

ART AND INDUSTRY.

Architectural Remains.

Ancient Sepulchres.—Cairns, those mysterious prehistoric tumuli, which are found all over the old world from Scandinavia to the far East, and which puzzle alike the simple peasant and the astute archæologist, have been discovered also in Coorg, and upon investigation, their structure and contents prove to be of a character similar to that of the cairns so widely distributed over Mysore, Coimbatore, Salem, Madura and other districts in Southern India. They are also remarkably like the ancient Allemanic tumuli, found in Southern Germany and Switzerland, which contain similar pottery and implements.

The first discovery of them in Coorg in large numbers—for a solitary one had been opened at Almanda in Beppu-nád by Dr. Moegling in 1856—was made by Lieutenant Mackenzie, Assistant Superintendent, in 1868 on a Báne near Virájet, but soon others were found and in better preservation near Fraserpet on the Mysore side of the Kávéri. The matter was taken up with great enthusiasm by Captain Cole, the Superintendent of Coorg, and the excavations led to very satisfactory results. All of the cairns found are either level with the ground or their tops crop just a little out of it. When laid bare, they present a stone chamber, the cist or kistvaen of archæologists. It is about 7 feet long, 4 feet wide and 4 feet high, composed of 4 upright granite slabs 7 or 8 inches thick, and surmounted by a large slab that projects over the sides; the flooring is likewise of stone. The narrow front slab has an aperture of an irregular curve, nearly 2 feet in diameter, broken out from the top, and generally faces east. Sometimes a large compartment is by a partition stone divided into two chambers.* These cairns are either solitary or in groups, in some instances forming regular rows so as to give the appearance of streets. Others are surrounded by a single or double circle of stones from 2 to 3 feet high. Many seem to have been tampered with by the natives for the sake of the stone slabs or in the expectation of finding treasure.

* For an illustration of a double dolmen found in Coorg, see Fergusson's *Rude Stone Monuments*, p. 473.

The relics found in them are peculiarly shaped pottery, buried in earth that nearly fills the chambers. The vessels contain earth, sand, bones, iron spear-heads, and beads. The pottery consists of pots and urns of burnt clay and is of a red or black colour. Some resemble the ordinary native pots of various sizes; others are narrow urns from 1 to 2 feet high, contracted towards the mouth and tapering towards the bottom, where 3 or 4 short legs give them support for standing upright. Some smaller ones, shaped like Roman amphoræ without handles, have no such supports. They are smooth and shining, but can hardly be said to be glazed. Ornaments there are none on the surface, except perhaps a line round the brim, but their forms are well proportioned and even elegant. Some of the vessels are in miniature, like children's toys, from $1\frac{1}{2}$ to $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter. The earth which fills the pots is the same as that within the chamber of the cairn; bones, ashes and bits of charcoal are usually found at the bottom of the urns; grains of ragi have also been found within the chambers, but it is likely that some practical ryot or wandering Kuruba selected a cairn for his granary, as it is the practice with natives to secure their grain in earth-holes. Beads of red cornelian, of a cylindrical shape and longitudinally pierced, and ornamented with straight or zigzag parallel lines scratched into the stone and filled up a white substance, are occasionally met with in the smaller pottery. The iron implements, spears and arrowheads, are very much corroded, so that their shape is hardly distinguishable.

It would be vain to enter into the question of who were the builders of these cairns. The Coorgs call them Pându-pare, dwellings of the Pându, but whatever is beyond their historical knowledge they ascribe to the Pându. It is certain, that the construction of these cairns is quite disconnected from the life, customs and history of the present inhabitants of Coorg, nor can they have been the abodes of a legendary pigmy race; but were most likely the resting places of the earthly remains of a generation that existed anterior to the historical records of the present local races.*

Kolle-kallu.—Of a more recent date are the *kolle-kallu* (from *kollu* to kill, and *kallu*, stone), tombstones in honour of warriors slain in battle.† They are found along the eastern districts of Coorg. There

* See notes, Vol. I, pp. 412, 413.

† The *vira kal* describe d under Mysore, Vol. I, p. 413.

is one in Távalageri-grāma in Kiggatnád, some in Kottekád, 6 miles to the east of Mercara, and many in Fraserpet and near Sómawarpet. In all these localities the stones shew a similar character. The slabs are of granite, with rough facings, about 6 feet high 4 feet broad and 9 inches thick, and frequently the lower half is buried in the ground. The front side is generally divided into three compartments, each containing figures in relief, the back-ground being chiselled out, so that the figures are level with the frame of the compartments. As already stated (Vol. I, p. 413) the lowest depicts the battle in which the hero was slain; the centre compartment represents him in the act of being conveyed to heaven by celestial nymphs: in the uppermost he has arrived at the regions of bliss and is delineated as seated before the peculiar emblem of his religion, generally the lingam, for the practice of erecting such monuments seems chiefly to belong to the sect of Siva.

The heroes, as Linga worshippers, are aliens from the present Coorgs, who know nothing about them; the Kannaḍa Gauḍas, in whose countries the stones are chiefly found, claim them as relics of their ancestors, and annually present before them offerings of cakes and fruit. The dresses of all the figures represented are not in the Coorg costume but in that of Hindus of the scantiest clothing. In north and north-east Coorg similar stones, but with simple and coarse sculptural figures, are still erected by relations of influential men who met with a violent death or were carried away by small-pox or cholera.

With the Coorgs, on the other hand, it is the custom to keep images of men and women in Coorg costume, chased on silver-plates, in the *Kaimatta*, which is a small square building near the house (see p. 259), in remembrance of their ancestors, whose departed spirits are there annually worshipped. These plates, which are of little artistic merit, are made by the country goldsmiths. But near the Kannana house, on the fine hill slope opposite the Central School in Mercara, there is a stone slab with a picture in relief of a Coorg warrior. The stone was erected in the paddy fields in remembrance of Kannana Doddana, the dalaváyi or general, who fell in an engagement with the forces of Haidar Ali near Kájúr-Bágalu in North Coorg in 1767. Before setting out on this expedition he said to the king Mudda Rája: "Twice have I returned from defeating the Muhammadans and made obeisance to the Rája, but this

time I shall not return.' The celebrated Coorg hero Appachu Mandana fell in the same battle. When, after the death of Haidar Ali, Tippu Sultan invaded Coorg, he burnt Kannana's house and hanged 24 members of his family : the ruins of the former are still visible. A silver plate, 3 inches by 2 inches, with a picture in relief similar to that on the stone, is preserved by the family in honour of their renowned ancestor.

Shásana-kallu.—In some localities, *viz.*, in the temple yard at Bhágamandala, in the dévastána at Pálúr, in the ruined temple in Nallúr in Hatgatnád of Kiggatnád taluk, and at the Central School in Mercara (brought from Fraserpet), there are large stone slabs of granite with inscriptions. That at Bhagamandala is in the Tulu character. The others are in Hale Kannada and much older. Those in Kigatnad record grants made by the Chera kings in the 9th century. The oldest authentic inscription discovered in South India belongs to this dynasty. It is engraved on copper plates which were found in the Mercara treasury, though not relating to Coorg : as to how or when they came there no information can be obtained. They are dated in 388 (A. D. 466) and record a grant in the reign of Kongani II of some land in Badaneguppe, a village in the south of the Mysore District.*

Kadangas.—In an article headed "Were the Ancient Britons savages ?" by W. Walker Wilkins, published in the Fortnightly Review for April 1855, there occurs the following passage, which has a most appropriate bearing upon the Coorg Kadangas : "Probably no country in the world possesses so many ancient earthworks, certainly none upon such a stupendous scale as our own. They are extremely difficult of access, from the steepness of the mountain heights on which they were formed. This difficulty the primitive engineer greatly increased by the most simple and natural means. He sunk one or more deep trenches round the summit of the hill, and raised lofty banks with the excavated soil. Undoubtedly this is the most ancient species of rampart known ; it existed ages before the use of mural fortifications, and originated in all probability with the nations in the east. But be that as it may, the examples above indicated incontestably prove, that the realization of vast works was as familiar to the mind of the British regulus or chieftain, as to that of any oriental prince his contemporary. The organization of labour necessary for carrying them out evinces, besides, a condition

* A facsimile and translation will be found in the *Indian Antiquary* Vol. I, p. 363.

of society here in prehistoric times utterly incompatible with the prevailing notions on the subject."

The description here given literally applies to the Coorg breast-works called *Kadangas*, which are seen in almost every part of this country, and which testify to the indefatigable perseverance with which these--highlanders toiled to secure the possession of their hills. They are of a very remote age, for one is mentioned in an inscription of the 9th century* ; and in the time of Dodda Virappa Wodeyar, who ruled for 49 years from 1687-1736, he added new ones to those which already existed, as appears from the following passage in the *Rājendranāme*. "He caused ditches and trenches, &c., to be dug all over the Coorg kingdom, erected frontier gates, &c., repaired all the *war-trenches* within the country and thus fortified the principality of Coorg."

These *Kadangas* stretch over hills, woods and comparatively flat country, for miles and miles, at some places branching off in various directions or encircling hill tops. Some are nearly 40 feet from summit to bottom of ditch, and often taken along hill sides with an angle of 80° to the horizon. In the *Méndala-nád*, they shew great regularity, and are broad and deep, the lower side of the ditch facing the open country, but in *Kiggat-nád* they are of smaller dimensions. As stated in the preceding quotation, they were war-trenches, but it is more than probable that at the same time they formed at least to some extent also the boundaries between different *náds*. In their conflicts with Haidar Ali and Tippu Sultan, the Coorg *Rájas* strengthened these works, established *ukaḍas* or guard-houses wherever a road or pathway intersected them, every opening being faced with rough stonewalls ; and even in the last campaign at the taking of Coorg in 1834, the *Kadangas* proved no contemptible obstacle to the advance of the English troops.

Forts.—Other remains of defensive works in Coorg are—the Fort at Mercara, and the fort ruins at Fraserpet, Beppunád, Bhágamandala and Pálupáre.

Mercara Fort is still in pretty good preservation, but of little strategical value, as it is commanded by hills all round, within short range of cannon. The fortress was originally built by Mudda *Rája* Wodeyar in 1680 or thereabout, and then consisted probably of mud walls, but it was rebuilt with stone by Tippu Sultan, who called it Jaffarabad.

* *Ind. Ant.* VI, 100, 103.

It was held by his generals till 1790, when Jaffar Ali Beg evacuated the place and left it with all its guns and ammunition to the Rájá, Dodda Vira Rájendra. It simply consists of a rampart 8 feet thick, and outside from 15 to 20 feet high, with parapets 2 feet thick and 5 feet high. The fortress is an irregular hexagon, and nearly conforms to the shape of the hill top, leaving enough space for a ditch all round and on the north side for a glacis. At each angle there is a bastion and the whole is built of strong masonry. The entrance on the east is intricate and circuitous and guarded by three successive gates, which close in the space that is now occupied by public buildings—the offices of the Administration. On the left side of the third gate there is a shrine erected against the wall, dedicated to Ganapati. Within the Fort itself, there is in the centre the palace, to the left and in front of it the English church, to the right the quarter-guard and armoury, and behind the palace the powder magazine. The English church stands near the place which was formerly occupied by a temple dedicated to Virabhadra but which was demolished in 1855.

The Fort at Kushálnagar (Fraserpet) was built by Tippu Sultan. It was taken by the Coorgs in June 1789 under Dodda Vira Rájendra, who sacked and burnt the place. When in 1846-1848 the fine bridge over the Kávéri was constructed, the ruins of the Fort supplied excellent building material. The Fortress at Arméri in Beppunád was razed to the ground in August 1789. Bhágamandala Fort, where Tippu seized some 5,000 Coorgs with their families, whom he sent into Mysore in 1785 and forcibly made Mussulmans, was invested by Dodda Vira Rájendra in 1790 and taken after five days' siege. The Rájá himself fired the first cannon from the hill of Mumbáratu. During the bombardment three copper tiles of the *dévastána* were destroyed by a cannon shot, but Dodda Vira Rájendra replaced them by four tiles made of silver. The Pápáre Fort, (Pálu-Páre) on the Kire river, a tributary of the Lakshmantirtha, in Hatgatnád in Kiggatnád taluk, in which there are also the ruins of a temple, is said to have been built by Kolli-Ninga and Benne-Krishna of the Bedar or hunter tribe. It was destroyed by Tippu Sultan's armies, but its ruins are extensive.

Palaces.—But the principal architectural monuments of Coorg con-

sist of palaces and tombs. Besides the Mercara palace there are two other *aramams*, one at Nálknád and the other in Háleri-nád, but neither is remarkable for extent or elegance. The palace at Nalknad was built by Dodda Vira Rájendra in 1794, and formed in those days an almost inaccessible small mountain fortress, defended by strong barriers along the steep approaches. Now it is partly turned into the nad cutcherry, the upper rooms being reserved for Government officials who visit the place. In front of the palace, near the right corner, stands in tolerable preservation a handsome little pavilion (*dáre mandappa*) which was erected for the celebration of Dodda Vira Rajendra's marriage with Mahádévamma in February 1796. Under proper management the land belonging to the palace might be turned into fertile and profitable vegetable gardens or other plantations. The palace at Haleri-nad is built after the plan of other Coorg houses, only on a larger scale, and secured by breastworks and barriers.

The palace in Mercara, thoroughly repaired during the last few years, is a conspicuous building, of modern date. According to an inscription on a metal plate in one of the palace rooms, it was commenced on the first day of the new moon of the Bhádrapada month (Aug.—Sep.) in the year 1735 of the Sáliváhana era, (A. D. 1812,) and was completed in two years and one month by Linga Rájendra Wodeyar, the younger brother of Dodda Vira Rajendra. The inscription concludes: "The pious who praise Almighty God by whose grace this magnificent palace was constructed after the removal of the rugged hill-top, shall enjoy eternal happiness in this world and in the world to come."

The ground plan of the palace is that of a Coorg house, with a superstructure in European fashion. It forms a large square of 200 feet, with an open space in the centre, is two stories high, and presents a fine front. A range of arches runs nearly along the whole extent of the bottom part, the upper having a contiguous row of windows shut in by glass sashes and venetian blinds, the centre window projecting into a small balcony supported by two rearing horses formed of masonry. Along the ridge of the roof runs a balustrade of ornamental masonry. The other three sides of the building present nearly a blank space, varied only by a few irregular apertures to admit air, for they can hardly be called windows. The rooms, which have been adapted to European convenience as best

they could, are tenanted by the officers of the Native Regiment stationed at Mercara. The whole palace is built of brick and excellent mortar, and altogether finished with solidity and elegance such as characterise no other modern buildings in Coorg. In one of the lower rooms the strongly secured Provincial Treasury is located.

A reception house for English visitors to the late Rajas formerly stood on the site of the present Government Central School, in the midst of a plantation of orange and other trees. It owed its existence to the gratitude of Dodda Vira Rájendra, who had a warm attachment to the English. It was a handsome building, in the form of a square, with four turrets at the angles and two stories high. Both as to architecture and furniture it was executed in European style, and nothing was forgotten that could render it a comfortable abode to travellers accustomed to the luxuries of civilized life. It is referred to with high praise in the memoranda of English visitors in those days. With the advent of the British Government it fell into disuse, and being abandoned, soon became a ruin. At length it was demolished, its stones being partly used in the erection of the Central School.

Mausoleums.—The most remarkable modern buildings in Coorg are the tombs of Dodda Vira Rájendra and Linga Rájendra and their favourite queens. These edifices are exactly alike, and stand close to one another. The first was erected by Linga Rája shortly after Vira Rájendra's death, in 1809, and the other by Vira Raja, in 1821. By their side is a smaller tomb over the remains of Rudrappa, an honoured guru of the Rajas, which was built by Devan Ponappa in 1834. The mausoleums are situated at the northern extremity of the Mercara Pete (Mahadévapet) and enclosed by a high embankment. They are square buildings, much in the style of Muhammadan edifices, with a handsome dome in the centre, and four minaret-like turrets at the corners, surmounted by *basavas* or bulls. On the top of the dome is a gilded ball, with a weathercock above it, and all the window frames are of handsomely sculptured syenite blocks, with solid brass bars. A flight of stone steps, flanked on the top by two well carved pillars with representations of Siva, leads to an open platform all round the building. The inside consists of a covered verandah, round a centre room, in which two slightly raised slabs in the shape of a cross, covered over with white cloth and daily renewed flowers, indicate the sepulchres. A lamp burns continually, and a

Lingayat pájári is in daily attendance upon the deified Dodda Vira Rajendra.

In Mádapúr or Jambúr, 10 miles north-east of Mercara, there is the ancient family cemetery of the Coorg Rajas. It is prettily situated on the banks of the Mádapúr river, but has no claim to architectural merit. The building is surrounded by narrow out-houses which crowd too closely upon it. It is about 40 feet square and nearly the same height and stands on an elevated base. It consists of two storeys, the bottom one enclosing the sepulchres in a central apartment; the one above is of the same size as the central apartment, leaving room for a passage and a low balustrade all round. The lower storey is ornamented with a large figure of a Basava, sculptured in syenite, and similar images adorn the capitals of four small pillars placed at the angles on the top of the building.

Near the Kávéri at Holesálhalli is the tomb of Nanjunḍa Arasu who ruled over Periapatna. Shortly before his death, whilst on a visit to his nephew the Coorg Raja Dodda Virappa Wodeyar, the fortress fell through treachery into the hands of the Mysoreans with the loss of all his remaining family. In his affliction he addressed the Coorg Raja thus: "As old age had come upon us, we intended with your permission to have placed our son in the government of Periapatna, and renouncing the desire of this world, to have given ourselves to constant adoration of Siva. At such time of old age the great God has shewn us a misery we never thought to have looked upon. Do you take possession of the country which has passed from our hands? Build and give us a house to live in till our life come to a close, and a temple for Virabhadra, our household god. Besides, it is our desire to consecrate a Linga in our name. For this purpose let a temple be built on the banks of the Kávéri river, in it a Linga be consecrated in our name after the close of our life, our grave be made in front of that temple, a stone portico be built over it and a Basavés'vara consecrated in it." In compliance with this request Dodda Virappa had a palace built near the river on the spot chosen by him at Holesálhalli, surrounding it with a ditch, settled him there and gave it the name Nanjarápatna. For his body guard he appointed 700 Coorgmen. He built also a Virabhadra temple, erected another stone temple over the Linga called Nanjun-

* See p. 150; also Vol. II, p. 264.

dés'vara, and after Nanjunda's death he laid him in a grave constructed according to his wishes and made a grant of some lands for the perpetual performance of a religious service.

Industrial Arts.

There are no mines in Coorg and the only quarries are the pits from which laterite is dug or cut in square blocks for building purposes.

Of manufactures, the Coorg knives, some of which are highly finished and handsomely ornamented, are the only articles made in the country worthy of notice.

The kammarbands, or girdle scarfs with an ornamental border, which are worn by the Coorgs are manufactured in the village of Sirangála on the north-east frontier. In North Coorg the coarse cotton cloth worn by field labourers is made, and a fine description of cloth is woven in small quantities at Kodlipet.

Almost every article used in the country is imported; the village carpenters and blacksmiths do nothing but the rudest work.

The value of the principal manufactures is thus approximately given for 1873—4 :—

Cotton	..	Rs.	5,472	Iron	..	Rs.	18,630
Fibres	..	"	150	Brass and Copper	"	"	3,690
Pottery	..	"	8,190	Building materials	"	"	16,560
Wood	..	"	17,010				

Trade and Commerce.

' Broken up by hills, covered with woods, having but indifferent roads and no large towns, Coorg ' says Lieutenant Connor, writing in 1817, ' holds out but few temptations to an extensive intercourse with its neighbours. The superior advantages it enjoys for the production of rice render it however in some measure the granary of the countries in its vicinity. The fertility of the soil and the habits of the people enable them fully to administer to the wants of their neighbours in this particular.' Except as regards roads, the above description still holds good, but the extensive cultivation of coffee has introduced an additional commodity which now forms by far the most valuable staple of commerce.

The only other exports are cardamoms, timber, a small quantity of paddy (rice in the husk) and oranges : these are loose-jackets. Mangalore, Cannanore and Tellicherry are the ports to which goods are sent from the western and northern parts of the Province. In the north and east of Coorg the trade is with and through Mysore. From Mercara the traffic goes both east and west, either to Mangalore on the Western Coast, or to Mysore and Bangalore. The great drawback to trade with the Western Coast is that unless goods are shipped or landed by the beginning of June, the violence of the monsoon prevents any vessel coming near the shore till the end of October.

With the exception of rice and arrack, almost every article of food and clothing, both necessaries and luxuries, are brought up the Ghats. From Mysore the principal imports are gram, cloth, oil, ghee, curry stuff and spice, sugar, fowls and eggs, cattle and sheep, tobacco, hardware and chunam. And from the Western Coast, cocoanuts, salt, dried fish, hardware, cloths, arms and ammunition, sugar, cocoa nut oil, areca nut and pepper. Large quantities of European liquor are also imported.

The difficulty of procuring any reliable statistics on this subject is very great ; a large portion not only of the products intended for home consumption but also of the imports and exports being carried on pack bullocks by paths and cross country roads.

The following are tabular statements of exports and imports for the past three years.

Exports.

Articles.	1873—74.		1874—75.		1875—76.	
	Quantity Cwts.	Value Rs.	Quantity Cwts.	Value Rs.	Quantity Cwts.	Value Rs.
Coffee	97,750	45,60,500	84,684	27,10,218	1,11,740	40,22,640
Rice	49,800	92,600	55,963	1,15,180	38,638	97,828
Ragi	800	1,600	...	...	...	...
Other food grains	630	3,510	240	850	...	...
Cardamoms	400	48,000	350	42,000	160	19,200
Curry stuff	1,410	5,470	583	3,811	...	...
Fruits	1,937	7,750	...	4,674	...	...
Sandalwood	1,395	44,924	...	...	...	...
Timber and charcoal ... ..	...	29,239	...	32,356	...	79,107
Leather ... ..	...	...	...	8,460	...	...
Sundry ... ..	...	...	...	5,579	...	...

Imports.

Articles.	1873—74.		1874—75.		1875—76.	
	Quantity Cwts.	Value Rs.	Quantity Cwts.	Value Rs.	Quantity, Cwts.	Value Rs.
Rice ...	10,520	60222	1,575	6,844	9,356	55,426
Ragi ...	16,485	56827	35,086	1,97,626	35,858	1,70,404
Other food grains ...	12,344	67953				
Salt ...	11,700	76475	30,028	1,92,176	24,169	1,54,680
Curry stuff ...	7,792	52525	4,480	29,292	...	...
Butter and ghee ...	902	40,010	85	4,208	...	...
Sugar and jaggory ...	4,159	37434	4,676	32,251	4,759	37,115
Oil ...	4,445	80090	6,221	1,01,836	...	...
Wines and spirits ... dozens.	...	76862	29,736	4,14,270	28,055	2,97,380
Oilman stores ...	...	45044	...	58,892	...	...
Tobacco ...	1,532	41440	444	11,832	600	16,120
Areca nut ...	2,561	39186	3,167	50,672	4,114	90,502
Betel leaves ... bundles.	19,800	65500	...	...	...	...
Cloths ...	...	3,72703	...	4,72,250	...	4,19,257
Vegetables ...	6,405	13411	...	4,582	...	...
Fruits ...	2,075	3987	...	892	...	...
Cocoanuts ... No.	6,78,100	31832	11,79,100	47,213	...	...
Hardware and metals ...	...	24725	4,735	1,40,404	3,625	94,467
Leather ...	...	...	...	4,600	...	...
Ropes, fibres, &c. ...	...	...	...	3,900	...	...
Mats, baskets, &c. ...	...	...	...	5,618	...	...
Manures ...	...	...	11,532	67,104	...	...
Chunam ...	...	...	12,435	12,435	...	...
Earthenware ...	...	...	...	14,438	...	...
Arms and ammunition ...	...	...	...	5,300	4	5,300
Live stock ... No.	15,154	122,390	...	...	...	...
Fowls, fish, &c. ...	...	61,385	...	96,472	...	89,030

Two military trunk roads run across Coorg, connecting Mysore and the countries to the east with the Western Coast. They diverge from a common starting point at Hunsur in Mysore, one passing by Periyapatna, Fraserpet and Mercara to Mangalore by the Sampaji Ghat: the other by Anechaur and somewhat south of Virajpet to Cannanore by the Periambadi Ghat. An improved line of communication has been proposed by which the two Ghat roads will unite at Siddapur and thence go direct to Periyapatna in Mysore.

The following are statistics of the traffic on these Ghat roads:—

Name of Toll bar.	Laden.				With passengers.				Unladen.				
	Carts.	Bullocks.	Horses.	Asses.	Carts.	Bullocks.	Horses.	Ponies.	Carts.	Bullocks.	Horses.	Ponies.	Asses.
1873—74.													
Wattakolli ...	21,106	2,160	...	...	805	56	83	134	6,968	5,472	39	22	4
Anechaur ...	13,624	18,545	13	528	74	...	143	134	4,209	15,991	174	479	466
Fraserpet ...	5,290	5,626	207	195	502	9	91	67	1,536	4,684	647	208	132
Sampaji ...	5,516	4,112	...	...	111	...	49	32	788	3,218	622	22	...
Total.....	45,536	30,443	220	723	1,492	67	366	367	13,501	29,365	1,482	731	602

Name of Toll tar.	Laden.				With passengers.				Unladen.				
	Carts.	Bullocks.	Horses.	Asses.	Carts.	Bullocks.	Horses.	Ponies.	Carts.	Bullocks.	Horses.	Ponies.	Asses.
1874-75.													
Wattakolli	17,267	1,256	...	18	155	...	64	155	5,731	3,805	57	35	...
Anechankur	13,099	16,408	210	313	229	12	88	123	4,662	12,606	219	538	328
Fraserpet	5,240	6,752	156	157	581	36	64	78	1,856	4,258	194	128	29
Sampaji	5,376	10,737	14	1	149	14	82	37	571	7,752	130	23	1
Total.....	40,982	35,183	380	489	1,114	62	298	393	12,820	28,221	600	724	358

Fairs.—The absence of market towns is compensated for by weekly fairs, which provide sufficient opportunities for all local transactions, and are generally resorted to by all the adjoining country side.

The largest fair is held at Virarajendrapet and takes place on Friday. The fair at Mabdepet or Mercara is held on the same day. The other principal fairs are at Somvarpet on Monday, and at Shanivarsante on Saturday, as their names respectively indicate; at Kodlipet on Sunday, and at Rampura or Ramswami Kanive on Wednesday.

Wages and Prices.

Wages.—Down to the middle of the present century, the following description by Lieutenant Connor in 1817 continued in the main accurate. 'The chief agricultural labours are performed by slaves or prædial servants; to whom the better class of ryots generally leave the operations of husbandry, merely superintending, as they are not often under the necessity of personally assisting. In Coorg Proper the farmer seldom finds it necessary to hire servants. In Yelsávira however, it is more common. A labourer receives here for a day's hire, working from 7 o'clock till sunset, with some little intermission in the middle of the day, 2 hounes of rice, value about 3d; if engaged for the year he gets a blanket, two handkerchiefs, a coarse piece of cloth, 2 pagodas, and a daily meal of dressed rice at his master's house; if paid entirely in money, he receives something more than 6 pagodas, a sum exceedingly small when it is considered that more than two-thirds of it are required to support him; specie however is rarely given, rice being the general estimate of all labour, and frequently entering into the smaller details of commerce.'

After the annexation of Coorg, though slavery was no longer recognized, the same system continued in operation. With the general introduction of coffee cultivation, however, the aspect of affairs underwent a complete change. The demand for labour drew away from their old masters the prædial servants, once slaves, who now asserted their freedom. The rise of wages for day labourers produced some strange anomalies. For the Coorgs had been accustomed, and still are, to hold offices under Government on merely nominal salaries deeming it a privilege to render service under their feudal system. When however it became necessary, to raise the pay of inferior servants to a scale which would prevent their deserting to the coffee estates, it happened that one Parpattegar or Sub-Magistrate was found to have a lower salary than the peon attached to his office.

The state of the labour market in connection with public works was thus described by Colonel Sankey in 1865. 'During the monsoon hardly a man is to be had. Mysore coolies, who all belong to the agricultural class, have by that time mostly vanished, or find work in the coffee estates, where each man in addition to his 4 annas per diem can turn a few annas by sale of firewood &c. Mapillay coolies, who require Rs. 10. per mensem, will only work in the low country at foot of the Ghats. Madras men again will only work on the Periambadi-Anechaurkur road, salt fish being easily procured there &c.

Shortly since (he continued) it was conclusively shewn that the lowest rates of cooly labour were as follows:—

	East and North Coorg.	West and South Coorg.
Men coolies per mensem	Rs. 6	Rs. 7
" " 2nd class	" " 4½	" " 5
Women and boys	" " 3¾	" " 4
Duffadars for 30 men	" " 15	" " 18

and these rates are with the more universal demand continuing to rise.'

The rates of wages ruling at present appear, to be—for unskilled labour, 4 annas to 6 annas a day; for skilled, which is very scarce, 12 annas to R. 1. Cart hire Rs. 1½ to Rs. 2 a day.

The large amount of imported labour is now a prominent feature in Coorg. Many ryots of Mysore, after their own harvest is over, go to the Coorg coffee estates, where they receive good wages during the busy months and return to Mysore in time for the beginning of their own culti-

vating season. At the time of the Census, which took place during the busy season on the coffee estates, there were 11,316 persons employed on them returned as laborers, of whom only about a fourth were females.

Prices.—According to the Report for 1864—5, the prices at that time were equivalent to the following rates:—rice, 10 to 16 seers per rupee; ragi, 20 to 35 $\frac{5}{8}$; wheat, 4 to 6; horse gram, 2 to 20; salt, 10 to 22.

The following are the official quotations for three years past, of the prices of grain, &c.

Seers per rupee in April of each year from 1873 to 1876.

Market.	Rice, 1st sort.				Rice, 2nd sort.				Ragi.			
	1873	1874	1875	1876	1873	1874	1875	1876	1873	1874	1875	1876.
Mercara ...	10	10-37	10-4	8-31	11-12	11-7	11-9	10-4	35-06	30-75	21-18	16-42
Virajpet ...	10	12	12	9	14	14	14	10-5	38	30	24	17-5
Fraserpet ...	10	10	10	9	16	16-37	16	11-5	48	42-75	26-64	20-74
Somvarpet ...	...	...	...	...	18-06	20	19	15	40	45	28	20
Shanivarsante ...	...	...	...	...	20-12	22	20-6	14-1	48-52	45	30	20-2
Kodlipet ...	...	...	...	...	20	24	24	13-4	45-86	45	30	22-4
Ponnappet ...	...	...	...	...	14	15	16	14	40	20	28	16
Colepet ...	12-06	12	12	10	14-05	13	13	11	30-82	28	24	17
Ramaswami	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Kanive ...	...	...	...	...	16	18	16	11	45	43	32	23

Market.	Wheat.			Barley.			Horse gram.				Salt.		
	1874	1875	1876	1874	1875	1876	1873	1874	1875	1876	1873	1874	1875
Mercara ...	7-75	8-9	8-07	9-14	10-9	9-07	23	17-23	19-37	15-28	12-06	12-14	9-37
Virajpet ...	9	10	9	7	9	8	25	16	20	16	13-50	14	11
Fraserpet ...	8	10	8	10	8	9-37	31-97	19-68	23-32	18-74	12	12	10-69
Somvarpet ...	...	...	9	8	8	10	28	18	20	16	10	11	10
Shanivarsante ...	...	...	...	10	9-20	8-05	23-26	20	20-7	16-1	11	11-40	9-25
Kodlipet ...	...	...	...	10	10-25	9-4	27-52	20	22	18-4	11-96	11	9-27
Ponnappet ...	7	6	7-5	7-40	7	8	25	14	17	16	12	13	10
Colepet ...	8	8	8	9	8	9	28-65	14	18	15	12-19	13	9
Ramaswami	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Kanive ...	...	...	...	9	8	8-5	27	20	24	18	11	11	10