PREFACE.

The present volume concludes the historical, geographical and statistical account of the Himalayan districts of the North-Western Provinces in accordance with the instructions conveyed in Government Resolution, North-Western Provinces, No. 724A., dated 21st April, 1875, which will be found in the preface to the second volume of the Gazetteer. It was there laid down that the work should aim at a position differing from and somewhat higher than that of an ordinary Gazetteer, should be complete in itself and contain an account of all matters of interest connected with each district, or a reference to them where a detailed description was considered unnecessary. It was further directed that a description and history of each fiscal sub-division should be given, sufficient to place officers new to the district charge in possession of such general knowledge of the physical capabilities of the tract, its fiscal history and its inhabitants, as may enable them at once to exercise an intelligent control over its administration. This extended scheme was adopted in view of the failure of the District Memoirs, and was intended to supply their place, merely omitting in settlement notices details of a purely executive character, such as the reasons for adopting certain classifications of soils in particular localities, the details of the survey demarcation of boundaries, preparation of records, the adjustment of circle rates and such similar matters.

The first two volumes contain all matters affecting the entire Himalayan tract in the North-Western Provinces.
as a whole. The present volume gives the topographical, statistical and other local information for each fiscal sub-division and important tract, town or place, in the Kumaon, Garhwal, Tarai, Dehra Dun and Jaunsar-Bawar districts. The sections under each notice compress within a reasonable compass everything of interest not only in the local official records, but in papers that have been printed at any time besides the results of much original inquiry. The notice of each of the numerous fiscal sub-divisions, most of which were recently created and had to be carefully defined, contains all that it is necessary to know for good administration regarding its fiscal history past and present, its physical peculiarities and the population recorded at settlement. Under Kumaon will be found a brief and accurate account of every settlement, and the results given are in accord with the statistics recorded in the last report on the current settlement. The Jaunsar-Bawar notice also gives the result of the recent settlement. The Dehra Dun final settlement report has not been received, so that Mr. Williams' Memoir must be referred to for its fiscal history.

I have to thank Sir Henry Ramsay for assistance and advice throughout the work, and especially for the materials for the notice of the Bhurban, the administration of which has been especially his own work. Mr. Macdonald and Mr. Kilvert have aided in the notice of the Tarai, and the former has examined the proofs. Mr. F. Fisher, C.S., supplied in great part the notices of Mussoorie and Dehra, and Major Reade examined the proofs of the portions relating to Garhwal whilst passing through the press. I would especially here record my obligations to Colonel Garstin for his considerable aid in correcting notices of portions of the hills towards and beyond the snows which I was unable to visit and for examining the
proofs of the entire Kumaon portion of the volume. No
trouble has been spared, therefore, to make these volumes
complete and accurate, and this the last with which
I shall have any connection now passes out for the judg-
ment of my brother officers, who will best be able to
state whether it fulfils the conditions above referred to
or not.

Calcutta:
February 19, 1886.

E. T. Atkinson.

PHOTOS

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