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THE

BENGAL AND AGRA

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GUIDE AND GAZETTEER

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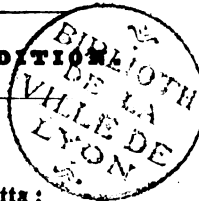
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Calcutta :

WILLIAM RUSHTON AND CO.

V.—DIVISION OF CASTE.

The same as in other districts in lower Bengal.

VI.—NATURAL PRODUCTIONS.

Animals.—The forests of the Soonderbons contain the tiger, rhinoceros, deer, wild buffaloes, wild hog, monkey, cum multis aliis. The wild hogs are very destructive to the cultivation.

Honey is found in large quantities in the forest, and the grantees and others get a good return for this article. It is to be had on the spot at from 2-8 to 3 Rs. per maund; in Calcutta the average price retail is about 2 ans. per seer, or about 5 Rs. per maund. Firewood, posts for building Native huts, called Kambas planks, &c. are brought from the Soonderbons to the Calcutta market. Fish are also brought in large quantities from the Soonderbons into the environs of the presidency for the consumption of Calcutta.

VII.—AGRICULTURE.

Paddy is the staple crop. Sugar cane has been partially introduced by a few enterprising European grantees, and we believe the Mulberry has been tried, but with what success we have no information.

Implements of Agriculture.—The common plough, the 'Koodalee' or hoe.

Domestic Animals.—By no means plentiful; a few cows and goats are found where the cultivation is in a forward state.

VIII.—COMMERCE AND MANUFACTURES.

Nothing under this head worthy of particular notice.

IX.—ZIMINDARIES AND TALOOKS.

None.—The Soonderbons are parcelled out into lots, and are open to the public; the terms of the grants will be learnt, and a copy of the form of Pottah granted, on enquiry of the Commissioner. About 137 grants have been made. There are still 100 grants vacant, situated for the most part in the Jessore Zillah.

X.—REVENUE AND CHARGES.

At present no revenue is realized from the Soonderbons grants; collections are made from estates bordering on the line of forest, and which have been Resumed under regulations II. of 1819 and III. of 1828, as cultivated subsequent to the perpetual settlement, and not included within the known limits of an estate at the period of the formation of that settlement.

XI.—MEMORANDUM OF THE CRIMINAL AND CIVIL BUSINESS OF THE JUDICIAL COURT AS PER AVERAGE.

There are no criminal or civil courts with jurisdiction exclusively in the Soonderbons, but the grantees are amenable to the several Courts of the districts within which their grants may be situated.