to have made the grant in the presence of the god Harihara, on the spot where his great-grandfather Yudhishṭhira had rested on the bank of the Tungabhadra.¹ The other three grants—Gauj, Kuppagadde and Begur, in Shikárpur taluq—profess to be grants made by Janamejaya to the officiating priests at the *sarpa yága*, or serpent sacrifice, which we have seen (under Kadur District) is supposed to have been performed at Hire-magalur. In these inscriptions the king is said to be ruling in Hastinapura, and to have made the grants in the presence of the god Harihara, at the confluence of the Tungabhadra and the Haridra. Their period, if genuine, would be about 3102 B.C., the commencement of the Kali-yuga, when Janamejaya is said to have reigned.² The date of the Ganj agrahára plates was calculated by the Astronomer Royal, Sir G. Airy, to be really 1521 A.D., but this seems to have arisen from a mistake in the details as given to him. A native astronomer worked out the date for me as 3066 B.C. But an inscription discovered by me, dated Saka 366 (A.D. 444), expressed in similar terms but attributed to a Chálukya king Vira Nonamba, has thrown some light on the question, and in publishing it³ I examined the parallel passages and gave reasons for assigning all of them to about 1194 A.D. These and some other grants of a questionable character seem to be connected in some way with Henjeru (*see* Hemavati, Tumkur District) and Harihara (Chitaldroog District).

The legend of Jamadagni and Renuka (*see* Vol. I, p. 275) is also applied to this District, and at Chandragutti the latter is said to have performed the *sahágamana* and became a *sati*, leaving to her son Parasu Ráma the fulfilment of a curse upon Kártiviryárjuna, the murderer of her husband.

Another place of undoubted antiquity is the village of Kubattur, in

¹ Buchanan was shown a copy of an inscription at Banavási said to be dated in 168 of the Yudhishṭhira era.—*Jour.*, II, 362.

² In Prinsep's *Useful Tables* Janamejaya is assigned to 1300 B.C. on the authority of Prof. Wilson according to the *Bhágavata Purana*.—Thomas, *Ind. Antiquities*, II, 237.

³ *Ind. Ant.*, VIII, 89; *Mys. Ins.*, lxx.

Sorab. Its former name was Kuntala-nagara, and tradition declares it to have been the capital of Chandrahása, the romantic story of whose life (*see* Vol. I, p. 283) occurs as an episode in the Mahá Bhárata,¹ and is related at length in the popular Kannada poem, the Jaimini Bhárata.

Mauryas and Guptas.—The earliest authentic history relating to the District is connected with the Mauryas. An inscription at Bandanikke (Shikárpur taluq) says that they ruled over Kuntala, and in this province some parts of the Shimoga District were certainly included. The discovery by me of Edicts of As'oka in Chitaldroog District has placed beyond doubt the fact of Maurya rule in the north of Mysore in the middle of the 3rd century B.C. We have also the statement in the *Mahawanso* that As'oka sent a *thero* to Banavási to proclaim the Buddhist faith. Another inscription, at Kupatur, says that "Nágakhanḍaka (Shikárpur taluq) was protected by the wise Chandra Gupta, an abode of the good usages of eminent Kshatriyas." In the Samudra Gupta inscription at Allahabad a list is given of kings in Southern India who submitted to him; among these, according to one reading of the passage,² was Oṭṭúraka, he of Oṭṭúr. Again, in the Mahákúta inscription near Bádámi, in Bijapur,³ the Chálukya king Kírttivarma is said to have subdued (besides the Mauryas, Kadambas and Gangas) among others, a king of Vaṭṭúr. These are doubtless the same place, and may be identical with the Oṭṭúr to the north of Sorab.⁴ In the Kadamba inscription at Tálgunda, too, described below, it is implied that the king Kákusthavarma gave his daughter in marriage to a Gupta king.

Satavahanas.—The next guides we have to the history of those early times are the inscription discovered by me at Malavalli (Shikárpur taluq), and one previously known at Banavási, which show that Hárítiputra Sátakarni, an Ándrabhriya or S'átaváhana king, was ruling in those parts in about the 2nd century A.D.

Kadambas.—The Kadambas followed the S'átaváhanas, and are specially identified with Banavási, which was their original capital, and is mentioned in connection with As'oka in the 3rd century B.C., and by Ptolemy in the 2nd century A.D. The fine inscription discovered by me at Tálgunda (Shikárpur taluq) has given us for the first time what appears to be an authentic account of their origin and rise to power, free from the numerous legends that have become mixed up

¹ See translation in Talboys Wheeler's *Hist. Ind.*, I, 522.

² Fleet's *Early Gupta Kings*, p. 7 of Inscriptions.

³ *Ind. Ant.*, XIX, 7.

⁴ The oldest inscriptions now there are Ráshṭrakuṭa, of the 10th century.

with the subject. The information derived from this source, and all others available, has been summarized in the chapter on History in Vol. I.

Gangas.—While the Kadambas were exercising sovereignty in the west of the District, the Gangas were established in the east, and Mandali and Purali, on the river, close to Shimoga, one to the south and the other to the north, seem to have been places of importance under their rule. In the 4th century the Ganga king Mádhava II married the Kadamba king's sister; and in the 10th century the Banavase Twelve Thousand (the Shimoga District), with other provinces, was formally transferred to the Gangas by the Ráshtrakútas.

Chalukyás.—The Chálukyás, claiming to be of the Lunar line and former rulers of Ayódhyá, first crossed the Narmada or Nerbudda and appeared in the Dekkan in the person of Jayasimha, who, in the 4th century, defeated and destroyed the Ráshtrakúta or Ratta prince. He was subsequently killed in a contest with the Pallava king, but his immediate successors subdued the whole of the Kuntala country, and by the 5th century had established their capital at Vátápi, now Bádámí, in the Bijapur district. In the 6th century they profess to have subdued the Kadambas and Gangas. The former became their feudatories, but the latter remained independent, though they must have retired from much of the Shimoga District. In the 7th century the Chálukyás separated into two families, the Eastern Chálukyás fixing their capital at Vengi, in the Godávári District, and the Western Chálukyás continuing to rule from Bádámí. The Shimoga District was under the latter, forming the Banavase Twelve Thousand province, with its seat of government at Belgámí (Shikárpur taluq). But in the 8th century the Western Chálukyás were overcome by the Ráshtrakútas, and did not regain supremacy for two hundred years.

Ráshtrakútas.—This line of kings exercised a great influence over the Mysore country, especially in the north-west. Their capital was Mányakheta (Malkhed in the Nizam's dominions). They at first seized and imprisoned the Ganga king, and appointed their own viceroys to govern his territories. But eventually they reinstated him and entered into alliance with the Gangas. In the 10th century there were intermarriages between the families, and in return for Ganga help in defeating the Cholas, the Banavase Twelve Thousand, and other provinces were again added to the Ganga kingdom by the Ráshtrakútas.

Humcha.—At the time of the commotions in the 7th century we find a Jain principality established at Pomburchcha or Hombucha (Humcha, in Nagar taluq), founded by Jinadatta, of the Solar race,

and prince of the northern Mathura (on the Jumna, near Agra). This event is assigned to the year 500 of the fifth Kali yuga of the Jains, or 159 B.C. It seems more probable that the dynasty arose after the power of the Kadambas had been circumscribed by their superiors, the Chálukyas. Under the latter, Humcha kings, bearing successively the title of S'ántana or S'ántara Deva, can be traced by inscriptions in the 10th and 11th centuries. Jinadatta brought under his sway all the country as far as Kalasa (Kadur District); then, descending the Ghats to Sisila or Sisukali, finally established his capital at Karkala (S. Kanara), appointing lieutenants at Barkur, Bangádi, Múdu Bidare and Mulki. The territories thus acquired yielded a revenue of 9 lakhs of pagodas above and 9 lakhs below the Ghats. His successors, under the general title of Bhairasu Wodevar, continued in power down to the 16th century, being subordinate in turn to the Chálukyas, the Hoysalas, and the Vijayanagar kings, until their territories were subdued by the Keladi chiefs. The last of them, it is said, having no son, divided his territories among his seven daughters.

Chalukyas.—In 973 Taila retrieved the fortunes of his dynasty by destroying the Ráshtrakútas, and restored the Chálukya empire, which became more powerful than under the early kings. The capital was now established at Kalyána (in the Nizam's Dominions). The Kalyána dynasty was at the zenith of its glory in the 11th century, under Vikramáditya, who established the Chálukya Vikrama era, used in subsequent inscriptions for nearly 200 years. During this period the Banavase Twelve Thousand was one of the most important provinces of their empire. In 1155 the Chálukya king was dethroned by his general, Bijjala Deva, of the Kalachurya line, a family which had been originally subdued at the same time as the Ráshtrakútas or Rattas. The Chálukya power thus came to an end. The king retired to Banavási, and a feeble remnant of the state appears afterwards to have survived, first at Annigere, in Dharwar, and then in the Konkan, for about a century later. The name then disappears from history.

Kalachuryas.—The Kalachuryas possessed themselves of most of the Chálukya dominions, including the Banavase Twelve Thousand, and ruled at Kalyána for three generations, down to 1182. During the reign of Bijjala Deva, before mentioned, it was that the Lingáyit religion which prevails throughout the Kannada and Telugu countries arose, its founder, Basava, being his prime minister, whose sister, famed for her beauty, the king had married. No mention occurs after the 12th century of the Kalachuryas.

Hoysalas.—This brings us to the time when the Hoysalas of Dorasamudra (Halebid, Hassan District) had subdued the whole of

Mysore. Among the provinces ruled by Vishnuvardhana of that line are included Banavási. Vira Ballála, advancing north of the Tungabhadra, came into collision with the Yádavas of Devagiri (Daulatabad). Between the forces of these two powers several engagements took place. At one time, in the 12th century, the Hoysalas advanced as far as the Krishna. A century later the Yádavas appear by inscriptions to have secured the allegiance of the Kadambas and gained possession of the northern parts of the District.

The Muhammadans now appear on the scene. Dévágiri was reduced in 1294 by Ala ud Din, and twenty years later the Yádava line was extinguished. Dorasamudra was sacked in 1310 by Káfúr, and totally destroyed in 1326, which terminated the Hoysala power.

Vijayanagar.—The Vijayanagar empire next arose, the foundation of that city on the Tungabhadra being assigned to the year 1336. Within its dominions were ultimately comprised all the countries south of the Krishna. Towards the close of its ascendancy were established the houses of the Keladi, Ikkeri or Bednur chiefs in the west, and the Basvapatna or Tarikere chiefs in the east.

Keladi.—The origin of the former, who were Lingáyits, is as follows. Bhadráya, a Malava Gauda of Keladi, is said to have discovered a hidden treasure, which, after sacrificing two of his slaves, he took possession of, and therewith built a fort. He next visited the court of Vijayanagar and obtained from Sadás'iva Ráya, then ruling, a grant of the government of Barkur, Mangalur, and Chandragutti, with the title of Sadás'iva Náyak.¹ His successor transferred the capital to Ikkéri. Venkatappa Náyak threw off dependence on the fallen Vijayanagar sovereign, and in 1639, during the reign of Virabhadra Náyak, the capital was again removed and established at Bednur. Sivappa Náyak was a most able administrator, and conquered as far as Shimoga eastwards, with all Kanara westwards. He succeeded to the government in 1645, and is the most celebrated of the line, not only for the extent of his conquests, but for his politic regulations, elsewhere described. We have seen in the history of the Mysore, Hassan and Kadur Districts how he overran the province of Balam; also how he granted protection to Sri Ranga Ráya, the fugitive king of Vijayanagar, establishing him in a government at Belur and Sakkarepatna, and even adventuring to besiege Seringapatam in his behalf. Sivappa Náyak died in 1660, and the government continued in the same family till 1763, when Bednur was captured by Haidar Ali, and the District thus

¹ The Jain account is that the last of the Humcha kings became a Sivabhakta, taking the name of Gante Wodeyar; that he was the progenitor of the Keladi family, and that owing to his change of faith the provincial governors threw off their allegiance.

annexed to Mysore. The Rání Virammáji, with her adopted son, fled to Balláráyandurga (Kadur District), a strong fortress at the head of the Kudakal pass; but being surrounded by Haidar's troops, she was taken prisoner and sent to Maddagiri (Tumkúr District).

The Kelađi, Ikkéri or Bednúr State was the most considerable of those that were absorbed into the present Mysore territories by the victories of Haidar Ali, and its conquest was always acknowledged by him to have established his fortune. Some details of its history are therefore here given, for a portion of which I am indebted to a manuscript favoured by Mr. F. M. Mascarenhas of Mangalore (a complete stranger to me), who has also written a History of Canara and other works relating to that interesting region. A notice of his document, which was late in reaching me, was printed in the former edition of this work as an Appendix to Vol. III, Coorg.¹

The following is the list of the chiefs as given by him. It agrees generally with one taken by Mr. Stokes from a *kadata* or black book at Keladi, and appears to be more correct than one given by Buchanan:—

1. Chaujappa Náyak, son of Hulibailu Basappa	...	...	...	1499-1513
2. Sadás'iva Náyak, son of 1	...	...	...	1513-1545
3. Sankanna Náyak I, son of 2	...	...	...	1545-1558
4. Sankanna Náyak II, younger brother of 3	...	...	...	1558-1570
5. Rámarája Náyak, son of 3	...	...	...	1570-1582
6. Venkatappa Náyak I, younger brother of 5	...	...	...	1582-1629
7. Virabhadra Náyak, grandson of 6, and son of Bhadrappa Náyak	...	...	...	1629-1645
8. S'ivappa Náyak, grandson of 4, and son of Siddappa Náyak	...	...	...	1645-1660
9. Venkatappa Náyak II, younger brother of 8	...	...	...	1660-1661
10. Bhadrappa Náyak, son of 8	...	...	...	1661-1663
11. Somas'ekhara Náyak I, younger brother of 10	...	...	...	1663-1671
12. Channamáji, widow of 11	...	...	...	1671-1697
13. Basappa Náyak I, adopted son of 12	...	...	...	1697-1714
14. Somas'ekhara Náyak II, son of 13	...	...	...	1714-1739
15. Basappa Náyak II, nephew of 14, and son of Virabhadrapappa Náyak	...	...	...	1739-1754
16. Channa Basappa Náyak, adopted son of 15	...	...	...	1754-1757
17. Virammáji, widow of 15	...	...	...	1757-1763
18. Somas'ekhara Náyak II, adopted son of 17.				

The 18 chiefs ruled 265 lunar years, 1 month and 25 days.

The circumstances under which the family first rose to power are described under Keladi, and the reason of the transfer of their capital to Ikkéri. Sadás'iva Náyak received that name from Sadás'iva Ráya of Vijayanagar, in reward for his services against the forces of Ahmednagar, and his success in putting down various rebellious chiefs in Tuluva or South Kanara, which he overran as far as Kasargod, in witness of which a stone pillar was erected by him there. The two

¹ "I have consulted," he says, "two Canarese manuscripts, one of which came to me from Bednore, and another from Kundapur in South Canara."

Sankanna Náyaks who followed were sons of different mothers. The elder after a time made over the government to his brother, and set out on a pilgrimage to all the holy places in India, from Rames'vara in the extreme south to Kedarnath, Nepal and Kashmir in the Himálayas. When at Delhi he is said to have defeated in the presence of the court a celebrated prize-fighter, named Ankush Khan, who had affixed a sword to the gate of the city as a challenge to all comers. During his travels the god Aghores'vara appeared to him at Paidana and Virabhadra at Avali, in consequence of which, on his return to his country, he set up the latter at Keladi and the former at Ikkéri. According to Buchanan, he did not resume his power, but lived in retirement for the rest of his days. But it would appear that he did take up the government again, and was successful in various contests against the Muhammadans and in Kanara. It was during the reign of Sankanna II that the Vijayanagar empire was overthrown by a confederacy of Muhammadan powers. The Kelaḍi chief seems to have embraced the opportunity to overrun the territories of Baira Devi.

But it was Venkatappa Náyak who assumed independence, and had to encounter the invasion of the Bijapur forces under Randulha Khan, which he succeeded in driving back. During his reign the dominions of his house were extended north and east to Másur, Shimoga, Kadur, and Bhuvanagiri (Kavaledurga), while on the west and south they were carried to the sea at Honore by the conquest of the queen of Gersoppa—the pepper queen of the Portuguese—a feudatory of Bijapur, and down as far as to the borders of Malabar, his power being so firmly established that he was able to add 50 per cent. to the land assessment throughout a great part of Kanara. He came into collision with the Portuguese by espousing the cause of the queen of Olaya against the Bangar rája, who was an ally of theirs, and ousting him from his territory. The Portuguese, being at the time engaged in expeditions against Persia and Malacca, and desiring to gain the alliance of Venkatappa in order to secure the trade in pepper and keep it out of the hands of the English and Dutch, the viceroy at Goa sent him an embassy in 1623. An Italian nobleman, Pietro della Valle, who had been wandering for some years through Turkey, Egypt, Arabia and Persia, accompanied the ambassador to Ikkéri, and has left an account of his journey. He mentions the fine wide level road from Ságar to Ikkéri, and the splendid avenue of trees on either side. These are the magnificent *dhupa* trees, of which many may still be seen. He also came upon a woman performing *sati*, whom he endeavoured, without success, to save from the flames. *Mástikal* of the later Vijayanagar period are numerous in Sorab and neighbouring parts, and

the rite must have been very prevalent. He afterwards travelled alone through the country, "marching at his pleasure; and as the roads throughout the dominions of Venkatappa were very secure he descended the ghats slowly."

Vírabhadra Náyak, by an embassy to the Bijapur sultan, stopped a formidable invasion by Randulha Khan, assisted by the rásas of Sunda and Bilgi, and the chiefs of Tarikere and Banavar. He then removed the capital to Bednur. Sivappa Náyak, his general, subsequently subdued Tulava, and Bairasa Wodeyar of Karkala, invading Malayála and entering Coorg.

Sivappa Náyak was one of the most distinguished of the line. He greatly enlarged Bednur, assisting merchants and artisans from all parts to settle there. His expeditions in Mysore extended over Balam to Vastara, Sakkarepatna and Hassan. He introduced the land assessment called *shíst*. Father Leonardo Paes, who travelled in Kanara at the time, says that he had collected enormous treasure after his thorough conquest of Canara; that his possessions extended from the Tudry river to Kasargod or Niles'var; and that he had a standing army of from forty to fifty thousand men. There were more than 30,000 Christians among his subjects, originally natives of Goa and Salsette. Sri Ranga Ráya, the fugitive king of the Vijayanagar dynasty, fled to him for refuge in 1646, and Sivappa Náyak not only gave him the government of Belur and Sakkarepatna, but attacked Seringapatam on his behalf, gaining the *soubriquet* Pinḍa of Ikkéri, Minḍa of Mysore. Father Vincent, a Barefoot Carmelite friar, mentions in his travels the wealthy Musalman merchant Shah Bandari Isak, who was a favourite of the chief, and traded on the western coast and at Bednur.

There were frequent contests in subsequent reigns between the Mysoreans and the forces of Bednur; also several invasions by the Bijapur armies. In the time of Bhadrappa Náyak the latter are said to have taken Bednur and besieged Bhuvanagiri, whither the chief, with his family, had retired; but a peace was eventually concluded. In 1664 Sivaji made a sudden descent on the coast of Canara, sacked Barcelore or Kundapur, and sailed back to Gokarna, plundering all the adjacent tracts, and levying heavy contributions from the rich mercantile towns, of which the English factory at Carwar paid £112 sterling.

Somasekhara was murdered by his nobles, as stated by Dr. John Fryer of the English Navy, who was then at Carwar, and there were many intrigues regarding the succession, as he had no son. But, according to information given to Buchanan, he went mad, and during the paroxysms of his disease committed great enormities,

ripping up pregnant women with his own hands, and for the gratification of his lust seizing every beautiful girl that he met. At length he was assassinated by a Brahman named Somaya, who, though he had rid them of a monster, was nevertheless put to death by the Sivabhaktas, as they considered that he had brought to an end the principal dynasty that professed their creed. His widow, Channamáji, carried on the government, "by and with the authority," Dr. John Fryer says, "of one Timmanna Náyak, who from a toddy-man has, by his cunning polity more than true prowess and valour, raised himself to be General and Protector." The Rani adopted a son, and Timmanna Náyak, who kept them both under restraint, was killed in battle, on which things began to return to the regular current. The Rani's forces took Basavapatna and other places to the east. Harikere she fortified and named it Channagiri, after herself. She also gave shelter to Rána Rája, the son of Siváji, when he was in hiding from the Mughals, until he could escape to his own country.

Basappa Náyak, her adopted son, next came to the throne. He seems to have been devoted to works of charity. All ascetics, of whatever faith, who came to his dominions in the winter, were provided, it is said, with an umbrella and a blanket. All wayfarers were fed at the *dasoharas*. At nightfall men were sent into the streets with cooked rice for wanderers, and milk for young children. As an atonement for the murder of Somasekhara, he imposed an extra assessment of $\frac{1}{10}$ th of an anna, or $\frac{1}{100}$ th of the standard rent, to provide funds for erecting *chhatras* and feeding pilgrims.

Somasekhara II is said to have attacked Sira, and taken Ajjampur, Sante Bennur, and other places from the Mughals. Basappa Náyak was called Buddhi, or the Wise. Jacobus Canter Visscher, writing of this period, says:—"The Bednore Prince is much more magnificent and powerful than those of Malabar. His kingdom produces many peculiar commodities, such as sandalwood, which is found there in great abundance, as well as rice." He calls Bednore the granary of all southern India. He also writes:—"The city (Bednur) where the Rája holds his court lies some leagues inland, and is connected with the seaport by a fine road, planted with trees, which the inhabitants are obliged to keep in excellent order. This road is so secure that any stranger might go and sleep there with bags full of money, and nobody would molest or rob him, for if such a thing occurred the people in the neighbourhood would not only be severely punished, but would be forced to make good the money." It was during this reign, in 1748, that the intrigues of Dupleix released Chanda Sahib from the Mahrattas at Sattara, as a candidate for the Navábship of the Carnatic, in oppo-

sition to Muhammad Ali, the English candidate. Bednur was then at war with Chitaldroog, and both sought the countenance of Chanda Sahib, who was marching leisurely to the south, awaiting information from his partisans. He was induced to side with Chitaldroog, but in the decisive battle of Mayakonda, on the 24th of March 1748, the Chitaldroog forces suffered complete defeat, and their chief, Madikeri Náyak, was slain. The son of Chanda Sahib had been killed by his side, and he himself fell into the hands of the enemy, who were taking him in triumph to Bednur. But informing his Musalman guards of his prospects, they marched off with him to the French instead, and he eventually took Arcot in 1750. On the other hand, in 1752 the French were forced to surrender at Trichinopoly to Major Lawrence. Chanda Sahib escaped to the Tanjore general under a promise of being conveyed to some French settlement, but was basely stabbed by him, and his head sent to his rival, Muhammad Ali. The latter gave it to Nanja Ráj, the Mysore commander, who despatched it to Seringapatam, where it was exposed for three days over one of the gates. To return to Bednur. In 1751 a treaty was concluded between the Raja and the chief of the English factory at Tellicherry.

An adopted son succeeded Basappa, but on remonstrating with his adoptive mother on her amours, which had become a public scandal, he was put out of the way by a Jetṭi dislocating his neck in the bath, and Virammáji occupied the throne in her own name, adopting a son as her successor. But her notorious character, and an imposition of 50 per cent. additional tax in order to buy off the Mahrattas, who threatened the country, had alienated the people, and Haidar's invasion now followed. The chief of Chitaldroog, whom he had just subdued, introduced to him a pretender, Channa Basappa, professing to be the prince who was thought to have been murdered. Haidar saw the use to be made of him, and invaded Bednur in January 1763, ostensibly to restore him to the throne, though even the troops nicknamed him the Ghaib, or resurrection rája. At Kumsi Haidar found the former prime minister of Bednur in prison, and obtained from him such information, that refusing all the offers of money made by the Rani to buy him off, which were raised in amount the nearer he approached, he pressed on to Bednur. Diverting the attention of the garrison by a feigned attack at the barriers, he entered with a column by a secret path revealed to him by the prime minister, and captured the city in March 1763. The Rani, with her paramour and adopted son, fled to Balláráyandurga, leaving orders to set fire to the palace. The inhabitants *en masse* took shelter in the surrounding woods, and the triumphant Haidar, extinguishing the flames and sealing up the houses,

acquired a booty estimated at twelve millions sterling. The Rani, her lover, and her adopted son were all seized by Haidar and transported to the fortress of Maddagiri (Tumkur District), together with even the pretender whose cause he had ostensibly espoused. They were liberated when the Mahrattas took Maddagiri. Virammáji died on the way to Poona, and Somasekhara ended his days there unmarried.

Basvapatna.—The founder of the Basvapatna family appears to have been Dhúma Rája, who coming from, it is said, Vijayanagar, formed an alliance with a Bedar family, and established himself at the Dhumi hill, near Holalkere. His son, Kongana Náyak, built the fort of Basvapatna, and subdued a territory extending from Harihar and Kumsi to Tarikere and Bágur. Hanumappa Náyak, who succeeded, appears to have been confirmed in these possessions by the Vijayanagar sovereign, and to have founded Sante Bennur. The family were driven from their northern possessions by the Bijapur army under Ran-dulha Khan in 1636, and then established themselves at Tarikere (Kadur District).

At the beginning of the 18th century the north-east of the District was the scene of much contest between the Chitaldroog and Bednur troops, culminating in 1748 in the decisive battle of Mayakonda, in which, as already described, Madakeri Náyak, the pategar of Chitaldroog, was slain, and Chanda Sahib, the claimant to the Nabobship of Arcot, who had espoused his cause, was captured by the Bednur army. The Nawab of Sávanur then held it for a short time, until the whole, with Bednur, was included in Mysore by the conquests of Haidar Ali. His successes in Sunda and Sávanur led to an invasion by the Mahrattas in 1765, repeated on several occasions afterwards. From the devastation of Shimoga and the open country in 1791 by the army under Parasuram Bhao a famine ensued.

In January 1783, when Tipu Sultan succeeded his father, Mysore being still at war with the English, a force from Bombay, under General Mathews, landed at Kundapur, and carrying by assault the formidable defences of the Hosangadi pass—which bristled with a continuous series of batteries and breastworks, headed at the top by the strong fort of Haidarghar, the whole held by about 17,000 men—occupied Bednur or Haidarnagar on the 27th, the governor having fled. But an expedition which began so well was doomed to end in disaster. The English general was deluded into a false security, and instead of making adequate preparations for defence, scattered his force in various detachments over the country. On hearing of this the Bombay Government superseded him by another officer, but on his way the latter was captured by pirates and killed. Tipu appeared in

April with a large army, recovered Kavaledurga and Haidarghar on one side, and Anantapur on the other, and invested Bednur. The garrison held out till the 30th, when they were forced by starvation to capitulate, which they did on condition of being sent to the coast. But, in violation of the terms, they were marched off in irons, some to Chitaldroog, but the majority to Seringapatam, where numbers were put to death with the most inhuman cruelties.

After the death of Tipu Sultan and the restoration of the Hindu government in 1799, parts of the District were ravaged by Dhundia Wahag, a prisoner at Seringapatam who had obtained release at the time of the capture; but he was speedily put down by Colonel Wellesley, being killed in a cavalry charge led by that illustrious warrior in person. The tranquillity thus restored continued until 1830. But during the greater part of this time the principal authority had been left too much in the hands of one family. Every office was gradually filled with Deshasta Brahmans, who made themselves obnoxious to the Lingáyits. A system of secret plunder was connived at, of which they and their patrons reaped the benefit. At the same time the mode of farming the revenue laid the people under burdens from which there was no redress. Matters grew to such a pitch that in 1830 the gauḍas and ryots assembled in kúṭas or indignation meetings at Basvapatna and Honnali. The discontent was fomented by a pretender to the Bednur throne, named Budi Basavappa, who formed insurgent bands; and these again were shortly joined by Rangappa Náyak, the head of the Tarikere family, and by numbers of Thugs, professional stranglers. The Raja's troops failed to put down the now open revolt, and he was obliged to seek the aid of a British force. The suppression of the insurrection in 1831 was followed by an inquiry into the causes which had led to it, and as the result of that investigation the government was placed under British Commissioners. The District has since that time not only enjoyed the blessing of peace, but has advanced in a course of prosperity which has effectually obliterated all traces of the disorders by which it was previously afflicted.

In 1862 the Shimoga District, with Kadur and Chitaldroog, were formed into the Nagar Division. In 1879 the Division was abolished. In 1882 Davangere taluq was transferred to this District, but in 1886 reverted to Chitaldroog.

POPULATION

Number.—The entire population of the District, according to the census of 1891, was 527,981, of which number 275,884 were males and 259,296 females.

Density.—This gives 131·69 persons to the square mile. The Honnáli taluq was the most thickly peopled at the time of the census, containing 193·09 persons to the square mile. In Channagiri there were 159·60, in Sorab 151·94, and in Shikárpur 150·47. The most sparsely populated taluqs were Nagar, with 80·98, and Ságar, with 88·58.

By Religion.—The following table represents the numbers according to religion :—

Religion.	Above 15.		Under 15.		Total.	Per centage.
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.		
Hindus	165,397	144,492	91,826	90,996	492,711	93·32
Muhammadans	9,743	8,593	6,027	5,834	30,197	5·71
Jains	1,268	965	589	600	3,422	0·64
Christians	770	363	264	254	1,651	0·31
Total	177,178	154,413	98,706	97,684	527,981	—

Increase.—The following figures compare the estimates of population in 1838, as given in Mr. Stokes's Report, and in 1853-4 according to the *khátneshumári* accounts, with the numbers ascertained in the census periods of 1871, 1881, and 1891 :—

Taluq.	1838.	1853-4.	1871.	1881.	1891.
Channagiri	38,363	43,948	69,593	65,267	74,218
Honnáli	39,525	49,925	59,067	55,976	63,527
Nagar	33,621	55,587	42,605	43,665	42,841
Ságar	42,575	60,206	60,038	59,210	58,999
Shikárpur	40,476	58,484	63,310	63,510	64,404
Shinoga	51,389	64,878	93,457	95,828	94,716
Sorab	42,529	60,072	67,073	66,514	70,047
Tirthahalli	15,650	34,079	51,715	56,561	59,229
Total	304,128	427,179	506,858	506,531	527,981

In the first period of 15 years the total increased apparently at the rate of 40·4 per cent., and in the second period of 18 years at the rate of 16·8 per cent. The great advance in the former period bears ample testimony to the beneficial effect of the restoration of order under British rule, following upon the disturbances which had devastated the country for some years previously. But as the census of 1871 shows that previous estimates were 25 per cent. too low, it seems that the population remained almost stationary, or even slightly declined, in the 38 years to 1891. The famine of 1877-8 apparently had no effect in diminishing the population in this District. The increase in the 20 years from 1871 to 1891 has been only 4·16 per cent., but it is a hopeful sign that the whole of this has occurred in the last decade.

Classes.—Arranged according to occupation and nationality, the population may be classified as follows:—

	No.	Per cent.
A. Agricultural	181,317	34·34
B. Professional	44,088	8·35
C. Commercial... ..	68,423	12·96
D. Artisans and Village Menial	158,541	30·02
E. Vagrant Minor Artisans and Performers,	43,431	8·22
Races and Nationalities	31,948	6·05
Others, not stated	333	0·06

The following are the largest castes or classes, those which number over 10,000, in order of strength. These account for 464,256, or 87·93 per cent. of the population:—

Wokkaliga ... 135,069	Beda 25,678	Agasa 13,103
Lingáyit ¹ ... 72,800	Kuruba... .. 23,683	Panchála ... 11,927
Holeya 38,000	Mádiga... .. 23,017	Uppára... .. 10,956
Musalmán ... 30,015	Wodda... .. 14,918	Idiga 10,944
Bráhmána ... 29,374	Lambáni ... 14,127	Mahrata ... 10,645

The most numerous classes of Wokkaliga are the Sada Lingáyit (39,669), Halepaika (12,576), Gangadikára (9,081), Nonaba (8,552), and Kunchatiga (8,082). Of Musalmáns 18,834 are Shekhs. The principal Brahman sects are Smárta (7,051), Deastha (3,804), Badaganád (3,522), Havika (3,235), Drávida (2,996), and Chitpávan (2,081). Of Kuruba 9,719 are Hálu Kuruba. Of Wodda there are 8,171 Mannu Wodda. Among Panchála the Akkasále number 6,846.

Stock.—The *agricultural stock* of the District in 1892 consisted of 18,795 carts and 85,111 ploughs. The *manufacturing stock* consisted of 1,156 looms for cloth, 387 for *kamblis*, 4 for girdles, 26 for *goni*, and 1 for carpets; also of 98 oil-mills—namely, 3 of stone and 95 of wood.

Tanks.—The District contains 8,611 tanks.

¹ There are also 48,221 included among Wokkaliga.

Dwellings.—The total number of houses in 1892 was 103,159. Next to Shimoga, the taluqs of Honnáli and Sorab contain the largest number of first-class houses.

Towns and Villages.—The District contains 14 municipal towns, with a population of 44,782, composed of 35,232 Hindus, 147 Jains, 8,612 Muhammadans, and 791 Christians. The following are the towns, with population :—

Shimoga	11,340	Tirthahalli	2,359
Shikárpur	5,011	Benkipur	2,270
Channagiri... ..	3,787	Sirálkoppa... ..	2,125
Honnáli	3,467	Sorab	1,661
Nyámti	3,102	Kumsi	1,656
Hole Honnur	2,947	Nagar	1,576
Ságar	2,857	Kollúrkafte	624

The total number of *asali* or primary villages in 1891 was 2,000, to which were attached 1,551 *dákhali* or secondary villages or hamlets. Of the former 1,807 were populated and 193 depopulated. Government villages numbered 1,931, sarvamánya 9, jóđi 58, and káyam-gutta 2.

Great Festivals.—The principal concourse of people occurs at the undermentioned festivals :—

At *Togarsi*, Shikárpur taluq, during the *Mallikárijuna játre*, held for 5 days in March, 10,000 people assemble.

On the bund of the *Súlekere*, Channagiri taluq, 10,000 assemble for the *Siddésvara rathótsava*, held for 3 days in February.

At *Shikárpur*, Shikárpur taluq, 5,000 people come together for the *Huchcha Ráya rathótsava*, which lasts for 3 days in April.

At *Chikka-Hulikere*, Channagiri taluq, on the occasion of *Mahesvari játre*, lasting for 3 days in December, 6,000 people assemble.

At *Chandragutti*, in Sorab taluq, 5,000 people collect together during the *Renukamma rathótsava*, held for 8 days in Chaitra.

An equal number assemble at *Tirthahalli*, Tirthahalli taluq, for *Rám-esvara rathótsava*, celebrated for 3 days in Márgasira.

At *Humcha*, in Nagar taluq, the *Padmávatí Ammana rathótsava*, lasting 7 days in March, attracts 4,000 people.

A similar concourse takes place at *Jénukal gudda*, Nagar taluq, during the *Jénukal Ammana játre*, held for 15 days in September : at *Rampur*, Honnáli taluq, during the *Hálswami játre*, lasting 4 days in Mágha : at *Ságar*, during the *Mári* feast, held for 3 days : on the banks of the *Tungabhadra*, Shimoga taluq, during the *Sangamésvara játre*, held for 3 days in April.

At *Belgávi*, Shikárpur taluq, 3,000 people come together for the car festival of *Kedáresvara* and *Basavanna Devaru*, lasting 3 days in March.

At *Pillangéri*, Shimoga taluq, during the *Srinívasa Devara rathótsava*, held for 2 days in May, 3,000 people assemble.

There are 2,000 people at each of the following:—At *Márikoppa*, Honnáli taluq, for *Haladamma rathótsava*, 5 days in Asvija : at *Nelli*, same taluq, for Hariamma festival in February : at *Keladi*, Ságar taluq, for *Rámesvara rathótsava*, 3 days in Phálguna : at the *Rámachandra mátha*, Nagar taluq, for 10 days in March : at *Sampekatte*, same taluq, for *S'ambhulínga rathótsava*, 3 days in March.

Fairs.—The following are the largest weekly fairs held in the District :—

Place.	Taluq.	Day.	No. of Visitors.
Shimoga	Shimoga	Tuesday	1,500
Benkipur	do.	Monday	1,000
Hole Honnur	do.	Saturday	1,000
Anaveri	do.	Thursday	1,000
Ayanur	do.	Sunday	1,000
Nyámti	Honnáli	Friday	1,000
Sirákkoppa	Shikárpur	Sunday	3,000
Shiká	do.	Saturday	1,500
Ságe	Ságar	Thursday	2,000

Vital Statistics.—*Births.*—The number of births registered in the District in 1893-4 was 9,963, of which 5,135 were of males and 4,828 of females. This gives a birth-rate of 18·87 per mille of the population.

Deaths.—The number of deaths registered in the same period was 11,279, being 5,942 of males and 5,337 of females. The death-rate was thus 21·36 per mille of the population.

As the death-rate exceeded the birth-rate it is possible that the statistics for the latter are defective. The Local Fund report gives for rural parts only, 9,626 births and 9,675 deaths in 1894-5, with 10,072 births and but 7,756 deaths in 1895-6.

Of the 11,279 deaths in 1893-4 there were 7,123 due to fevers, 1,139 caused by bowel complaints, 217 by small-pox, and 2 by cholera, while 141 were due to injuries—namely, 20 to suicide, 105 to wounds from accidents, 16 to snake-bite or wild animals.

Medical Relief.—Besides the hospital at Shimoga, there are dispensaries at all the taluq and sub-taluq head-quarters, and at Benkipur. Eight trained native midwives are employed in villages, who attended 393 cases in the year.

REVENUE

The revenue of the District for 5 years to 1894-5 is shown in the statement below :—

Items.	1890-1.	1891-2.	1892-3.	1893-4.	1894-5.
Land Revenue ...	12,75,754	12,88,794	13,11,218	13,22,880	13,27,737
Forests ...	3,69,130	3,90,296	3,95,137	4,41,462	4,62,524
Mohatarfa ...	30,996	29,894	29,728	29,001	21,923
Abkari ...	27,575	75,069	2,01,077	2,13,487	2,20,673
Sáyar ...	2,14,134	3,26,713	2,22,817	2,15,837	2,85,604
Salt pans ...	622	177	156	339	153
Stamps ...	63,536	91,163	72,251	77,763	77,990
Law and Justice ...	12,050	17,957	15,397	15,785	14,816
Police ...	120	155	197	113	18
Public Works ...	6,302	6,509	5,008	4,041	—
Other Items ...	18,144	20,963	22,454	20,007	20,188
Total Rs. ...	20,18,363	22,47,690	22,75,440	23,40,715	24,31,626

TRADE

Manufactures.—The chief articles of manufacture in the District are coarse cotton cloths, *kambli*s, iron articles, brass and copper vessels, earthenware, and jaggory. A few striped carpets are made at Shikárpur; some pieces of chintz in Shimoga and Ayanur, coarse brown paper being also at one time manufactured in the former place; stone jugs in Tirthahalli; hand-mills in the Honnáli taluq, and ropes of sanab, pundi, leather and leaves of the date-tree.

Oils.—The different kinds of oil made in the District are generally gingelli, castor, ramtil, cocoa-nut, linseed, safflower, pundi and caron, but the oil of sandal, cinnamon and nága sampige (*michelia champaca*) are occasionally extracted.

Art.—The District is noted for its beautiful sandal-wood carving, of which industry Sorab is the principal seat.

Commerce.—*Exports.*—The statement below exhibits the principal articles exported, together with the annual quantity and value thereof:—

Article.	Quantity.	Value.	To what place.
		Rs.	
Kamblis ... No.	5,600	5,900	Kadur District, &c.
Iron ... Mds.	3,500	700	Bombay <i>via</i> Coompta in N. Kanara
Iron articles ... No.	1,100	2,500	Dharwar, &c.
Silver do. ... "	20	500	Dharwar.
Steel do. ... "	50	250	do.
Wooden do. ... "	5,030	5,900	do.
Gingelli oil ... Mds.	900	5,700	Kadur District.
Jaggory ... "	80,000	90,000	Dharwar, &c.
Leather ... No.	12,750	17,450	Bellary, &c.
Leather articles ... "	15,000	10,000	Dharwar.
Earthenware ... "	157,200	16,570	do.
Rattan articles ... "	2,000	125	do.
Bamboo & date mats ... "	2,520	1,230	do.
Hemp do. ... "	130	505	Kanara.

Imports.—The imports are as given in the subjoined table :—

Article.	Quantity.	Value.	From what place.
		Rs.	
Cotton ... Mds.	75	425	Kadur, &c.
Cotton thread ... "	352	5,316	Bombay, Bangalore, &c.
Piece goods ... No.	88,430	12,22,150	Bellary, Dharwar, Bombay, Bangalore, Madras.
Kamblis ... "	60,200	74,000	Dharwar, Chitaldroog.
Iron ... Mds.	1,470	5,300	Coompta.
Brass utensils ... "	1,280	16,980	Dharwar, Hubli, Kanara.
Bell metal vessels ... "	6,110	11,976	Dharwar.
Silver articles ... No.	1,422	7,448	Dharwar, Bombay, &c.
Copper vessels ... "	33,220	29,880	Dharwar, &c.
Golden ornaments Seers.	78	45,200	Dharwar.
Wooden articles ... "	250	500	Madras, Bombay, &c.
Gingelli oil ... Mds.	9,000	45,000	Kadur, Dharwar.
Castor oil ... "	9,500	46,000	Bangalore, Kadur, &c.
Jaggory ... "	2,000	2,280	Dharwar.
Gunpowder ... "	43	1,860	Madras, &c.
Leather articles No.	2,000	2,000	Bombay, Kanara, &c.
Earthenware ... "	1,000	400	Dharwar, &c.
Rattan articles ... "	400	80	Bangalore.

COMMUNICATIONS

Railways.—A branch of the Southern Mahratta railway is under construction from Birur (Kadur District) to Shimoga, through Benkipur.

Roads.—The length of *Provincial Roads* in the District is 220 miles, supported at an annual cost of Rs. 26,390. *District Roads*

cover a distance of 412 miles, and cost Rs. 23,215 a year for up-keep. Details of each class of road are subjoined :—

PROVINCIAL ROADS.

	Miles.	Cost.
Bangalore-Honavar road	72	10,080
Tarikere-Mangalore road	7	700
Shimoga-Harihar road	31	1,860
Shimoga-Mangalore road... ..	58	7,250
Shimoga-Haidarghar road	52	6,500
Total ...	220	Rs. 26,390

DISTRICT ROADS.

Chitaldroog-Benkipur road	30	1,800
Channagiri-Honnali road	20	1,000
Benkipur-Umbalibail road	12	600
Shimoga-Vedehalli road	18	1,800
Shimoga-Hole Honnur road	9	225
Shimoga-Sorab-Sirsi road	66	3,960
Siralkoppa-Hirekerur road	9	540
Siralkoppa-Hanagal road	21	1,050
Sorab-Siddapur road	10	500
Ayanur-Honnali road	21	1,050
Kumsi-Honnali road	4	200
Anantapur-Tirthahalli road	33	1,650
Anantapur-Kollurkatte road	16	800
Anantapur-Shikárpur road	9	450
Sagar-Benavalli-Kollurghat road	22	1,100
Guddekoppa-Kollurkatte road	10	500
Sagar-Siralkoppa road	22	2,200
Ulavi-Sorab road	8	240
Gersoppa Falls road	2	200
Honnali-Shikárpur road	23	1,150
Honnali-Tumminakatte road	6	300
Tirthahalli-Hulikal road	14	700
Kollurkatte-Kollurghat road	11	880
Sirivauti-Kaule road	2	50
Irankanive-Basavankanive road	3	90
Kudarikonda road	2	60
Lakshmipur-Mavinakar road	9	450
Total ... Miles	412	Rs. 23,215

Accommodation for Travellers.—Dák bungalows for the accommodation of Europeans have been erected at the following stages, with native kitchens separately built for most of them :—

First Class.—Shimoga, Jóg.

Second Class.—Anantapur, Benkipur, Honnali, Kumsi, Sagar, Talguppe.

Third Class.—Agumbi, Anavatti, Benavalli, Channagiri, Holalur, Kodachátri, Kollurkatte, Malur, Mandagadde, Mégarvalli, Nagar, Sakrebail, Saulanga, Shikárpur, Sorab, Súlekere, Tirthahalli.

Native travellers rest in the *chatrams* built at Agumbi, Anantapur, Benkipur, Chflur, Hádigal, Honnáli, Mahishi, Maḷur, Manḍagadde, Mégarvalli, Shikárpur and Shimoga.

A large *chatram* and *ghat*, on the bank of the Tunga at Shimoga, called after the founder, Courpalais Chatram, has been recently constructed, providing separate accommodation for Hindus, Muhammdans and Christians.

GAZETTEER

Anantapur.—A village in the Ságar taluq, 15 miles south-south-east of the kasba, on the Shimoga-Gérsoppa road. In 1838 it was included in Nagar taluq, but afterwards, till 1875, was again the headquarters of a taluq bearing its own name. It is now the headquarters of the Anantapur hobli. Population, 426.

The name of the town, it is stated, should be *Anandapura*, bestowed upon it in the time of Somasekhara Náyak, of the Keladi family, on account of the *ánanda*, or pleasure, he enjoyed in the company of a mistress named Champaka Sárisi who lived here. But there are several inscriptions of the Chálukyas on the spot, dated in the 10th century, which show that it was a place of importance long before the rise of the Keladi house. From one of these it appears that the town was originally named after Andásura, who, in the account of Humcha, it will be seen opposed himself to Jinadatta in the 8th century, and was defeated. It was several times the subject of attack during the commotions of Haidar and Tipu's time, and during the insurrection of 1830.

Besides the high road from Shimoga to Ságar, there are cross-roads hence to Shikárpur northwards, and to Kollurkatte and Tirthahalli southwards.

Araga.—A village in Tirthahalli taluq, a few miles north of the kasba. Population, 454.

In old inscriptions it is called the capital of the Male-rájya, or hill kingdom, and was in the Sántalige Thousand. The Sántara kings of Hombucha owned it under the Chálukyas. In the 14th century, and later on under Vijayanagar, it comprised 3 cities and 18 *mpanas*, and gave its name to the kingdom of A'raga, which was governed by a prince of the royal family. The Keladi chiefs next held it, until they were subverted by the conquests of Haidar Ali.

Bandalikke or **Bandanikke.**—A ruined and deserted village in the

north of Shikárpur taluq. It was in the earliest times the capital of the Nágarakhanda Seventy, which an inscription informs us was ruled by the "wise Chandra Gupta." It contains many ruined temples of large dimensions and wonderful sculpture. There are more than thirty important inscriptions, ranging from Saka 834 to 1369, and containing records of the Ráshttrakúṭas, Chálukyas, Kalachuryas, Hoysalas, Yádavas and Vijayanagar kings. The place was probably destroyed by the Muhammadans after the fall of Vijayanagar.

Basvapatna.—A ruinous town situated in $14^{\circ} 12' N.$ lat., $75^{\circ} 52' E.$ long., in the north-west of the Channagiri taluq, 16 miles north-north-west of the kasba. Population, 1,218.

Basvapatna, properly Basavapattana, is situated in a narrow valley enclosed with hills, and was the original possession of the Basvapatna chiefs, afterwards known as the Tarikere Pálegárs. The founder of the family was Dhúma Rája, said to have come from Vijayanagar. When hunting in the forest where Basvapatna now stands he came upon the abode of the Beda who grazed his cattle there, and who had a beautiful daughter. Becoming enamoured of her he proposed to marry her, but her father was unwilling to give her to a man of a different caste. Dhúma Rája then obtained his consent by a promise that he would settle there, and that her sons should succeed him in the government. He established himself at the Dhúmi hill, and had two sons, Kongana Náyak and Rámappa Náyak, of whom the former succeeded his father, and built the fort of Basvapatna. During his rule he also subdued a territory extending from Anantapur to Máyakondu and from Harihar to Tarikere. He was followed at Basvapatna by Vira Hanumappa Náyak, he by Immadi Hanumappa Náyak, and he by Huchchu (mad) Hanumappa Náyak. In the time of Kongana Náyak, the next ruler, the place was taken by the Bijapur army under Randulha Khan. This was in 1636, and the chief then retired to Tarikere, which from that time became the residence of the family. Basvapatna was subsequently taken by the Bednur chief, who built a second or outer wall to the fort. It was next captured by the Mughals, and during the time that Dilávar Khan was governor of Síra, seems to have enjoyed much prosperity for twenty years.¹ It afterwards changed hands several times, being held by the Mahrattas for seven years, and by Haidar Ali, who destroyed the fortifications. The Mahrattas under Parasu Ram Bhao ruined the town in 1791. The fort was repaired after 1799, but the place has never recovered its former prosperity.

¹ Buchanan mentions a mosque near the fort which was celebrated as being the first abode of Bábabú Budan before he went south to the hill which bears his name in Kadur District.

Bednur.—(See Nagar.)

Belagavi or **Balagami.**—A village remarkable for its antiquities, situated in $14^{\circ} 24'$ N. lat., $75^{\circ} 18'$ E. long., in Shikápur taluq, 14 miles north-west of the kasba. Population, 1,470.

Balligáve, Balligánve, Balligráme, Ballipura or *Balipura*, as its name is variously written in old inscriptions (the latter seldom) was, under the Chálukya and Kalachurya sovereigns, the capital of the Banavase nád, or Banavase Twelve Thousand province. It was a place of such antiquity, even in the 12th century, as to be styled the mother of cities, the capital of ancient cities, the *anádi rájadháni*, or immemorial capital, and is said to derive its name from the rákshasa Bali. On account of its religious merit it was called the Dakshina Kedára, and it also had the name of Kamaṭha. It contained five *mathas* and three *puras*, the former belonging respectively to the votaries of Vishnu, Siva, Brahma, Jina and Buddha. Its prosperity continued under Hoysala Vira Ballála and the Yádavas. The place abounds with inscriptions, of which there are eighty-four, nearly all dated earlier than the close of the 13th century. There is little doubt that the city fell a prey to the Muhammadan armies which overturned the Yádava and Hoysala powers soon after. The ruined temples of Kedáresvara, Pancha Linga, Kaitabhesvara, Somesvara and Tripurahantesvara are rich with carving which is not surpassed in taste and finish by any in Mysore, the handiwork, according to tradition, of the famous Jakanáchári.¹

Belagutti.—A village situated in $14^{\circ} 12'$ N. lat., $75^{\circ} 35'$ E. long., in the Honnali taluq, 5 miles north-west of Nyámti. Population, 2,644.

It was the residence of a line of chiefs subject to the Chálukya and Yádava kings. The inscriptions at the place are all of the 12th and 13th centuries. From these it is ascertained that *Belegavatti* was the original form of the name. The following chiefs are mentioned as ruling there:—Malli Devarasa in 1196, Isvara Devarasa in 1216, Simhala Devarasa in 1232, Bira Devarasa in 1249.

Benkipur.—A town on the right bank of the Bhadra, at the point where the high road to Shimoga crosses the river, and where there will be a railway station. It is 12 miles south by east of Shimoga, and a municipality.

¹ The two fine *dvárapálaka* at the entrance to the Mysore Museum, were brought from the Pancha Linga temple.

Population in 1891.						Males.	Females.	Total.
Hindus ...	...	...	...	...	...	773	836	1,609
Muhammadans...	...	...	...	...	...	320	326	646
Christians	...	...	...	...	...	11	4	15
Total						1,104	1,166	2,270

There are the remains of a fine triple temple of Narasimha, of the early Vijayanagar period, never finished. The name of the town is properly Bankipura, for Vankipura, from Sanskrit *vanki*, a bend in a river, such as occurs here, making it a sacred spot.

Municipal Funds.						1892-3.	1893-4.	1894-5.	1895-6.
Income ...	...	...	...	...	...	576	765	682	1,400
Expenditure	...	...	...	...	...	716	760	967	1,228

Bhadra.—One of the two main streams whose union forms the Tungabhadra. It rises in the Western Ghats at Gangámúla in the Varáha Parvata, on the western frontier of the Kadur District, and flowing north-east along the western base of the Bába Budan mountains, enters this District in the south of the Shimoga taluq. Thence, running due north past Benkipur and Hole Honnur, it unites with its sister stream the Tunga at Kudali, about 8 miles north-east of Shimoga. It is bridged at Bále Honnur, and at Benkipur.

Bilesvara betta, or *Agastya Parvata*, a hill near Humcha in the Nagar taluq, from which several of the streams in the District spring: namely, the Haridravati, flowing north-west to the Sharavati; the Sharmanavati, which runs in the same direction into the former; the Kumadvati, running north and falling into the Tungabhadra; and the Kushavati, running south into the Tunga.

Chandragutti.—A high-peaked hill in the west of the Sorab taluq, formerly fortified, with a village of the same name at its base on the east. Population 713.

The hill is said to have been originally of such a height that it obscured the moon, whence the name *Chandra-gutti*, but it was reduced to its present size by a rákshasa during his contest with Krishna, who hid here. The summit is 2,836 feet above the level of the sea. It was the early stronghold of the Kadanba kings of Banavási, and the town below was the residence of Trinetra Kadanba. In modern times it was one of the first acquisitions of the Ikkeri chiefs, but was destroyed by the palegar of Bilgi in the time of Haidar

Ali. The place was afterwards taken successively by Parasu Ram Bhao, and by Dhundia, neither of whom held it more than a few months. On the hill is a temple dedicated to Rénuka, the mother of Parasu Ráma.

Channagiri.—A taluq in the east. Area 465 square miles. Headquarters at Channagiri. Contains the following hoblis, villages and population :—

No.	Hoblis.	Villages.	Hamlets.	Villages classified.		Population.
				Government.	Kayamgutta.	
1	Basavapatna	26	2	26	—	10,033
2	Channagiri	74	1	73	1	23,883
3	Nallúru	63	—	63	—	18,401
4	Sante Bennúru	48	1	48	—	15,483
5	Ubráni	32	2	32	—	6,418
	Total	243	6	242	1	74,218

Principal places, with population.—Channagiri, 3,787; Sante Bennúru, 1,643; Nallúr, 1,624; Vaddanahálu, 1,558; Hodigere, 1,237; Tyávanige, 1,237; Pándomatti, 1,222; Kattalagere, 1,218; Devarahalli, 1,123; Somalapura, 1,097; Dáginakatte, 1,072; Chirudoni, 1,036; Távarekere, 1,036.

The south and west are crossed by lines of hills, the streams from which unite to form the great Súlekere tank, 40 miles in circumference, and thence flow north in what is called in old inscriptions the river Haridra to the Tungabhadra at Harihar. The remaining parts of the taluq consist of an open country with very extensive grazing lands. Hence the cattle are superior to those in other parts of the District. In the north is a fertile tract containing much garden and sugar-cane cultivation. The cultivation of the black soil below, and the red soil around, the Súlekere, so long neglected that the wild date had invaded all the neighbourhood and made it extremely unhealthy, has been in recent years promoted by clearing the jungle and other measures conducive to that end. The hills to the west of the taluq are included in the auriferous belt running north from the Bábá Budan mountains.

The revenue settlement was introduced into the south of the taluq in 1870, and into the north in 1871. The area was thus distributed:—

Culturable (dry, 170,517; wet, 6,665; garden, 1,413) ...	178,595
Unculturable (including roads, tanks, village sites, &c.) ...	73,495
Total acres ...	252,090

The unoccupied arable land was 79,813 acres. The total revenue demand for 1891-2 (15 months) was Rs. 1,99,516, and for 1892-3 it was Rs. 2,07,340.

The average annual rainfall at Channagiri for 26 years (1870-95), and at Joladahál for 3 years (1893-5), was as follows:—

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Year.
Channagiri ...	0·10	0·02	0·23	1·46	2·93	3·49	4·98	3·63	3·60	3·82	1·40	0·24	25·90
Joladahál ...	—	—	0·01	1·76	2·96	6·09	7·50	7·00	3·81	5·66	1·06	—	35·85

According to another register for 23 years the annual average is 26·34 at Channagiri.

The Benkipur-Chitaldroog road passes through Channagiri, from which place there is a road north, running west of the Súlekere, up to Male Bennúr, with one from Súlekere east to Sante Bennúr and the railway at Sásalu. The Bangalore-Poona railway runs a few miles beyond the eastern border of the taluq.

Channagiri.—A town situated 14° 1' N. lat., 75° 59' E. long., 14 miles west of the Holalkere railway station, and 33 miles north-east of Shimoga, on the Benkipur-Chitaldroog road. Head-quarters of the Channagiri taluq, and a municipality.

Population in 1891.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Hindus (with 8 Jains)	1,469	1,624	3,093
Muhammadans	340	351	691
Christians	3	—	3
Total	1,812	1,975	3,787

It is the residence of several Lingáyit merchants, but derives most of its importance from being the taluq station.

Municipal Funds.	1892-3.	1893-4.	1894-5.	1895-6.
Income	1,226	1,345	1,365	2,423
Expenditure	1,266	1,570	3,619	5,153

From inscriptions it would appear that in early times this part of the country was in possession of the Gangas and governed from Asandi (Kadur District). In the twelfth century it formed part of the Chálukya dominions, and was included in the Nonambarádi Thirty-two Thousand province, over which the Pándya Rájá at Uchchangi ruled. Under Vijayanagar, in the sixteenth century, it was still under the Uchchangi district, and attached to Sante Bennúr. At the end of the seventeenth

century the town was captured by the Bednur army, and named Channagiri after the reigning queen Channamáji, who erected the fort and granted the place as an estate to her sister.

Gersoppa, Falls of.—*See* Sharavati.

Govardhangiri.—A hill on the western frontier of the Ságar taluq, overlooking the old town of Gersoppa, said to have been fortified by Jinadatta, the founder of the Humcha state.

“It is in the remotest corner of Mysore, and has rarely been visited by Europeans. It stands on a promontory, the rock on all sides being precipitous, save an approach from the south-east, which is limited to a narrow neck of land on which are two causeways called *sárá*, strongly fortified by outposts called *ukhads*, and with tremendous ravines on either side. A difficult path then leads down to a third causeway, above which towers up the fort on one side, while on the other a rugged and devious path, commanded for some distance by the fortress, leads down to the plain country beneath. The fort is in fair repair, but is now deserted and overgrown with jungle, though the old pass is still used by traders, who carry down to Gersoppa on pack-bullocks the rice grown in the upper country, which finds a ready sale. The road is frightfully steep and rough, and it is a marvel how any laden animal can traverse it; yet 50,000 bullocks yearly descend and ascend it, carrying down grain and bringing up salt for consumption in the Malnád.”¹

Hole Honnur.—A small town in Shimoga taluq, on the right bank of the Bhadra, 9 miles north-east of Shimoga, and a municipality.

Population in 1891.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Hindus	1,170	1,290	2,460
Muhammadans	235	252	487
Total	1,405	1,542	2,947

In Haidar Ali's time Hole Honnúr was given in *jágir* to the officers of the Sowars, and a great many Mahrattas are settled there, most of whom have still one or more members of their family in the Sowar department.

Municipal Funds.	1892-3.	1893-4.	1894-5.	1895-6.
Income	756	1,082	1,005	1,900
Expenditure	978	1,140	1,596	2,158

¹ Bowring, *East. Ex.*, 120.

Honnali.—A taluq in the north-east. Area 329 square miles. Head-quarters, in 1869 fixed at Nyámti, were again transferred to Honnali in 1882. Contains the following hoblis, villages and population :—

No.	Hobli.	Villages.	Hamlets.	Villages classified.				Popula- tion.
				Govern- ment.	Sarva- mánya.	Jodi.	Kayam- gutta.	
1	Belagutti	54	2	53	—	1	—	20,814
2	Honnáli	50	—	47	—	2	1	18,444
3	Sásivehalli	63	1	58	1	4	—	24,269
	Total	167	3	158	1	7	1	63,527

Principal places, with population.—Honnáli, 3,467; Nyámti, 3,102; Belagutti, 2,644; Kundúr, 1,482; Soratúr, 1,196; Kulambi, 1,070; Kulagatte, 1,053.

The Kumsi hobli was made a separate sub-taluq under Shimoga in 1882, and Kundúr mágani was at the same time transferred to Honnali from Channagiri. The taluq is crossed from south to north by the Tungabhadra, and bounded east and west by lines of low stony hills. The northern and eastern parts consist of dry crop country of unusual fertility, good black soil being common, and cotton and jowari the leading products. The extreme west, on the other hand, may be considered a purely rice country, with sugar-cane as usual intermixed, rági being the staple dry crop grain. The central part partakes of a mixed character between the two. Very rich black soil prevails around Nyámti and Belagutti, and much money was made in this neighbourhood during the American War of 1864-5 by the growth of cotton. The Honnali gold-field (*see* Vol. I) is at the foot of the hills in the south-west, of which the Kalva Rangan peak (3,388 feet) is the highest point within the District.

The revenue settlement was introduced in 1874. The area of the taluq at that time was thus distributed :—

Culturable (dry, 125,834; wet, 10,922; garden, 721) ...	137,477
Unculturable (including roads, tanks, village sites, &c.) ...	94,034
Total acres	<u>231,511</u>

The unoccupied arable area was 42,387 acres. The total revenue demand for 1891-2 (15 months) was Rs. 1,57,192, and for 1892-3 it was Rs. 1,75,232.

The average annual rainfall at Honnáli for 26 years (1870-95), and at the other station for 3 years (1893-5), was as follows:—

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Year.
Honnáli ...	0·10	0·08	0·33	1·47	3·34	3·05	3·57	2·38	2·52	4·17	1·44	0·24	... 22·69
Saulanga...	—	—	0·40	0·62	1·63	3·74	5·25	1·74	3·54	5·14	1·86	—	... 23·92

The road from Shimoga to Harihar passes through Honnáli, where the river has to be forded. From Honnáli there is a road southwards through Nyámti to Ayanur, and one west to Shikárpur. The Shimoga-Shikárpur road passes through Saulanga, and there is a road from Nyámti east to Sásivehalli.

Honnali.—A town situated in 14° 15' N. lat., 75° 42' E. long., on the left bank of the Tungabhadra, 24 miles north of Shimoga, on the Shimoga-Harihar road. It is a municipality, and was till 1869 the head-quarters of the Honnáli taluq, which were then fixed at Nyámti, but were again transferred here in 1882.

Population in 1891.					Males.	Females.	Total.
Hindus (with 15 Jains)	...	...	...	...	1,327	1,354	2,681
Muhammadans	...	...	...	...	369	395	764
Christians	...	...	...	...	17	5	22
Total	...	...	...	...	1,713	1,754	3,467

Honnáli is said to have borne the puranic name of Bháskara kshetra. By the Muhammadan government it seems to have been called Bidiri. Honnáli means "gold-bearing," but the Mackenzie MSS. state that the name is derived from Honnu and anala, "gold of fire," the tradition being that fire is the father of gold. An inscription, however, gives it as Suvarññáli, which is the same as Honnáli. The fort is occupied principally by Vaidika Brahmans, and the town by Lingáyit traders in grain. The place belonged to Vijayanagar, and after the overthrow of that power in the 16th century was seized by a chief named Múgidora Mara Náyak. In spite of attacks from the Tarikere chiefs, he held it till ousted by the Bijapur conquests in the 17th century. On the fall of Bijapur, Honnáli was captured by the Bednur State, with which it was connected until taken by Haidar Ali, and annexed to Mysore. It was one of the centres of the insurrection of 1830. Honnáli is the residence of a Naváb of Afghan descent. "The founder of the family was a Jamaud Afghan named Abdul Nabi Khán, an officer of the court of Delhi, who received an estate from the emperor in Dharwar along with the Naváb of Sávanur. Since the

death of Naváb Kutb-ul-Mulk, during the siege of Seringapatam, the Honnáli chiefs have possessed little but a barren title."¹

Municipal Funds.	1892-3.	1893-4.	1894-5.	1895-6.
Income	1,047	1,110	1,300	1,830
Expenditure	2,197	1,091	1,670	2,031

Humcha.—A Jain village situated in 13° 51' N. lat., 75° 16' E. long., in the Nagar taluq, 12 miles east of Nagar. Population, 997.

The correct name is *Hombucha*, also written in old inscriptions *Pomburchchha* and *Pattī Pomburchchha*. It was the capital of a principality founded by Jinadatta, who is said to have come from Mathura, in Upper India. His father, Sahakára, had a son Mardatta by a Kiráta woman, at whose instigation an attempt was made to get Jinadatta out of the way in order to secure the succession for her son. Jinadatta was accordingly sent on a certain errand bearing the offering of a lime, which was to be the signal of their victim to the executioners appointed to murder him. But Mardatta, meeting him on the way, offered to relieve him of the message, and was consequently slain. Jinadatta, advised by his mother, fled, taking with him a small golden image of Padmávati. He was pursued by a force of 1,200 men sent by his father, but on exhibiting the image of Padmávati they were transported back to a distance of 150 miles. He continued his wanderings until he arrived at the spot where Humcha now stands. Being weary, he tied his horse to a *kari lakki* tree and fell asleep, when the goddess revealed to him that he was to be the founder of a kingdom in that place, and directed him to touch her image with his horse's bit, which, on his doing so, was instantly changed into gold. The story of the golden bit gained him the support of a local chief against the army of his pursuers, who now again appeared. They at last surrendered and entered his service, whereupon, being provided with funds by the goddess, who converted into gold all the iron brought into contact with her image, he commenced the building of the city. He also erected a temple to Padmávati over the tree under which he had slept—the same, it is said, which is now growing out of the side of the temple. All these things being accomplished, the golden image vanished, the king being directed to one of stone, in which the goddess would reside, and which was duly set up in the temple. These events happened, according to the account of the late Humcha swami, Devendra Tirtha Bhattáraka, in the year 500 of the 5th Kali yuga (or 159 B.C.).

¹ Bowring, *East. Ex.*, 107.

An inscription of the 11th century traces the descent of Jinadatta to Ráha, of the Ugra-vams'a, lord of the Northern Madhura, who was a successful leader in the Bhárata war in Kuru-kshetra, on account of which he received a *s'ankha*, or conch shell, and the *vánara dhvaja*, or monkey flag, from Náráyana. After several kings had ruled in succession to him there came Sahakára, who turned a cannibal.¹ To him and to his wife Sriyá-devi was born Jinadatta. Disgusted at his father's character, the latter fled to the south. On his way he slew an *asura* named Simharada, and thus obtained the *simha lánchhana*, or lion signet. He also slew Andhakásura and founded Andhásura, a place which still bears the same name, immediately to the east of Anantapur. Then, coming to Kanakapura, the modern Humcha, he slew Kanakásura, and drove away Kara and Karadúshana, who were in Kundada-kóte, the hill near Agumbi. Pleased at his exploits, the goddess Padmávati entered into the *lakki* tree (still shown growing out of her temple) at Kanakapura, gave it the name of Pombuchcha, and made it the capital of his kingdom. According to another statement, he was aided in establishing his kingdom by his *guru*, named Siddhánta-kírtti. After several kings had ruled, there were S'ri'kesi and Jayakesi. The former had a son Ranakesi. He was followed by several kings, after whom came Hiranyagarbha, who drove out the kings of Yadhivása and subdued the Sántalige Thousand Nád (the present Tirthahalli taluq). He took the name of Vikrama S'ántara, and was succeeded by the following S'ántara kings:—Chági S'ántara, Vira S'ántara, Kannara S'ántara, Tyági S'ántara (who married a Kadamba princess), Nanni S'ántara, Ráya S'ántara, Chikka Vira S'ántara, Ammana Deva, Tailapa Deva (who married a Ganga princess), Bira Deva S'ántara (who married Ganga and Nolamba princesses), and his brother Barmma Deva S'ántara, ruling in 977. This genealogy is sufficient to warrant our placing Jinadatta in the 7th or 8th century. The grants continue to the 12th century, and give us the later names of Ammana, Taila, Káma, Jagadéva and Bammarasa.

Jinadatta subdued the country as far as Kalasa (Kadur District), and fortified the hill of Govardhangiri on the western frontier of the Sagar taluq. He or his descendants afterwards removed the capital first to Sisila or Sisukali and then to Karkala, both in S. Kanara; establishing lieutenants in Barkur, Bangádi, Mudu Bidare and Mulki, and obtaining from the possessions a revenue of 9 lakhs above the

¹ An inscription at Harihara contains a curious allusion to a king who, possessed by an evil spirit, became a cannibal, and in order to gratify his taste settled as a barber at Kálanjara, where he was slain by Krishna, one of the earliest of the Kalachurya princes.

ghats and 9 lakhs below. His successors at Karkala adopted the title of Bairasu Wodeyar, which was taken by all the line subsequently. The Jains say that Gante Wodeyar adopted the faith of the Sivabhaktar or Lingáyits, on which the lieutenants refused to obey him and declared their independence, and that he was the progenitor of the Keladi chiefs who afterwards subdued the territory. The grants existing at Kalasa of the Bairasu Wodeyars of Karkala date from the end of the 12th to the 15th century, and are made under the Hoysala and Vijayanagar sovereigns.

The existing ruins of Humcha, situated at the foot of the Bilesvara hill, said to be the source of seven streams, indicate the site of a large town. The name Hombucha, golden bit, is considered to confirm the story of its origin, while that of Govardhangiri, given to the chief's first stronghold, points to his connection with the celebrated hill so called near Mathura.

Ikkeri.—A village situated in 14° 8' N. lat., 75° 5' E. long., in the Ságar taluq, 3 miles south of the kasba. Population, 239.

Ikkéri (the two streets) was, from about 1560 to 1640, the capital of the Keladi chiefs, afterwards removed to Bednur. Ikkéri continued, however, to be the nominal capital, the Rajas were called by its name, and the coins were called Ikkéri pagodas and fanams, although, in fact, the mint was removed. Its walls were of great extent, forming three concentric enclosures. In the citadel was the palace, of mud and timber, adorned with carving and false gilding. The only vestige of its former greatness is the temple of Aghoresvara, a large and well-proportioned stone building. On the floor in front of the shrine are the effigies of three of the Keladi chiefs, doing obeisance, with the name inscribed above each. One of them, Huchcha (mad) Soma-sekhara, is represented as manacled and fettered. The distance between the central pillars was adopted as the standard measure for garden land. A rod of this length, equal to 18 feet 6 inches, was the space called *dáya* allowed for one tree, and the shist was fixed on 1,000 such *dáya* at various rates.

Kavale-durga.—A hill in a wild and inaccessible region, in the west of the Tirthahalli taluq. It rises to 3,058 feet above the sea. The place is said to be the Kámyaká-vana in which the Pandus lived for some time during their exile. They are related to have erected the ancient fortifications, of great size and strength, on the hill. Bhima threw the Bhimankatṭe across the Tungabhadra, so as to turn the course of the river towards their abode. But the rishis performing penance lower down the stream, finding the water cut off, complained to Dharma Raya, who requested Bhima to release the stream, which he

did by making the three existing openings in the dam. The hill was in later times called Bhuvana-giri, and was a stronghold of the Bednur chiefs. A large slab of stone in the palace, 8 feet by 7 feet, called the Ráni's Cot, and well carved, has an inscription on it bearing date in the year Bháva, corresponding to 1694.¹ The present name Kavale-durga, guarding hill-fort, was given to the hill on its capture by Haidar Ali.

The old town, formerly head-quarters of what was, till 1882, called the Kavaledurga taluq, is to the west of the droog.

Keladi.—A village situated in $14^{\circ} 13'$ N. lat., $75^{\circ} 5'$ E. long., in Ságar taluq, 4 miles north of the kasba. Population, 1,388.

It is interesting as the place whence the Ikkéri chiefs derived their origin, which is thus related. Two brothers named Chavuda Gauḍa and Bhadra Gauḍa, living in the village of Hale-bayaḷ, in the Keladi taluq of the Chandragutti pargana, had two servants or slaves, named Yádava and Murári, who cultivated their masters' fields. A cow they had was discovered to shed her milk over a certain ant-hill, which, on digging into, Chavuda Gauḍa found contained a linga, over which, therefore, he built a small temple. A little time after, the servants, when ploughing, turned up an old sword, which they put into the thatch of the house, intending to make a scythe of it. But they discovered that if a crow perched on the shed the sword leaped out in the form of a serpent and killed it. On this Chavuda Gauḍa took it and, carefully cleaning it, kept it in his house, giving it the name of Nágaramuri. At another time the ploughshare struck against the ring of a cauldron, which contained treasure. Afraid to disturb it, Chavuda Gauḍa covered it up again, but that night had a dream, in which he was directed to offer a human sacrifice and take the treasure. On hearing this his two slaves volunteered to be the victims on condition that their memory was preserved. All the preparations being made, the place was dug up at night, and the slaves, after ablutions, prostrated themselves to the cauldron and were beheaded with the sword Nágaramuri.

With this accession of wealth the Gauḍas raised a small force and began to subdue the neighbouring villages. But they were seized and sent to Vijayanagar by orders from the king, and there put into custody. Hearing that a pálegar near Balihalu was rebellious, they made an offer through the court musicians to punish him if allowed to do so. Permission being given, they went with a force and killed the pálegar, on which they were released and confirmed in the possession of the places they had captured, receiving from the king a seal (*sikka*

¹ This cot is now in the Victoria Institute at Mysore.

moharu). The town of Keladi was then founded, together with the temple of Rámésvara.

One day while the Gauḍa was hunting, a hare turned upon his hounds, indicating heroic virtue in the soil of the place in which this occurred. He therefore removed his town to the spot, calling it Ikkéri. His son and successor, with the sanction of Sadásiva Ráya the Vijayanagar sovereign, took the name of Sadásiva Náyak.

Two mounds, called Kalte, at the entrance to Keladi are pointed out as the scene of the human sacrifices. The principal building in the place is the double temple of Rámésvara and Virabhadra, a large and plain structure.

Kodachadri.—A lofty mountain in the west of the Nagar taluq and a conspicuous landmark. Its height is 4,411 feet above the sea. It rises more than 2,000 feet above the level of the villages below, and is clothed with splendid forests. From Nagavadi, at the head of the Kollur ghat, it is 4 miles distant, and from this point the ascent is 3 miles. The first portion of the hill is very steep and difficult to ascend. Above this is a temple to the Huli Deva, tiger god, whose image is provided with thirty-two arms. The top of the hill, which from a distance has a bluff appearance, is in reality a narrow ridge, in many places only 12 feet across, with a precipice on either side. It commands an extensive and splendid view over the Western Ghats and Kanara.

On the west the hill descends almost perpendicularly for 4,000 feet, and the Kanara forests lie spread out below. The sea appears quite close, and on a clear day the vessels are discernible with the naked eye. The bay and town of Kundapur lie opposite. But for the very limited level space on the top, and the difficulty of access, this hill would make a most desirable sanitarium, having a beautiful climate, and so near the sea that it catches the earliest breath of the sea-breeze. There is a small bungalow at the top.

Kudali.—A sacred village in Shimoga taluq, at the confluence (*kúdali*) of the Tunga and Bhadra, where they unite to form the Tungabhadra, about 9 miles north-east of Shimoga. Population, 949.

It is the seat of a maṭha connected with the one at Sringeri, the original Guru having been appointed by the Sringeri Swámi about 500 years ago to minister to the Smártas of Mahratta descent. There is also a maṭha of the Mádhva sect. Notwithstanding their being subject to the Kúḍali gurus, the Mahrattas under Parasuram Bhao plundered and burnt the place in 1791, and were consequently threatened with excommunication, which was averted by timely gifts. There are three old temples at Kúḍali, dedicated to Brahmes'vara, Narasimha and Rámes'vara.

Of inscriptions at the place the one with the oldest pretensions is on copper plates at the Brahmes'vara temple, professing to be a grant by the emperor Rukmángada ruling at Ayódhya. The Sringeri maṭha has one, also on copper, dated S'aka 1075, a grant by a Kadamba king named Purandara Ráya. Of those on stone, the oldest are of the Hoysala period. One records a grant to the Rámanátha temple by Vira-Ballála (III) on the return of his son from Delhi, whither apparently he had been taken in the Muhammadan invasion. Later grants are by the Vijayanagar kings, and the Sringeri maṭha has copper grants by the Keladi chief Somasekhara Náyak in the 17th century.¹

Kumadvati or **Choradi**.—An affluent of the Tungabhadra. It rises in Agastya Parvata or the Bilesvara hill near Humcha, and flowing north near Kumsi and Shikárpur, receives at the latter place a stream on the left from Anantapur. Continuing north, it forms the large Masur Madaga tank on the frontier, and turning north-east, runs into the Tungabhadra at Mudanur, some distance above Harihar.

It is stemmed by twelve anicuts, giving rise to channels 33 miles in total length.

Kumsi.—A town on the Shimoga-Gérsoppa road, 14 miles north-west of Shimoga. Head-quarters of the Kumsi sub-taluq (composed of Kumsi and Háranhalli hoblis), and a municipality.

Population in 1891.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Hindus	694	680	1,374
Muhammadans	159	122	281
Christians	1	—	1
Total	854	802	1,656

From inscriptions at the place it appears that its correct name is Kumbase, and that it was granted as an endowment by Jinadatta Ráya of Pomburcha (Humcha) for the Jain temple there. Kumsi was formed into a sub-taluq under Shimoga taluq in 1882.

Municipal Funds.	1892-3.	1893-4.	1894-5.	1895-6.
Income	674	656	771	1,208
Expenditure... ..	826	998	781	1,169

¹ The Chola king Rájendra-Deva claims to have gained a great victory over the Chálukyas in the middle of the 11th century at Kúdali-sangam, which, as Dr. Hultzsch thinks, may be this place. On the other hand, it may be one near S'ris'ailla.

Madagada-kere or **Masur-Madaga-kere**.—A large tank in Shikárpur taluq, 7 miles north of the kasba, on the frontier. It is formed by embanking the waters of the Choradi or Kumadvati, at a point where it runs through a gorge in a low chain of hills. The original bund was 660 feet wide at top and 90 feet high, and according to an Arabic inscription on the spot it was at one time repaired by the Naváb of Sávanur. The sheet of water—second only to the Súlekere—thus formed irrigated a large extent of land in Dharwar. When the tank breached many years ago, the bund was reconstructed on a smaller scale, in consequence of which a considerable tract of rich land, formerly included in the bed of the tank, was left bare. This was soon taken up for cultivation, and as many as thirty-five villages have sprung up around, contributing Rs. 45,000 more to the Mysore revenue than was formerly realized. Should the embankment be ever raised to its original standard, as at one time contemplated, most of these villages would be submerged.

Malavalli.—A village in the north of Shikárpur taluq, about 9 miles from Siralkoppa. Population, 588.

Of interest on account of a pillar discovered by me there bearing an inscription of Háritiputra Sátakarni, probably of the second century; the oldest in Mysore next to the Edicts of Asoka. From this it appears that the original name of the village was Mattapatti.

Nagar.—A taluq in the south-west. Area 529 square miles. Head-quarters, till then at Nagar, were transferred to Kollúrkatte in 1893. Contains the following hoblis, villages, and population:—

No.	Hoblis.	Villages.	Hamlets.	Villages classified.		Population.
				Government.	Jodi.	
1	Haritála	5	25	5	—	1,028
2	Humcha	37	48	37	—	6,424
3	Jála	22	55	22	—	7,139
4	Kerehalli	55	107	54	1	8,768
5	Nagara	31	30	31	—	11,191
6	Pattaguppe	54	111	54	—	8,291
	Total	204	376	203	1	42,841

Principal places, with population.—Nagar, 1,576; Humcha, 997.

The Nagar taluq was extended in 1832–3 by amalgamating with it the Anantapur taluq, but the latter was re-established in 1857–8. In 1875 a portion of it was again added to Nagar.

The taluq is enclosed on three sides by hills, the drainage of which

flows north-west, uniting in the Sharavati. But the streams in the south-west of the taluq run directly down the Ghats westward and discharge into the sea at Kundapur, forming in S. Kanara the three rivers Gargita, Chakra nadi, and Mudur. The Honnár hobli in the north-west is an isolated bit of country belonging to S. Kanara, and forming part of the endowments of the temple at Kollur below the ghats. The principal mountain is the Kodachádri parvata in the north-west, to the north of which is the Kollur ghat. The other pass to the coast is by the Haidar Ghar or Hosangadi ghat in the south-west.

This is a purely Malnad taluq. The whole is densely wooded, the southern part being composed of a perfect cluster of hills, in a basin formed by which Nagar, the capital formerly called Bednur, is situated. The Sharavati flows from south to north, and its valley may be said to be the most open portion of this very inaccessible country. The Rámachandrapur Nála is a small stream which flows very close to and almost parallel with the Sharavati, and joins it near the boundary of the taluq. To the west of the valley in which these two streams flow the appearance of the country becomes wilder and wilder as the Ghats are approached, and these are here more precipitous than usual, and present few natural outlets. The rise towards the crest of the Ghats is very rapid, a height of 4,411 feet being attained at Kodachádri, a mountain on whose summit meet the three boundaries of South Kanara, Nagar, and Ságar taluqs. To the east of the Sharavati and to the north generally the country is more level, although the extent of jungle appears to suffer no diminution; but it changes considerably in character, the proportion of timber trees seeming to be greater than to the west, where the soil is more shallow, with much laterite.

The productions of the country are areca-nut, pepper, cardamoms, and rice. Dry crops are not raised anywhere. The areca-nut is reputed to be of very fine quality, but the gardens have been much neglected. They largely belong to Brahmans, who are dependent on labour imported from the coast for their cultivation. The forests are chiefly *káns*, there being but little deciduous forest; what there is being found chiefly to the north and east, towards Anantapur. Rice is exported to the coast, and areca-nut to Bellary and Walájapet by way of Birur. All other articles of consumption, and cloths of every description are imported from the plain countries; about one-fourth by the merchants who come to buy areca-nut, and the rest by ryots from Tirthahalli, Avinhalli, and Kollur, either on bullocks or by porters.

The revenue settlement was introduced in 1877, except in the Haritala and Kerhalli hoblis, which were settled in 1874 when they

formed part of the Anantapur taluq. The area of the taluq was thus distributed in the survey of 1877 :—

Culturable (dry, 8,169 ; wet, 31,268 ; garden, 2,255)	...	41,692
Unculturable (including roads, tanks, village sites, &c.)	...	189,136
Total acres	...	<u>230,828</u>

The unoccupied arable land was 10,775 acres. The total revenue demand for 1891-2 (15 months) was Rs. 1,82,026, and in 1892-3 it was Rs. 1,63,997.

The average rainfall at Nagar for 26 years (1870-95), and at the other station for 3 years (1893-5), was as follows :—

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Year.
Nagar	... 0'14	— 0'12	0'86	3'92	42'07	72'03	40'02	15'02	7'89	2'02	0'34	...	184'43
Kollúrkattē	— —	1'24	2'79	1'79	25'79	26'11	24'12	3'69	5'43	1'22	—	...	92'18

Another register for 22 years makes the annual average at Nagar 192'59 inches.

Considerable attention has been paid in recent years to improving the communications of the taluq, by a system of roads radiating from Kollúrkattē. There are thus roads east to Ayanur, and north to Ságar and to Anantapur ; with the Ghat roads to the coast south, through Nagar and Haidarghar to the Hosangadi ghat, and west to the Kollúr ghat. There is also a road from Anantapur south through Humchada-kattē to Tirthahalli, and one is projected from Hulikal near Haidarghar to Tirthahalli. A branch from the Ságar road connects with the Kollúr ghat road.

Nagar.—A town situated 13° 50' N. lat., 75° 6' E. long., on the Kollúrkattē-Haidarghar road. Head-quarters till 1893 of the Nagar taluq, and has a municipality.

Population in 1891.						Males.	Females.	Total.
Hindus	...	...	...	...	...	702	716	1,418
Muhammadans	...	...	...	...	...	64	64	128
Christians	...	...	...	...	...	19	11	30
Total						785	791	1,576

It was originally a small village, called, from the nature of the forest around, Bidaru halli, bamboo village, and contained a temple of Nilakantha, the property of a Brahman named Honne Kambli Bhatta. About 1640, under the name of Bidarúr or Bidanúr (Bednur), it became the capital of the Keladi chiefs, who transferred the seat of their government hither from Ikkéri. Being in the direct course of

trade by the Hosangadi ghat, it rapidly increased in size and importance, until there was a prospect of the houses reaching the number of a lakh, which would entitle it to be called a Nagara. The walls were 8 miles in circumference, and had 10 gates, named the Dilli, Kodial, Kavaledurga, &c. The palace was on a hill in the centre, surrounded with a citadel, and the whole city was encircled by woods, hills and fortified defiles, extending a great way in circumference.

Sivappa Náyak, whose conquests have been elsewhere described, did much to improve and enlarge the town, and his successors ruled here undisturbed till 1763, at which time their territories extended from Sante Bennur and Holalkere in the east, over the whole of South Kanara to the western coast. In that year Haidar Ali, having conquered all the northern parts of Mysore, advanced upon this capital. The Ráni Virammáji, having in vain tried to buy him off with offers of large sums of money, took to flight, ordering the palace to be fired if the treasures could not be saved. The terror-stricken inhabitants fled *en masse* to the woods. Haidar pressed on, and, storming the town, extinguished the flames of the palace and gained possession of a booty estimated at twelve millions sterling in value.

In pursuance of the intention to make it a *Nagara*, he gave the place the name of Haidar-Nagar, and greatly increased its trade. He built a palace outside the fort, established in the town his principal arsenal, which employed many hands in the manufacture of arms and ammunition, and continued the mint, where coins were first struck in his name, the Haidari pagodas, and much money was coined during his reign. He gave great encouragement to merchants, and endeavoured, but with little success, to introduce the cultivation of mulberries and the rearing of silkworms.

The place suffered much during the wars with Tipu Sultan. It was captured by the British in February 1783, under General Matthews, and surrendered at the end of April. During the sieges the palace and the town were burnt. Tipu rebuilt the palace, and endeavoured to restore the town, but his regulations for the protection of internal trade dealt a severe blow to its prosperity. He also appointed a Kázi, who pulled down the Christian church and Hindu temples, broke to pieces numerous inscriptions on stone, and erected a mosque from the ruins. In the insurrection of 1830, Nagar, as it was called after 1789, again became the object of attack. But from the time that the court was removed the place lost its prospects, as it never obtained a footing as a mercantile town between the table-land and the coast, being merely a place of transit. Mr. Stokes, writing in 1838, says:—"Nagar and its vicinity exhibit traces of great decline in wealth and population.

It has nearly lost its trade, for which, from the difficulty of access, it is not naturally well adapted." Under the Rájá's government it gave its name to the Nagar Faujdari, which included the present Districts of Shimoga and Kadur. From 1831 that name was changed to Nagar Division, and from 1863 to 1881, when Divisions were abolished, the Nagar Division was composed of the Shimoga, Kadur and Chitaldroog Districts. Nagar has latterly benefited by the opening out and improvement of the ghat-roads, but the transfer of the taluq head-quarters to Kollúrkatte in 1893 further tends to diminish its importance.

Municipal Funds.	1892-3.	1893-4.	1894-5.	1895-6.
Income	486	512	497	642
Expenditure	621	578	554	669

Nyamti.—A town situated in 14° 9' N. lat., 75° 38' E. long., on the Honnáli-Ayanur road. Head-quarters from 1869 to 1882 of the Honnáli taluq, and is a municipality.

Population in 1891.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Hindus (with 2 Jains)	1,383	1,494	2,877
Muhammadans	118	107	225
Total	1,501	1,601	3,102

Nyamti is a town of very modern date, the petta having been established in the time of the Divan Purnaiya. Being situated between the Malnád and the Maidan regions, a considerable trade is carried on by the merchants, who are all Lingáyits, in exchanging the products of both tracts. The grain of the Malnád and the jaggory of the neighbouring taluqs, which can be stored in this dry climate for some time without risk of damage, with areca-nut from Nagar and Koppa, are forwarded to Bellary, Dharwar, &c., in return for cloths and other articles, which are sent to the Malnád and Kanara. During the American war of 1864-5 much money was made here by the cotton trade.

Municipal Funds.	1892-3.	1893-4.	1894-5.	1895-6.
Income	1,483	1,412	1,630	2,754
Expenditure	2,156	2,846	2,367	3,368

Sagar.—A taluq in the west. Area 666 square miles. Headquarters at Sagar. Contains the following hoblis, villages, and population :—

No.	Hoblis.	Villages.	Hamlets.	Villages classified.		Population.
				Government.	Inam.	
1	Anantapura... ..	61	40	61	—	8,070
2	Bárángi	35	73	35	—	6,801
3	Ikkéri	57	90	57	—	10,541
4	Karúr	33	51	33	—	9,887
5	Ságara	32	25	32	—	11,840
6	Tálaguppe	28	31	28	—	11,860
	Total	246	310	246	—	58,999

Principal places, with population.—Sagar, 2,869; Keladi, 1,388; Kánale, 1,317; Tađagalale, 1,045; Nellúr, 1,026.

This taluq occupies the most westerly projection of Mysore, being at one point not more than 8 miles from the sea. The west and greater part of the north and south are bounded by the Ghats, a spur from which crosses the taluq from west to east, passing south of Ikkéri and parting the western from the northern streams. The Sharavati runs through the middle from south to north-west, receiving near Bárángi the Yenne Hole. On touching the frontier it turns west, and descending the Ghats in the far-famed Falls of Gersoppa, flows to the sea at Honavar. The principal stream running north is the Varada, which rises near Ikkéri. The chief heights are Deva-konda and Govardhangiri.

The taluq is considered purely Malnád, but there is a considerable difference between the south-western and north-eastern portions, separated mostly by the river Sharavati. The rice-fields in the former bear a double crop annually, but the gardens, stocked with areca palms, pepper and cardamoms, are somewhat inferior. This tract presents the appearance of a rolling stretch of bare hill-tops, the sides and valleys densely wooded, the latter occupied by the gardens. The scenery is surpassingly beautiful, and the climate, in the hottest time of the year, is cool and pleasant. The people live in separate homesteads, and village communities, so far as living in one place is concerned, are unknown. The remaining portion of the taluq is comparatively level and open, but the climate is not so good as in the other part. Only one crop of rice can be raised annually, but some

of the gardens are remarkably fine. The people, as a rule, live together in villages, but still there are many homesteads scattered here and there, principally to the south-west.

The forests, although on the whole extensive, are not in compact masses, nor are they very productive. Excepting the great Hinni forest, which lies to the south of the Gersoppa Falls, the remainder are chiefly *káns*, or tracts of virgin evergreen forest, in most of which pepper grows abundantly self-sown and uncared for, but little of the produce being collected owing to the depredations of monkeys. There are also towards the south patches of evergreen forest, generally only a few acres in extent, with very sharply-defined limits. There is a thick undergrowth of a low plant called Goravi katige. Deciduous timber trees are rare. Inside one of these patches of forest the growth of trees and underwood is so dense that it is difficult to pass through; on emerging, suddenly hardly a bush will be visible for the hundreds of yards or more of grassy open which may intervene between the patches. The real cause of this alternation of bare ground and densely-wooded patches is to be found in the laterite formation. Wherever the hard bed of laterite is near the surface wood refuses to grow. Towards the east the forest is gradually disappearing before the inroads of garden cultivators, who mercilessly strip and clear the Bayan Betta, as they are called, in order to obtain the *soppu*, or leaf manure, which is indispensable for their gardens.

In the *káns* the soil is rich and deep, but in most of the taluq the soil is hard and shallow, with much laterite. Sagar is essentially a garden taluq, and rice cultivation is also extensive. Dry crops are of no account, and raised on the same ground only once in three or four years. The rice is largely exported by the ryots themselves, chiefly to Gersoppa, by way of the Govardhangiri and Hinni ghats; but that of the southern *máganis* is often sent to Bhatkala or Baidur. Areca-nut is exported principally towards Bellary, though some goes also to Walajapet and to Birur. Cardamoms and pepper are taken to the Kanara and Dharwar markets.

At first under the Kadambas, this country subsequently was subject to the rule of the Sántara kings of Pomburcha, as feudatory to the Chálukyás. Various governors of the Banavase Twelve Thousand, appointed by the Chálukyás, Hoysalas and Yádavas, held sway over it from the 12th century, until under Vijayanagar the Keladi chiefs arose to power, of whose territory it formed a part until taken by Haidar and annexed to Mysore.

The revenue settlement was introduced in 1874. The area of the taluq was thus distributed in 1892 :—

Culturable (dry, 27,790; wet, 41,282; garden, 4,224)	73,296
Unculturable (including roads, tanks, village sites, &c.) ...	349,932
Total acres ...	<u>423,228</u>

The unoccupied arable area was 29,057 acres. The total revenue demand for 1891-2 (15 months) was Rs. 3,97,453, and for 1892-3 it was Rs. 4,14,295.

The average rainfall at Sagar for 26 years (1870-95) was as follows :—

Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apl.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Year.
0·12	0·02	0·28	1·89	2·85	14·19	26·86	12·94	5·23	5·22	1·28	0·18	... 71·06

Another register for 23 years makes the annual average 69·71.

The high road from Shimoga to the Gersoppa Falls runs through Anantapur and Sagar. From Sagar there are roads north to Siralkoppa, with a branch to Sorab, and south to Kullurkatte, with a branch to the Kollur ghat. From Anantapur there are roads south-west to Kullurkatte and Nagar, and south to Tirthahalli. The passes to the coast are the Gersoppa, Hinni, and Govardhangiri to Honavar; the Hogavadi to Bhatkal; and the Karni and Kollur to Baidur. Regular roads have been constructed through the first and last of these; the others are only fit for pack bullocks, which are largely used.

Sagar.—A town on the left bank of the Varada near its source, situated in 14° 10' N. lat., 75° 5' E. long., 40 miles west-north-west of Shimoga, on the Shimoga-Gersoppa road. Head-quarters of the Sagar Sub-division and of the Sagar taluq, and a municipality.

Population in 1891.						Males.	Females.	Total.
Hindus	...	...	...	...	...	1,376	1,013	2,389
Muhammadans	...	...	...	...	...	219	183	402
Jains	...	...	...	...	...	12	1	13
Christians	...	...	...	...	...	34	19	53
Total ...						1,641	1,216	2,857

This town is one of the chief depôts for the areca-nut trade, and contains some wealthy merchants. Pepper, sandalwood and other products of the Malnad are exported by them to the Madras districts east and north, and to parts of Bombay in the west, the returns being made chiefly in cloths.

The town has been recently extended to the west by a quarter named Chamarajendra Pête, in memory of the late Maharaja's visit.

Municipal Funds.	1892-3.	1893-4.	1894-5.	1895-6.
Income	2,128	2,030	1,857	2,923
Expenditure	3,271	2,241	2,753	3,282

Sante Bennur.—A village in Channagiri taluq, on the road from Súlekere to Sásalu railway-station. Head-quarters of the Sante Bennúr hobli. Population, 1,643.

It was called Sante Bennúr on account of the large weekly fair (*sante*) held there, and to distinguish it from Male Bennúr, Ráni Bennúr, and others of the name. It was founded, probably in the 16th century, by a chief of the Basavapatna family, on the spot where a hare had been observed to turn upon the hounds, which indicated heroic soil. The settlement of traders and merchants was encouraged, and a large petta sprung up. Hanumappa Náyak, one of the chiefs, erected a palace at Sante Bennúr, and had a skilfully-constructed *honda* or reservoir made in front of the ancient temple of Ranganátha, faced round with flights of steps, and with ornamental pavilions at the angles and in the centre. The one in the middle, called the Vasanta mantapa, had a fountain playing from the top. After the capture of Basavapatna the town was taken by the Musalman forces of Bijapur, under Randulha Khan, who destroyed the temple and erected in its place a mosque of very large dimensions. Hanumappa Náyak, who had been forced to retire to Tarikere and Kaldurga, was greatly incensed at this, and watching his opportunity planned a night attack, in which he put to death the Muhammadan governor, and desecrated the mosque with the blood of hogs, pulling out a stone from the walls of each compartment. The Tarikere chiefs eventually regained the place and held it until it was taken by Chitaldroog early in the 17th century. In 1717 it was captured by the Bednúr chiefs, who fortified it, and in spite of repeated attacks by Chitaldroog, retained it till 1761, when it fell into the hands of Haidar Ali. In common with other places in the neighbourhood it was plundered and destroyed by the Mahrattas under Parasu Ram Bhao in 1791. The mosque, never used since its desecration, and the *honda*, with its ruinous but graceful pavilions, are the only points of interest now left.

Sharavati.—A river which rises at Ambu-tirtha, near Nonabar, in the Tirthahalli taluq. It takes a north-westerly course by Fatte-petta, receives the Haridravati on the right below Pattaguppe, and the Yenne Hole on the left above Bárangi. On arriving at the frontier it bends to the west, and precipitating itself down the celebrated Falls of

Gersoppa, and passing that village (properly *Géru-sappe*), which is really some 18 miles distant, discharges into the sea at Honávar in N. Kanara. The name Sharávati, arrow-born, is in allusion to its flowing from the Ambu-tirtha, which was formed by a stroke of Rama's arrow. The stream is crossed by 70 anicuts, from which small channels are drawn having an aggregate length of 26 miles.

The magnificent *Falls of Gersoppa*, or Jóg, that is, the waterfall, as they are called by the natives, are unquestionably the grandest natural beauty in Mysore, rich as it is in splendid scenery. They eclipse every other Fall in India and have few rivals in any part of the world. "While excelled in height by the Cerosoli and Evanson cascades in the Alps, and the Falls of the Arve in Savoy, the Gersoppa cataract surpasses them in volume of water precipitated; and while much inferior to Niagara in volume, it far excels those celebrated Falls of the New World in height."¹ They are situated in 14° 14' N. lat., and 74° 50' E. long., on the borders of Mysore and N. Kanara, 62 miles from Shimoga in the former and 30 from the port of Honávar (Honore) in the latter. Their existence appears to have been unknown at the time of Buchanan's journey in 1800. The Sharávati, flowing over a very rocky bed about 250 yards wide, here reaches a tremendous chasm, 960 feet in depth, and "performs (as Captain Newbold has expressed it) this stupendous lover's leap from the chains of the giant Ghats into the arms of his ocean-rescued² mistress—prolific Kanara."

The water comes down in four distinct falls, presenting a scene of transcendent grandeur and sublimity, whose effect is greatly heightened by the wild and beautiful country around, covered with a wealth of luxuriant vegetation. The Rája Fall³ pours in one unbroken column sheer to the depth of 830 feet. Half way down it is encountered by the Roarer, another fall, which precipitates itself into a vast cup and then rushes violently downwards at an angle of forty-five degrees to meet its famous compeer. A third fall, the Rocket, shoots downwards in a series of jets; while the fourth, called the Dame Blanche, is an

¹ The height of the Cerosoli cascade is 2,400 feet; that of Evanson 1,200 feet and the Falls of the Arve 1,100 feet. At Niagara, a river two miles across, contracted to less than half its former breadth, is hurled over a precipice 164 feet high in two great sheets into the basin below.—*J. A. S. B.*, xiv, 421.

² Alluding to the legend of the formation of the western coast by Parasu Rama.

³ By various visitors this has been called the Grand fall, the Main fall, and the Horse-shoe fall. The Rája after whom it is now generally named was the Sode Rája of Sirsi, who proposed to erect a little shrine or mandapa on the spot, the lines for the foundation of which may be seen on the stone just above the Rája's rock which projects over the chasm.

These falls are perhaps unique as a scene of natural beauty in India free from all signs of idolatry.

Undine-like cascade gliding quietly over the mountain side in a sheet of foam.

The most favourable time for visiting these glorious works of nature is in the cold season, when the river is low enough to admit of crossing to the Mysore side, whence the best views are obtained. During the monsoon the place is enveloped in a dense cloud of vapour, through which rises the thunder of the invisible mighty waters in their fearful descent. There are good bungalows on both the Mysore and the Bombay sides, immediately at the head of the falls. Close by the latter is a slab of rock projecting over the verge of the gulf, by lying down on which and peering over the best view is obtained of the appalling abyss from above, rendered more striking by the continual flight across it of myriads of rock pigeons, which find a congenial home in the face of the cliffs.

“ I lay down flat on this shelf (says a visitor in the month of August, fifty years ago) and drew myself up to its edge, over which as I stretched my head a sight burst on the view which I shall never forget and can never hope to describe. I have since looked down the fuming and sulphurous craters of Etna and Vesuvius, but have never experienced the sensations which overwhelmed me in the first downward gaze into this (*hibernice*) volcano of waters : for so it looks ; a chaotic scene that rivets with basilisk fascination the gaze of the spectator. It was with great reluctance and with an intense feeling of depression that I withdrew my head, drenched in spray, from the brink of the precipice. One might almost gaze for ever on this abyss in which a mighty mass of water appears eternally burying itself in a mist-shrouded grave. The clouds of spray which continually ascend heavenwards in slow and majestic wreaths appear to typify the shadowy ghosts of the entombed waters.”

The Falls are seen to greatest advantage from the selected points of view which have been cleared on the Mysore bank, the most popular being Watkins's platform. From this side a descent may be made to the pool below, the water in which is 130 feet in depth. But this is a difficult undertaking and the re-ascent extremely laborious. The view looking upwards from below is generally considered far less impressive than from the other points, as regards the Falls themselves, but the grandly rugged features of the chasm and the winding gorge in which it is prolonged are more clearly seen in all their savage nakedness.

The varying effects of light and shade at different hours are extremely beautiful. A lovely rainbow spans the waters in the afternoon, rising with the declining sun, and even lunar rainbows are said to be formed in certain aspects of the moon. Rockets and blazing torches or

bundles of straw cast over on a dark night, throw out a fitful glare upon the jaws of the abyss, producing weird and solemn effects as viewed from the Rájá's Rock. No words can suffice to adequately describe the charms of a scene replete with every element of the sublime, combining in one superb panorama so many varying aspects both of terror and of beauty, all instinct with the life, the force and play of moving waters.

"The precipice over which the water falls affords a fine section of gneiss and its associated hypogene schists, which dip easterly and northerly away from the Falls at an angle of about 35°. The gneiss is composed of quartz and felspar, with both mica and hornblende, and alternates with micaceous, talcose, actinolitic, chloritic and hornblende schists, imbedding (especially the latter) iron pyrites. These rocks are penetrated by veins of quartz and felspar and also of a fine grained granite, composed of small grains of white felspar, quartz and mica. The mass of hypogene rocks has evidently been worn back several hundred feet by the erosion and abrasion of the cataract; the softer talcose and micaceous schists have suffered most. Rock basins are frequent in the bed of the river, which is worn in the rock and rugged with water-worn rocky masses."¹

Two officers of the Indian Navy, deputed by Government to measure the Falls, arrived there on the 6th of March, 1856. Their account of the feat, written in the old bungalow book, is as follows:—

Threw a light flying bridge across the chasm from the tree overhanging the Roarer, to the rock westward of that called the Rájá's rock. To this slung a cradle of light bamboo, capable of holding two people comfortably. The cradle traversed on one single and two double blocks, through which rove the four hawsers composing the bridge. We had previously placed the bridge from the Rájá's rock to the tree, but found that the lead line would not, from any single part of the bridge, plumb clear of the Roarer, or the rocks on either side; thus proving beyond a doubt that the pool had never before been plumbed from the sides of the chasm.

In the forenoon of the 12th of March, all arrangements being completed and provision made against remote contingencies, we made the passage in the cradle from side to side, halting in the centre to pour a libation to the guardian spirits of the chasm. The arrangements being found perfectly satisfactory, we proceeded to plumb the pool. The cradle with one person was eased away to a distance of 47 feet from the tree. The lead line was lowered from the shore through a block (*vulgo*, a pulley) on the cradle, passing down through its centre. The plummet consisted of 7 lbs. of hard lead placed in the centre of an annular life-buoy slung horizontally, the whole weight being about 18 lbs. When the lead reached the pool, the

¹ *J. A. S. B.*, xiv, 420.

life-buoy floated it, and thus the lead man in the cradle felt the loss of weight. Having during our service had a little experience in deep water, we knew that a loss of 20 lbs. from a plumb-line of upwards of 100 fathoms would be scarcely appreciable, and so we found it. But by hauling up half a fathom and letting go suddenly, the life-buoy made a discernible splash in the water. A mark was then placed on the line by the block, and the angle of its dip taken with a theodolite on the brink of the precipice near the tree, at the hypotenusal distance of 47 feet. This gave the perpendicular depression of the cradle below the instrument (on a level with the tree) as 14 feet, which, added to the line paid out, 815 feet, gave the exact depth 829 feet.

In the afternoon we descended the ravine, and with a raft of a few bamboos and three boats' breakers, paddled and sounded all round and across the pool, having previously, from above, turned off a great part of the Roarer into the Rocket. We found that 22 fathoms was the greatest depth anywhere. This sounding was taken very near the west side, about 30 yards from the head of the pool or base of the Grand Fall. We climbed the rock on which the Roarer falls, and when about 30 feet up it, the stream, which before had been mild rather, came down with great force on our devoted heads, and we had to "hold on by our eyelids" to prevent being washed off.

By measuring a base we ascertained the horizontal distance between the centres of the Kanara and Mysore bungalows¹ to be 710 yards; between the Rájá's rock and the tree that plumbs the Roarer, 74 yards. The top of the Rájá's rock is 5 feet below the level of the above-mentioned tree. A plumb-line lowered from this tree into the bed of the Roarer measured 315 feet.

On the 15th of March, broke up our bridge, from which we had taken several satisfactory views of the chasm, and descended by a rope into the cup of the Roarer, where we breakfasted, and afterwards, with some little difficulty at one point, passed down by the side of the Roarer, and reached a position at the back of the Grand Fall, whence the Rocket and Roarer were seen to the right of it. From this place only can you have a correct idea of the great depth of the cavern in front of which the Grand Fall drops. The sky clouded over and thunder pealed when we were below. The effect was grand in the extreme. At 5 P.M. reached the top of the cliff in safety.

The new Kanara bungalow is 1,670 feet above the level of the sea, the old one 1,850. The old Mysore bungalow was 30 feet lower than the last; the new one, built at what was known as Palmer's platform, is still lower.

Shikárpur.—A taluq in the north. Area 428 square miles. Headquarters at Shikárpur. Contains the following hoblis, villages and population:—

¹ This was the old Mysore bungalow, no longer in existence.

No.	Hoblis.	Villages.	Hamlets.	Villages classified.		Population.
				Government.	Jodi.	
1	Bellandúr	23	13	20	3	5,419
2	Hosúr	21	—	21	—	5,927
3	Mugalagere... ..	39	5	39	—	9,515
4	Shikárpura	42	3	39	3	16,254
5	Tálagunda	36	1	34	2	12,667
6	Uḍagaṇi	36	—	36	—	14,622
	Total	197	22	189	8	64,404

Principal places, with population.—Shikárpur, 5,011; Sirálkoppa, 2,125; Isúr, 1,703; Sálur, 1,490; Belagávi, 1,470; Tagarti, 1,223; Bilakí, 1,024; Kaḍenandihalli, 1,033; Begúru, 1,014.

The taluq is crossed from south to north by the Choradi or Kumadvati, which forms the large Masur-Madak tank on the northern frontier. There are lines of low hills on all sides, covered with jungle, which gives shelter to numerous tigers, cheetas, and other wild beasts.

Being on the border where Malnád and Maidán meet, it partakes of the characteristics of both. Except for the Jambur hills running down into the middle from the north, the gently undulating surface is unbroken, and where uncultivated is covered with low scrubby jungle, which in the south and west rises into forest. The soils are chiefly reddish-brown and grey, very light and friable, and containing much sand, except in the low-lying grounds, where they are much darker in colour and more clayey. In the extreme north, however, and on the banks of the Choradi, dark brown and black soil of a superior description is found, on which wet crops are raised. In the east, where dry crop cultivation is the most successful, the soil is less sandy and more like loam, except in the high-lying wet crop land.

The main cultivation is sugar-cane and rice, especially the former, to which crop the energies of the ryots are chiefly directed, and on the successful maturing of which the prosperity of the taluq rests. Dry crops in the west are poor, chiefly rági, horse-gram, and castor-oil. In the east the dry crops are much better, and cotton and jola grow well in some villages. The principal export of the taluq is jaggory, which mostly goes to Dharwar, and rice, which is sent in various directions. Sirálkoppa is the chief market for grain, and Shikárpur for cloth.

The taluq is a perfect museum of antiquities, and no part of Mysore is richer in remains and records of the past. It is here that I have found evidence of the rule of the S'átaváhanas and Guptas, and the

true history of the early Kadambas. Bandanikke was the chief city of the Nágarakhanda Seventy, and Belgávi of the great Banavase Twelve Thousand province, which was one of the chief possessions of succeeding dynasties, the Chálukyás, the Ráshttrakútas, the Gangas, the Hoysalas, the Yádivas, and others, down to the time of Vijayanagar and the Keladi or Bednur chiefs, overwhelmed in the conquests of Haidar Ali.

The revenue settlement was introduced in 1873, when the area of the taluq was distributed as follows:—

Culturable (dry, 60,173; wet, 42,545; garden, 1,613)	...	104,331
Unculturable (including roads, tanks, village sites, &c.)	...	106,083
Total acres	...	<u>210,414</u>

The unoccupied arable area was 26,927 acres. The total revenue demand in 1891-2 (15 months) was Rs. 2,60,105, and in 1892-3 it was Rs. 3,90,082.

The average rainfall for 26 years (1870-95) at Shikárpur, and for 3 years (1893-5) at the other station, was as follows:—

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Year.
Shikárpur ...	0·09	0·11	0·29	1·06	2·97	4·39	8·16	4·16	2·81	4·60	1·27	0·22	30·13
Sirálkoppa...	—	—	0·34	0·89	1·35	6·31	9·38	6·00	1·31	9·69	0·78	—	36·05

According to another register for 23 years the average at Shikárpur is 31·33.

From Shikárpur there are roads to Shimoga, Anantapur, Honnáli, and Sirálkoppa. From the latter there are roads to Hire Kerur and the railway at Byádgi, to Anavatti, to Sorab, and to Ságar.

Shikárpur.—A town near the right bank of the Choradi or Kumadvati, situated in 14° 16' N. lat., 75° 25' E. long., 33 miles north-west of Shimoga, with which it is connected by road. Head-quarters of the Shikárpur taluq, and a municipality.

Population in 1891.					Males.	Females.	Total.
Hindus	...	...	...	...	874	892	1,766
Muhammadans	...	...	...	...	174	153	327
Total	...	...	...	...	1,048	1,045	2,093

The town appears to have been founded by one Maliya, and after him originally called Maliyanhalli. The Keladi chiefs on gaining possession changed the name to Mahádanpur. During the time of either Haidar or Tipu, it received its present name of Shikárpur or Shikáripur, hunting or hunter's town, from the abundance of game

there met with during a royal hunt. The old fort at the western end is now in ruins.

Municipal Funds.					1892-3.	1893-4.	1894-5.	1895-6.
Income	...	...	...	...	1,541	1,536	1,731	3,148
Expenditure	...	...	...	...	1,752	1,388	1,657	3,110

Shimoga.—A taluq in the south-east. Area 659 square miles. Head-quarters at Shimoga. Contains the following hoblis, villages and population :—

No.	Hoblis.	Vil- lages.	Ham- lets.	Villages classified.			Popula- tion.
				Gov- ern- ment.	Sarva- mánya.	Jódi.	
1	Benkipur	72	25	65	1	6	11,911
2	Bidare	44	17	34	2	8	9,350
3	Háranhalli	59	3	56	—	3	12,023
4	Holalúr	51	11	44	4	3	16,409
5	Hole Honnúr	55	1	54	—	1	15,066
6	Kumsi	34	5	34	—	—	5,560
7	Shimoga	78	37	62	—	16	24,397
	Total	393	99	349	7	37	94,716

Principal places, with population.—Shimoga, 11,504; Hole Honnúr, 2,947; Háranhalli, 2,288; Benkipur, 2,270; Harakéri, 1,728; Kumsi, 1,656; Mattúr, 1,377; Ayanúr, 1,157; Sógáne, 1,101; Uragadúr, 1,099.

Kumsi and Haranhalli máganis were added to this taluq from Honnáli in 1882.

The Tunga and the Bhadra, entering the taluq on the south, flow northwards and unite at Kudali, 9 miles north-north-east of Shimoga, whence the Tungabhadra continues north with a winding course. The greater part of the taluq on the west and south is covered with hills and forest, abounding in tigers, cheetas, bears, and other wild animals. The ancient divisions were Gájanur-pál to the west of the Tunga, Yeđatore-pál between the rivers, and Benkipura east of the Bhadra.

The cultivation of the taluq lies almost all in the level valleys of the rivers, but owing to the width and the depth below the level of the country of their channels, their waters are not made use of for irrigation. On the other hand, the force of the currents, especially in the Tunga, serves to float timber towards the plain country. The hills in the south-west are covered with forest; those in the east bear only

stunted teak; the northern hills contain nothing better than scrub jungle. Laterite is almost entirely absent. The soils on either bank of the Tungabhadra, to the north, are very rich, and the climate remarkably favourable to dry cultivation. In the rest of the taluq the soils are, generally speaking, light and sandy, but the dry crop soils, though as a rule poor, are in some few spots of a rich dark colour. Rági is the staple crop in the red soils, but black soils, which are confined to the north and north-east, produce a variety of crops, including jola, cotton, and oil-seeds. The rice lands are mostly of poor quality and not specially productive. A small amount of sugar-cane is grown. The gardens produce a little areca-nut, with betel-leaf and plantains.

The revenue settlement was introduced in 1875. The area of the taluq was thus distributed:—

Culturable (dry, 79,550; wet, 36,289; garden, 1,490)	...	117,329
Unculturable (including roads, village sites, &c.)	...	245,482
		<hr/>
Total acres	...	<u>362,811</u>

The unoccupied arable land was 30,288 acres. The total revenue demand for 1891-2 (15 months) was Rs. 2,94,993, and for 1892-3 it was Rs. 3,39,798.

The rainfall in the taluq varies very much between the south-west and the north-east. The following was the average for 26 years (1870-95) at Shimoga and Kumsi, and for 3 years (1893-5) at the other stations:—

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Year.
Shimoga ...	0·13	0·02	0·49	1·94	3·61	4·98	7·78	4·52	3·73	5·25	1·66	0·39	34·50
Kumsi ...	—	0·03	0·19	2·43	3·30	6·85	10·22	5·28	4·31	4·08	2·10	0·15	38·94
Ayanur ...	—	—	0·35	1·24	3·41	9·27	11·07	5·59	3·18	8·57	1·34	—	44·02
Benkipur .	—	—	0·38	2·33	2·91	4·24	5·71	5·42	3·04	7·84	2·36	—	34·23

Another register for 14 years makes the annual average at Shimoga 36·99 inches.

A railway is under construction from Birur through Benkipur to Shimoga. The high road from Bangalore to Gersoppa passes through Shimoga, whence there are roads northwards to Honnáli and Harihar, south-west to Tirthahalli and the Agumbe Ghat, and north-west to Shikárpur. From Benkipur there are roads north-east to Channagiri and Chitaldroog, and south-west to Umbalibail and Yedehalli. From Ayanur there are roads west to Kollúrkattē and north to Nyám̄ti and Honnáli. A short road connects Kumsi and Háranhalli.

Shimoga.—The chief town of the District, situated in 13° 55' N. lat., 75° 38' E. long., on the left bank of the Tunga, 171 miles north-

west of Bangalore, on the Bangalore-Gersoppa road, and at the terminus of the railway under construction from Birur.

Population in 1891.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Hindus	3,905	4,001	7,906
Muhammadans	1,416	1,503	2,919
Jains	32	10	42
Christians	233	240	473
Total	5,586	5,754	11,340

Shimoga derives its name either from *Shiva-mukha*, the face of Shiva, or from *Shimoge*, sweet pot, an appellation given to it by a rishi who here found the savoury herbs which he compounded for his daily meal. From inscriptions it appears that Mandali, a suburb of Shimoga to the south, was an important place in early times under the Gangas. This part of the country was, at a later period, ruled by the Chálukyas and the Hoysalas, after which it was included in the dominions of Vijayanagar. Little is known of its history but that from the 16th century it was one of the possessions of the Keladi or Ikkéri chiefs. The place was taken by Haidar in his invasion of Bednur, and he subsequently brought a number of carpenters here from Mangalore to make lighters or barges for navigating the river. But they proved to be of no use. A battle was fought in the neighbourhood of Shimoga in 1798, between the Mahrattas under Parasu Ram Bhao and Tipu Sultan's forces under Muhammad Reza, the Benki Naváb, when the latter, being forced back on Haidarnagar (Bednur), Shimoga was besieged. The garrison was forced to capitulate, and the Mahrattas plundered and burnt the town. The scattered survivors of the population returned on the withdrawal of their army, but after the fall of Seringapatam the place was again pillaged by Dhundia Wahag, who left Shimoga and the neighbouring villages a heap of ruins. Being made the head-quarters of the District and of the late Nagar Division, it has gradually risen in population and wealth, which is likely to increase when the railway is finished.

Municipal Funds.	1892-3.	1893-4.	1894-5.	1895-6.
Income	13,961	14,365	16,560	17,478
Expenditure	14,320	15,007	17,000	22,896

Siralkoppa.—A mercantile town in the Shikárpur taluq, 11 miles north-west of the kasba, and a municipality.

Population in 1891.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Hindus (with 1 Jain)	799	817	1,616
Muhammadans	270	239	509
Total	1,069	1,056	2,125

It is of importance as forming a point of communication between Ságar, Sorab, and other parts of Mysore, and the Dharwar, Kanara, and Bellary Districts. It is the principal depôt for jaggory, which is largely prepared in this taluq and exported by the merchants of Sirálkoppa in exchange for piece goods, *kamblis*, &c. A large fair is held on Sunday.

Municipal Funds.	1892-3.	1893-4.	1894-5.	1895-6.
Income	1,197	1,293	1,388	2,300
Expenditure	1,763	1,341	1,744	2,899

Sorab.—A taluq in the north-west. Area 461 square miles. Headquarters at Sorab. Contains the following hoblis, villages and population :—

No.	Hoblis.	Villages.	Hamlets.	Villages classified.			Popula- tion.
				Govern- ment.	Sarva- mánya.	Jodi.	
1	A'navatti	52	7	50	—	2	18,667
2	Chandragutti	40	28	39	1	—	8,287
3	Kyásanúr	84	—	84	—	—	9,874
4	Soraba	56	17	55	—	1	14,614
5	Tavanandi... ..	39	8	38	—	1	11,232
6	Telagadde... ..	35	3	35	—	—	7,373
	Total	306	63	301	1	4	70,047

Principal places, with population.—Múdi, 2,578; Uddari, 1,743; Soraba, 1,661; Kubattúr, 1,314; A'navatti, 1,269; Kuppagadde, 1,228; Tattúr, 1,137; Jeđe, 1,043.

The Varada runs along the western side, forming in some places the boundary, and at one point, near Banavási, leaving and re-entering the taluq. The minor streams unite in the Dandavati, which, rising near Sorab, flows north and west into the Varada near Jeđe. The principal hill is Chandragutti in the west, rising to 2,794 feet above the level of the sea.

Except Chandragutti mágani, the taluq is gently undulating, the bottoms of the valleys being occupied by rice-fields and gardens. Above the wet lands are stretches of open dry crop fields, called *hakka*, and on the highest ground are the *káns*. The woodland scenery of the taluq is unique, on account of these patches of forest. These are composed of some of the finest forest to be found in the south of India, detached in small portions, with clearly demarcated lines. This arrangement is due to the position of the laterite which forms the substratum of the whole taluq. Outside the forest, on the higher ground, the soil is only about 4 inches in depth; while within, 15 feet from the edge, it is deep and rich enough to support the largest forest trees. These *káns* are full of the wild pepper vine, the produce of which used to be largely gathered; but the most valuable product now is the juice of the *bagani* palm, which is extracted for toddy by the Halepaikas.

Rice, jaggory, and areca-nut are the chief products of the taluq. The areca palm gardens are larger and more numerous in the south and west than in the other parts, and often contain cardamoms. On the areca trees attaining a certain size, betel and pepper vines are trained up the stem. Rice and sugar-cane cultivation are universal, and the crops good and certain. When the rice has been cut and stacked, the ground while still damp is ploughed up and left fallow till the early rain in May, no Vaisákh crop being raised.

The revenue settlement was introduced into 19 northern villages in 1868, and into the remainder of the taluq in 1871. The area of the taluq was thus distributed :—

Culturable (dry, 72,021; wet, 52,707; garden, 1,464)	...	126,192
Unculturable (including roads, village sites, &c.)	....	124,492
Total acres	... ..	<u>250,684</u>

Of the unculturable area 32,477 acres are *kán*. The unoccupied arable area was 27,874 acres. The total revenue demand for 1891-2 (15 months) was Rs. 2,89,269, and for 1892-3 it was Rs. 2,96,197.

The average rainfall at Sorab for 26 years (1870-95) was as follows :—

Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Year.
0'19	0'01	0'23	1'26	2'63	10'67	19'89	10'15	4'82	5'04	1'13	0'18	56'20

Another register for 23 years makes the annual average 57'48.

There is a road through Sorab from Sirálkoppa to Siddapur; one south from Sorab to Ságar, with a branch from Ulavi to Sirálkoppa; and one north to Banavási. A road from Sirálkoppa runs through A'navatti towards Hánagal.

Sorab.—A town situated on the right bank of the Dandavati, in 14° 23' N. lat., 75° 10' E. long, at the junction of roads from Sagar and Siralkoppa, 54 miles north-west of Shimoga by road. Headquarters of the Sorab taluq, and a municipality.

Population in 1891.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Hindus (with 5 Jains)	702	726	1,428
Muhammadans	137	96	233
Total	839	822	1,661

Sorab derives its name from Surabhi, the cow of plenty, which— together with Nanda, Bhadra, Susilya, and Sumana, four other celestial cows—used daily to shed milk over the image of Ranganatha on the bank of the Dandavati. It is the principal residence of the *gudigars* or sandalwood carvers, whose delicate and elaborate workmanship is generally well known. The articles of their manufacture chiefly in demand are boxes, caskets, and cabinets. These are completely covered with minute and complicated designs of vegetation and scroll work, interspersed with figures from the Hindu pantheon; the general effect of the profuse detail being extremely rich. The carving of Sorab is considered superior to that of Bombay or Canton, and being a very tedious process, requiring great care, is expensive. The *gudigars* will imitate admirably any designs that may be furnished them. Boards for album-covers, the plates from Jorrocks's Hunt, and cabinets surrounded with figures in high relief of knights in mediæval armour, have thus been produced for European gentlemen with great success.

Municipal Funds.	1892-3.	1893-4.	1894-5.	1895-6.
Income	751	840	1,100	1,764
Expenditure	917	890	1,430	1,938

Sulekere, the largest tank or artificial reservoir in Mysore, is situated in the middle of the Channagiri taluq. Its margin is said to be 40 miles round, and next to the Kambham tank in Kadapa, is probably the finest reservoir in Southern India.

Its name is derived from *sule*, courtesan, and *kere*, tank. "The local legend asserts that this woman was a king's daughter, who, having formed a connection with some divinity, built, as an expiatory act, the tank, which submerged the town of her father, who cursed her as a prostitute. The work is a very fine one, and the reservoir receives the

drainage of twenty square miles, all of which pours into the gorge where it is built, (the main stream bearing the name of Haridra or Haridravati). The embankment is of no great length, the defile between the adjacent hills being narrow ; but it is of stupendous width, height, and strength, though not quite straight. It has resisted successfully the floods of centuries, but owing to the great pressure of the volume of the water in the tank, the difficulty of properly working with rude plugs the enormous sluices was immense, and the latter in course of time became much injured, and could not be utilized. (The old wooden plugs have now been replaced by iron ones.) Of the two sluices, that to the north was called the Sidda, and that to the south the Basava, and both were in bad order. During the drought which prevailed some years ago, advantage was taken of the circumstance to repair the sluices, which a man could pass through with ease, although the first adventurer was encountered by a cobra on entering the northern one. The channels had also fallen into disrepair, and the great extent of land immediately below the tank (reputed to be more than 20,000 acres) was covered by a dense date jungle ; so that the vast supply of water afforded by this magnificent reservoir flowed uselessly away to the river Tungabhadra, near Harihar. (The channels have now been fully repaired, and hundreds of acres of sugar-cane are grown under them. The feverish jungle, formerly so dreaded by cultivators, has given place to smiling gardens.) It is a remarkable fact that notwithstanding the damaged state of the sluices and the great force of the water when escaping through them, the embankment has always remained firm and uninjured, a satisfactory proof of the solidity of the structure.”¹

The construction of the tank is assigned to the 11th or 12th century, and remains are pointed out, said to have belonged to Svargavati, the city which was submerged. Its king was Vikrama Ráya, who, having no children, adopted the son of the Gauda of Billahalli. This youth received the name of Ragi Raya. But a daughter was subsequently born to the king in reward for his devotion to Siva. She was called S'ántava, and was the heroine of the story. At the east end of the embankment is a temple of Siddesvara, in front of which are some defaced inscriptions. One appears to be a Vijayanagar grant of the 16th century. There is said to be a stone dated S'aka 1311, in the tank. A large festival is held at the temple at the time of Sivarátri.

Talagunda.—A village in Shikárpur taluq, about 2 miles north-east of Belgámi. Population, 967.

The original village was an agrahára called Sthánagundúr, and was

¹ Bowring, *East. Ex.*, 105.

the place in which the Kadamba king Mukanna or Trinetra established the Brahmans he had brought from Ahichchatra. According to some accounts there were 12,000 Brahmans of thirty-two families, and according to other accounts 32,000. The place is rich in ancient inscriptions, the most important of which is on a pillar discovered by me in front of a ruined temple. It is of about the 5th century, beautifully engraved in what are called box-headed characters, and contains in high-flown Sanskrit verses the only apparently authentic account that has been found of the origin and rise of the Kadamba dynasty.

Tirthahalli.—A taluq in the south-west, till 1882 called Kavale-durga. Area, 472 square miles. Head-quarters at Tirthahalli. Contains the following hoblis, villages and population :—

No.	Hoblis.	Villages.	Hamlets.	Villages classified.		Population.
				Government.	Jodi.	
1	Agrahára	41	81	41	—	10,167
2	Agumbi	41	270	41	—	15,800
3	Áraga	57	97	57	—	11,872
4	Mandagadde	63	94	62	1	9,046
5	Muttúr... ..	42	130	42	—	12,344
	Total	244	672	243	1	59,229

Principal places, with population.—Tirthahalli, 2,359 ; Tallúr, 1,104 ; Mulbágal, 1,018.

The Tunga enters the taluq in the south and takes a northerly course to a point west of Tirthahalli, where it is joined by the Begar-halla from Sringéri. It then runs east, forming for some distance the boundary between the Shimoga and Kadur Districts. All the minor streams, said to number seventy-five, run into the Tunga, except a few in the north-west, which flow into the Sharavati. The taluq is essentially Malnád in its nature, hills, forests, areca-nut gardens and running streams being the prevailing characteristics. The whole taluq is hilly, especially the west, which touches the Ghats and is covered with splendid forest. The chief heights are Kavaledurga, Kabbínada-gudda, and Kundada-gudda, the latter, which is near Agumbi, being a very conspicuous point. Iron stone of a superior quality is obtained at Kabbínada-gudda (iron hill), the iron made from which the natives hold to be as good as steel.

The east and south of the taluq is heavily wooded. The undulating country in the centre and north is more open, the unculturable portions being usually covered with grass and bushes. Heavy forest prevails in the west, the tops of the hills only being bare. Open patches often

occur in the forest, owing to laterite cropping up near the surface, allowing only of the growth of a little poor white grass. In the vicinity of large stretches of garden the forest has often almost disappeared, owing to reckless cutting of trees to provide leaf manure for the areca gardens.

The principal productions are areca-nut, pepper, cardamoms, and rice, with a little coffee. Sugar-cane is grown for local consumption only. The areca-nut is considered as of better quality than that of Nagar, and only a little inferior to that of Kalasa and Ságar. The whole of it is exported to Walája by way of Birur, and to Bellary and Channagiri taluqs. The pepper is exported to Kanara, and cardamoms to Haveri in Dharwar. A small quantity of cardamoms is produced spontaneously in the jungles about Agumbi, but this is not so good as what is produced under the shade of areca gardens. The rice grown is mostly of the coarser varieties. In the high-lying rice lands, called Makki, a little rági or other dry crop is raised. Coffee cultivation was introduced in 1847, but there are no European coffee gardens, and the native gardens are few and carelessly tended. The káns contain less pepper than those of Sorab and Ságar, but they are valued for the toddy extracted from the *bagini* palms. Much of the cultivation of the taluq is in the holding of Brahmans and Námdári Gaudas, who, in addition to their own field hands, formerly slaves, and even now in the wilder parts fed, clothed, housed, and married by their masters, are dependent on labour from below the Ghats. These below-ghat coolies can always be recognized by the peculiar cap, made out of the spathe of the areca palm, which both men and women are accustomed to wear.

Large vessels of *balapam* or potstone are made at Kavaledurga, and silver cups at Tirthahalli.

This part of the country formed the Sántalige Thousand which is mentioned in many old inscriptions. Under the Chálukyas the S'ántara kings of Hombucha held possession. At a later period, and during the time of the Vijayanagar sovereignty, it was called the Aragada-rájya or Áraga kingdom. Eventually the Keladi chiefs acquired it, and Kavaledurga was their principal stronghold. This was captured by Haidar Ali, and the country annexed to Mysore.

The revenue settlement was introduced in 1878. The area of the taluq was thus distributed :—

Culturable (dry, 10,537 ; wet, 42,918 ; garden, 6,593)	...	60,048
Unculturable (including roads, village sites, &c.)	...	242,724
Inám village	... ..	1,885

Total acres 304,657

The unoccupied arable land was 9,767 acres. The total revenue demand for 1891-2 (15 months) was Rs. 4,54,107, and for 1892-3 it was Rs. 4,39,495.

The average rainfall at Tirthahalli for 26 years (1870-95), and at the other station for 3 years (1893-5), was as follows :—

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Year.
Tirthahalli	0·01	—	0·49	1·61	2·67	22·58	42·99	25·02	8·50	9·39	2·17	0·67	116·10
Agumbi ...	—	—	0·41	1·23	6·53	79·46	93·82	84·06	30·92	18·38	1·35	—	316·16

Another register for the same period makes the average at Tirthahalli 110·35.

The main road from Shimoga to the Agumbi Ghat passes through Tirthahalli, and is met at Agumbi by the Tarikere and Koppa road. From Tirthahalli there is a road north to Anantapur, and roads are proposed south to Koppa and west to Hulikal on the Hosangadi Ghat. From Mandagadde, with the river between, there is a road to Yedehalli.

Tirthahalli.—A town situated in 13° 41' N. lat., 75° 17' E. long., on the left bank of the Tunga, 35 miles south-west of Shimoga, on the Shimoga-Agumbi road. Head-quarters of the Tirthahalli taluq, and a municipality.

Population in 1891.				Males.	Females.	Total.
Hindus (with 3 Jains)	...	...	...	1,026	840	1,866
Muhammadans	..	...	...	194	124	318
Christians	...	...	...	99	76	175
Total	...	...	...	1,319	1,040	2,359

The town derives its name from the number of *tirtha* or sacred bathing-places in the Tunga at or near this spot. A pool at one of the cylindrical hollows scooped out by the water in the rocky bed is a favourite spot for cleansing away sin by ablution. The formation of the hole is ascribed to Parasu Rama, who made it with his axe. At the Ramesvara festival, held for three days in Mārgashira, thousands of people pass through the hole. At that season the river can be crossed by stepping over the great boulders in the bed, the difficult places where there is a rush of water being temporarily bridged over by the Brahmans.

It is the principal centre of trade for the Nagar and Koppa taluqs, valued at five to six lakhs a year, one-half of which results from transactions at the Ramesvara festival. Cocoa-nuts and cocoa-nut oil are

imported from Kanara by the Agumbi and Hulikal ghats, and various kinds of pulse, piece-goods, cattle, &c., from the maidán taluqs.

There are two math̄s, the Havika math̄ on the town side, and the Putiki math̄ on the opposite side. To this place all the people of the Malava caste resort from Kanara and Nagar to be branded with a religious stamp, *mudra dhāraṇa*, by their priest the Koppada Dāsaiya, who comes here from Koppa. Three miles up the river is the Mulbāgal math̄, and a mile higher the Bhimankat̄te math̄, which claims a fabulous antiquity.

Municipal Funds.	1892-3.	1893-4.	1894-5.	1895-6.
Income	1,654	1,848	1,242	2,000
Expenditure	2,261	2,815	1,413	2,667

Tunga.—This river rises in the Western Ghats, at Gangāmīla in the Varāha parvata (Kadur District), close to the twin stream of the Bhadra. Its course is at first north-east past Sringeri to Baggunji, where it turns north-west and continues in that direction to near Tirthahalli. Thence, bending round for some distance to the east, it eventually flows north-east past Shimoga to Kūḍali, where it unites with the Bhadra. Near Mandagadde it branches for a short distance into seven streams, hence called Yēlukālu shīlu, which prevents the passage of rafts of bamboos and timber during the dry season when the water is low. Its banks are not so steep as those of the Bhadra, and it is generally esteemed a more healthy stream, its current being more rapid and the banks less shut in by dense forest. A project was formed some years ago by the Madras Irrigation Company for damming the river either at Tirthahalli or at Mallūr, and constructing an immense reservoir, all the requisite surveys for which were made.

Tungabhadra.—This famous river, the chief tributary of the Krishna, is formed at Kūḍali, 9 miles north-north-east of Shimoga, by the confluence of the twin streams Tunga and Bhadra.

From this point its general direction is north, but it winds so as to form three loops before reaching Honnālī. Thence with a more direct course it runs north, and receiving the Choradi or Kumadvati on the left, bends to the north-east, following the Mysore frontier to Harihara, where it is joined by the Haridra from the Sūlekere on the right. Running again north along the boundary, it quits this State and, continuing north-west and north, separates the Madras and Bombay Presidencies. From the point where the Varada enters it on the left the river turns north-east and, flowing past the village of Hampe,

between the sites of the celebrated cities of Kishkindha, Anegundi or Hastinávati, and Vidyánagara or Vijayanagara, forms the common boundary of Bellary and the Nizam's Dominions, receiving on the right the Haggari or Vedávati. Soon after this its course is directly east, along much of the Karnul and Haidarabad frontier. Passing Karnul it enters the Krishna a few miles beyond, at Kúḍali Sangam or S'ris'aila.

The river is never dry, but the channel being full of rocks will not admit of floats in the hot season when the water is low. In the rainy season it swells prodigiously, and forms an extremely rapid and muddy stream, 10 or more feet higher than the rocks. It is easily fordable in the dry season; at other times ferry-boats are used for crossing at favourable spots, where the banks approach one another and the water is deep. Alligators abound in it. The maximum flood discharge determined for the Harihara bridge was 207,843 cubic feet per second, the ordinary monsoon discharge being roughly calculated at 30,000.

The river is crossed at Harihara by a fine bridge of stone and brick, consisting of 14 elliptical arches of 60 feet span each. It was completed in 1868, at a cost of $3\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs of rupees. There is another magnificent bridge of 52 piers at Rampur, in Bellary, where the North-West line of the Madras Railway crosses the river.

The ancient and puránic name of the river is the Pampá, by which it is mentioned in the Rámáyana, and which still survives in the name of the village Hampé, at the Pampa kshetra, the site of the celebrated ancient and modern capital cities previously mentioned. The name Tungabhadra occurs in the Bhágavata Purána. The mythological origin of the river, as given in the Tungabhadra Mahátmya of the Brahmánda Purána, is to the following effect:—Hiranyáksha, son of Kasyapa Rishi by Diti Dévi, seized the earth and bore it down to the lower world. The Brahmans having no ground to stand upon, discontinued their usual rites and sacrifices. The demi-gods, being thus deprived of their usual offerings, complained to Vishnu, who, assuming the form of a *varáha* or boar, plunged into the ocean, entered the lower world, destroyed the demon, and brought up the earth again. The perspiration arising from this exertion of the boar trickled down its tusks as it rested on the Varáha parvata and formed two streams, that from the left tusk being the Tunga and that from the right tusk the Bhadra. A third stream, the Netravati, is supposed to have its origin in the same place from the *nétra*, or eyes of the boar.

Varada.—A tributary of the Tungabhadra. It rises at Varadá múla, near Ikkéri, and running north past Chandragutti and Banavási, turns to the north-east, which direction it keeps till it leaves the

Mysore. Entering Dharwar it flows north, and, bending round gradually to the north-east some distance south of Bankapur and Sávanur, runs with an easterly course into the Tungabhadra at Gulnatha, below Havanur.

It is stemmed by 51 small anicuts in Ságar and Sorab, giving rise to channels having a total length of 36 miles.

The *Vara-dá* (boon giving) river originated, according to legend, in the Bhagirathi water poured from his conch by Náráyana (Vishnu) on the head of Siva at Varadá mûla, the hermitage of Sringa muni, in order to subdue the flame of austerities which threatened to consume the gods; performed by Siva to atone for his sin in pulling off one of Brahma's five heads.