

## APPENDIX III.

### Bengal Presidency.

#### STATISTICAL SUMMARY.

	Area in square miles.	Population.
British territory . . . . .	78,699	45,483,077
Deduct excluded areas :—		
(a) Darjeeling . . . . .	1,164	265,550
(b) Chittagong Hill Tracts . . . . .	5,138	153,830
BALANCE . . . . .	72,397	45,063,697
Male adults of 20 years of age and over . . . . .		11,696,859
Do. do. literate . . . . .		2,333,112
Do. do. literate in English . . . . .		314,362
Hindus—		
Brahmans . . . . .	1,233,825	
Non-Brahmans . . . . .	8,991,868	
Others* . . . . .	9,948,244	20,173,937
Muslims . . . . .		23,975,171
Indian Christians . . . . .		78,984
Anglo-Indians . . . . .		18,902
European British subjects . . . . .		19,707
Others . . . . .		796,996
TOTAL . . . . .		45,063,697
Total population of the municipalities and cantonments included in—		
(a) urban constituencies . . . . .		1,886,014
(b) rural constituencies . . . . .		1,043,441
Total population of rural areas . . . . .		42,134,242

\* The term "others" include the castes and tribes constituting more than 1 per mille of the total population and classed as Hindus in the Census, which are denied access to the interior of ordinary Hindu temples, and fall within categories 7, 8, 9 or 10 at page 232, Part I, Census Report of Bengal, Bihar and Orissa and Sikkim, 1911. These castes and tribes are generally described as "untouchables."

Towns of over 50,000 population—	
Calcutta . . . . .	896,067
Howrah . . . . .	179,006
Dacca . . . . .	108,551
Maniktala . . . . .	53,767
Bhatpara . . . . .	50,414

### CONSTITUTION OF EXISTING LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

<i>Ex-officio</i> members (including the Governor) . . . . .	5
Elected members—	
(1) by the corporation of Calcutta . . . . .	1
(2) by the university of Calcutta . . . . .	1
(3) by the municipal commissioners of certain specified municipalities . . . . .	5
(4) by district boards and local boards . . . . .	5
(5) by the landholders of the Presidency, Burdwan, Rajshahi and Dacca divisions . . . . .	4
(6) by the municipal commissioners of the municipalities in the Chittagong division and the landholders of the Chittagong division alternately . . . . .	1
(7) by the Muhammadan community . . . . .	5
(8) by the Bengal Chamber of Commerce . . . . .	2
(9) by the Calcutta Trades Association . . . . .	1
(10) by the commissioners of the port of Chittagong . . . . .	1
(11) by certain commissioners of the corporation of Calcutta . . . . .	1
(12) by the tea planting community . . . . .	1
	28
Nominated members, of whom not more than 16 may be officials and 2 shall be non-officials, to be selected one from the Indian commercial community and one from the European commercial community, exclusive of the tea planters' community, and carrying on business outside Calcutta and Chittagong . . . . .	20
TOTAL . . . . .	53

To which may be added 2 expert members.

#### NUMBER OF ELECTORS.

Municipal commissioners of certain specified municipalities . . . . .	1,134
District boards and local boards . . . . .	1,115
Landholders of the divisions other than Chittagong . . . . .	576
Municipal commissioners and landholders of the Chittagong division . . . . .	118
Muhammadan community . . . . .	6,346

## Scheme for the constitution of and elections to the Provincial Legislative Council.

### A.—FRANCHISE QUALIFICATIONS.

[In cases where property is held or payments made jointly by the members of a joint family or partnership, the family or partnership shall

be adopted as a unit for deciding whether the qualification exists ; and the vote shall be exercised in the case of a Hindu joint family by the manager thereof and in other cases by the member or partner authorized in that behalf by the family or partnership concerned.]

#### GENERAL DISQUALIFICATIONS OF ELECTORS.

No person will be qualified to vote at any election, if such person—

- (a) is a female, or
- (b) is under 21 years of age, or
- (c) is not a British subject or the subject of any State in India, or
- (d) has been adjudged by a competent court to be of unsound mind.

#### QUALIFICATIONS OF ELECTORS.

##### (i) *Urban and Rural Constituencies.*

Every person will be entered in the electoral roll of the constituency who has a place of residence in the constituency or, in the case of urban constituencies, within two miles of the boundary thereof, and

- (a) in Calcutta is qualified for a municipal vote ; or, in Howrah or Cossipore-Chitpur, pays municipal taxes or fees of not less than Rs. 3 per annum ; or in other municipal or cantonment areas pays municipal or cantonment taxes or fees of not less than Rs. 1-8-0 per annum, or
- (b) pays as road and public works cesses not less than Re. 1 per annum, or
- (c) pays as chaukidari tax under Act VI of 1870 not less than Rs. 2 per annum, or
- (d) pays income tax, or
- (e) is a retired and pensioned officer (commissioned or non-commissioned) of the Indian army.

Separate electoral rolls will be kept for Muhammadans, Europeans and Anglo-Indians ; all other electors will be entered in a general roll. No Muhammadan, European or Anglo-Indian elector will be entered in the general roll.

##### (ii) *European Constituencies.*

Every person will be entered in the electoral roll of the constituency who, being a European, has a place of residence in the constituency and has any of the qualifications for an elector in an urban or rural constituency. One seat will be allotted to Calcutta city and the other to the rest of the presidency.

##### (iii) *Anglo-Indian Constituency.*

Every person will be entered in the electoral roll of this constituency who, being an Anglo-Indian, has a place of residence in the presidency and possesses any of the qualifications for an elector in an urban or rural constituency.

(iv) *Landholders' Constituencies.*

There will be five constituencies, one for each division. Every landholder will be entered in the electoral roll of each constituency who has a place of residence in the constituency, and

- (a) in the case of the Burdwan and Presidency divisions holds in his own right as proprietor one or more estates or shares of estates, and pays in respect thereof land revenue amounting to not less than Rs. 6,000, or road and public works cesses amounting to not less than Rs. 1,500 per annum, or
- (b) in the case of the Rajshahi, Dacca and Chittagong divisions holds in his own right as proprietor one or more estates or shares of estates or one or more permanent tenures or shares of such tenures held direct from such proprietor, and pays in respect thereof land revenue amounting to not less than Rs. 3,000 or road and public works cesses amounting to not less than Rs. 750 per annum, or
- (c) holds the title recognised or conferred by Government of Raja or Nawab, or any higher title.

Provided that no landholder shall have more than one vote in any one constituency though he may have more than one of the qualifications above described.

(v) *University Constituency.*

The representative of the Calcutta university will be elected by the members of the senate and the honorary fellows of that university having a place of residence in India.

The representative of the Dacca university, when constituted, will be elected in accordance with regulations to be approved by the Governor-General in Council. For the present the seat will be in abeyance.

(vi) *Commerce and Industry Constituencies.*

Four representatives will be elected by the members of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce.

One representative will be elected by the members of the Indian Jute Mills Association.

One representative will be elected by the members of the Calcutta Baled Jute Association.

One representative will be elected by the members of the Indian Mining Association.

One representative will be elected by the members of the Indian Tea Association.

One representative will be elected by managers of tea-gardens in which the area under cultivation of tea is not less than one hundred acres.

Two representatives will be elected by the members of the Calcutta Trades Association.

One representative will be elected by the members of the Inland Water Transport Board.

One representative will be elected by the members of the Bengal National Chamber of Commerce.

One representative will be elected by the members of the Marwari Association of Calcutta.

One representative will be elected by the members of the Mahajana Sabha of Calcutta.

The voting will be conducted in every case in accordance with regulations to be approved by the Governor in Council. Provision should be made to enable the Governor in Council to revise the method of election for these constituencies from time to time in order to meet any alteration in the position or constitution of these bodies.\*

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## B.—QUALIFICATIONS OF CANDIDATES.

No person will be eligible for election as a member of the Council, if such person

- (a) is not a British subject or a subject of any State in India, or
- (b) is an official, or
- (c) is a female, or
- (d) has been adjudged by a competent court to be of unsound mind, or
- (e) is under 25 years of age, or
- (f) is an uncertificated bankrupt or an undischarged insolvent, or
- (g) has, in circumstances which in the opinion of the Governor in Council, involve moral turpitude, been (i) dismissed from the service of Government, or (ii) sentenced by a criminal court to imprisonment (such sentence not having subsequently been reversed or remitted, or the offender pardoned), or
- (h) has been dismissed or is under suspension from practising as a legal practitioner by order of any competent court:

Provided that in cases (g) and (h) the disqualification may be removed by an order of the Governor in Council in this behalf.

No person shall be eligible for election as a member of the Council to represent

- (1) an urban or rural constituency, unless such person is registered as an elector in an urban or rural constituency within the presidency, or
- (2) a European, Anglo-Indian, landholders' university or commerce and industry constituency, unless such person is registered as an elector in the constituency for which he seeks election.

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The term "member" will include any person entitled to exercise the rights and privileges of membership on behalf and in the name of any firm or joint stock company or corporation registered as a member.

## C.— PLURAL VOTING.

At each election to the Council no elector is to vote in more than one of the non-Muhammadan, Muhammadan, European and Anglo-Indian constituencies, but an elector will be at liberty, in addition to voting in one of these constituencies, to exercise any votes to which he may be entitled for landholders', university, or any of the commerce and industry seats.

## D.—CONSTITUTION OF THE COUNCIL.

The Council will be constituted as follows :—

Non-Muhammadan urban seats . . . . .	11	
Non-Muhammadan rural seats . . . . .	30	
	—	41
Muhammadan urban seats . . . . .	6	
Muhammadan rural seats . . . . .	28	
	—	34
Landholders' seats . . . . .		5
University seats . . . . .		2
European seats . . . . .		2
Anglo-Indian seat . . . . .		1
Commerce and industry seats		
Bengal Chamber of Commerce . . . . .	4	
Jute interests . . . . .	2	
Indian Mining Association . . . . .	1	
Indian Tea Association . . . . .	1	
Tea planters . . . . .	1	
Calcutta Trades Association . . . . .	2	
Inland Water Transport Board . . . . .	1	
Bengal National Chamber of Commerce . . . . .	1	
Marwari Association of Calcutta . . . . .	1	
Mahajana Sabha of Calcutta . . . . .	1	
	—	15
Representatives appointed by nomination—		
(1) Labour . . . . .	1	
(2) Indian Christians . . . . .	1	
(3) Depressed classes . . . . .	1	
(4) Others . . . . .	2	
	—	5
Official seats—		
<i>Ex-officio</i> . . . . .	4	
Nominated . . . . .	16	
	—	20
	TOTAL	125
To which may be added by the Governor not more than 2 experts (official or non-official).		2
	TOTAL	127

The *ex-officio* members will be the Governor, two members of the Executive Council and the Advocate-General.

## E.—LIST OF CONSTITUENCIES.

### NON-MUHAMMADAN URBAN SEATS.—11

District.	Number of seats.	Male population in thousands.	Estimated number of electors in thousands.
Calcutta . . . . .	6	438	32
Municipalities of the Hooghly . . . . .	1	73	12
"    of the Howrah . . . . .	1	98	11
"    and cantonments of the 24-Parganas . . . . .	2	242	28
Dacca . . . . .	1	37	5
TOTAL	11	888	88

### NON-MUHAMMADAN RURAL SEATS.—30.

Burdwan . . . . .	2	624	42		
Birbhum . . . . .	1	353	14		
Bankura . . . . .	1	537	38		
Nidnapore . . . . .	2	1,315	64		
Hooghly and Howrah (non- municipal) . . . . .	1	691	33		
BURDWAN DIVISION	7	3,520	191		
24-Parganas (non-municipal) . . . . .	2	598	79		
Nadia . . . . .	1	328	23		
Murshidabad . . . . .	1	328	17		
Jessore . . . . .	2	338	49		
Khulna . . . . .	1	353	24		
PRESIDENCY DIVISION	7	1,945	192		
Dacca (excluding Dacca town) . . . . .	1	493	28		
Mymensingh . . . . .	2	634	30		
Faridpur . . . . .	2	389	45		
Bakargunj . . . . .	2	376	52		
DACC A DIVISION	7	1,892	155		
Chittagong . . . . .	1	203	25		
Tipperah . . . . .	1	345	19		
Noakhali . . . . .	1	152	9		
CHITTAGONG DIVISION	3	700	53		
Rajshahi . . . . .	1	174	17		
Dinajpur . . . . .	1	460	16		
Jalpaiguri . . . . .	1	362	21		
Rangpur . . . . .	1	442	30		
Bogra . . . . .	1	275	17		
Pabna . . . . .	1	251	8		
Malda . . . . .	1	251	8		
RAJSHAHI DIVISION	6	1,964	109		
TOTAL	30	10,021	700		

### MUHAMMADAN URBAN SEATS—6.

District.	Number of seats.	Male population in thousands.	Estimated number of electors in thousands.
Calcutta . . . . .	2	175	4
Municipalities of Hooghly . . . . .	} 1	{ 17	1
Municipalities of Howrah . . . . .		{ 31	2
Municipalities and cantonments of the 24-Parganas . . . . .	2	103	7
Dacca . . . . .	1	26	4
<b>TOTAL</b> . . . . .	<b>6</b>	<b>352</b>	<b>18</b>

### MUHAMMADAN RURAL SEATS—28.

Burdwan . . . . .	} 1	{ 147	12
Birbhum . . . . .		{ 110	
Bankura . . . . .		{ 26	
Midnapur . . . . .	} 1	{ 96	9
Howrah and Hooghly (non-municipal) . . . . .		{ 145	
<b>BURDWAN DIVISION</b> . . . . .	<b>2</b>	<b>524</b>	<b>21</b>
24-Parganas (non-municipal) . . . . .	1	364	23
Nadia . . . . .	1	484	10
Murshidabad . . . . .	1	350	6
Jessore . . . . .	1	563	20
Khulna . . . . .	1	357	12
<b>PRESIDENCY DIVISION</b> . . . . .	<b>5</b>	<b>2,118</b>	<b>71</b>
Dacca (excluding Dacca town) . . . . .	2	921	20
Mymensingh . . . . .	3	1,705	28
Faridpur . . . . .	1	685	23
Bakargunj . . . . .	3	869	70
<b>DACCA DIVISION</b> . . . . .	<b>9</b>	<b>4,180</b>	<b>141</b>
Chittagong . . . . .	2	519	31
Tippera . . . . .	2	899	25
Noakhali . . . . .	1	494	23
<b>CHITTAGONG DIVISION</b> . . . . .	<b>5</b>	<b>1,912</b>	<b>79</b>
Rajshahi . . . . .	2	582	34
Dinaipur . . . . .	1	430	16
Jalpaiguri . . . . .	1	128	9
Rangpur . . . . .	1	812	26
Bogra . . . . .	} 1	{ 409	9
Pabna . . . . .		{ 542	12
Malda . . . . .	1	248	4
<b>RAJSHAHI DIVISION</b> . . . . .	<b>7</b>	<b>3,151</b>	<b>110</b>
<b>TOTAL</b> . . . . .	<b>28</b>	<b>11,885</b>	<b>422</b>

### EUROPEAN SEATS—2.

Calcutta city . . . . .	1
The remainder of the Presidency . . . . .	1



Where more seats than one are assigned to a district, the district will, so far as circumstances permit, be divided into the necessary number of single member constituencies by the Governor in Council.

The total number of electors for the above constituencies is estimated roughly as follows :—

Urban—		
Non-Muhammadan (11 seats)	. . . . .	88,000
Muhammadan ( 6 „ )	. . . . .	18,000
Rural—		
Non-Muhammadan (30 „ )	. . . . .	700,000
Muhammadan (28 „ )	. . . . .	422,000
TOTAL		1,228,000

The urban electorate will amount to 8·5 per cent. of the male population in the urban constituencies, the rural electorate to 5·1 per cent. of the male population in rural constituencies, and the total electorate to 5·3 per cent. of the total male population or 2·7 per cent. of the total population.

#### *Explanatory Notes.*

1. The variations in the amount of the municipal tax in the qualifications proposed for urban areas follow the existing municipal franchise.
2. As the land revenue is permanently settled (with few exceptions), the payment of local rates (road and public works cesses), which are based on a periodical rental valuation of land, is proposed as a qualification for rural areas. A payment of Re. 1 as road and public works cesses connotes a rental of Rs. 32 per annum.
3. The chaukidari tax [*vide* sub-clause (c) of the “ qualifications for urban and rural constituencies ”] is levied under Bengal Act VI of 1870 on owners and occupiers of houses in villages. Its assessment and collection is in the hands of small local committees and the proceeds are devoted to the maintenance of a force of village watchmen. The qualification has been adopted as a means of enfranchising classes such as village traders, who do not hold agricultural land.
4. The qualifications for landholders’ constituencies follow the existing regulations.
5. The commerce and industry seats represent interests mainly European with the exception of the Bengal National Chamber of Commerce, the Marwari Association and the Mahajana Sabha, which represent interests mainly Indian.