M.S.O. 1—77,000—4-6-37.

(1) Number of pages

(2) Date of repair

(3) Initials of the Reference

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Financial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 457 Press Mis.

Dated 20-7- 1872.

151-152

13/14

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Financial Department,
20th July 1872.

No. 151. Read the following Proceedings of Government, Judicial Department :—

Reviewing report on the Hill Tracts of the Vizagapatam District during 1871-72. } (Dated 19th June 1872, No. 831.)

No. 152. ORDER THEREON, 20th July 1872, No. 950.

The Governor in Council resolves to sanction an annual grant of Rupees 2,000 for three years, to supplement the sum to be devoted by the Maharajah of Jeypore towards making a road through Malkanghiri to Moat at the junction of the Seviri and Silero.

2. This grant will be met from Provincial Funds.

(True Extract.)

R. S. ELLIS,
Chief Secretary.

To the Agent to the Governor of Fort St. George in Vizagapatam.

Encl. J. Wright.

No. 36. Read the following letter from the Acting Agent to the Governor of Fort St. George in Vizagapatam, to the Acting Chief Secretary to Government, Fort St. George, dated Vizagapatam, 7th May 1872, No. 154 :—

I have the honour to report on the Hill Tracts of this district during the year 1871-72.

2. I was unable, owing to the state of the low-country part of the district, to make my annual visit to Jeypore and the Maliahs. The same cause prevented the Principal Assistant from visiting the Golcondah tracts.

These hills were, however, visited by the Tahsildar of Golcondah, who made a tour in them of 177 miles. The Tahsildar asks to be allowed to draw batta, pointing out that, whenever the Principal Assistant visits the hills, all his establishment are allowed double batta. I beg to support the request. It seems anomalous that he should be the only officer who does not draw increased batta when travelling in the hills, where travelling is much more expensive and difficult than in the plains. I would recommend that batta at double rates be granted to the Tahsildar and the Revenue Inspectors who accompanied him. The charge can be met out of the Agency Tour Fund, much of which is unexpended in the present year.

3. Accompanying this report are two letters received from the Senior Assistant, and a voluminous and interesting report from the Assistant Agent, Koraput.

The letters from the Senior Assistant report his proceedings in Gunupur, where his presence was required owing to threatened disturbances among the Khonds of two mootahs. While there he visited the Sourah Hills and found everything peaceable. In the Rayabijji Mootah, a Khond, by name Gundra Majji, returned from Jeypore in the early part of last year. While there he had obtained formal permission to wear an umbrella, and on his return he asserted his right to collect the rents of the mootah. In this he was but partially successful; but by going about with a crowd of armed followers he was unsettling the country. A warrant is now out against him,* and I have no apprehension of any serious disturbance. On the Senior Assistant's second visit to the Maliahs, which was rendered necessary by Gundra Majji's proceedings, a serious disturbance was threatened owing to the Khonds of the villages of Secundra and Pooradi having come to the conclusion that one of their number had been killed by the incantations of a supposed witch. The affair passed off without disturbance, and the property which had been taken by the Khonds of Secundra was restored. Mr. Jones seems to have managed both matters with tact and to have been well seconded by the Police and the Subordinate Magistrate of Gunupur. I intend visiting these mootahs on my next tour.

* I heard yesterday of his arrest.

4. Mr. Turner's (the Assistant Agent's) report refers principally to the settlement of the Malkanghiri country. The settlement which could not be commenced till this year was carried out by the Diwan under Mr. Turner's superintendence. The principal points of this settlement are, first, the appointment of an Amin who is to manage the revenue in Malkanghiri under direct orders from Jeypore. This necessitated the removal of the renter, Bungari Devi, and as a sort of compensation a village was granted her on Mokhassa tenure. Sanyasi Patro, a man who once rented this part of the country from Jeypore and was found to be secretly opposing the introduction of the new settlement, was removed from Malkanghiri

pending my orders. I have since ordered him to live at Sirgapur, near Jeypore. Secondly, the grant of three years' cowles to the heads of villages, the kist to become payable at certain fixed periods. Written leases and counterparts were interchanged. In some instances, as in the case of the Ooriya Paiks (feudal soldiery) of Malkanghiri, the settlement was made individually instead of with the head of the village.

5. In fixing the amount of the rents, regard was had to the amount previously collected rather than to the nominal demand. While making the settlement it was found that under-assessment in some parts more than made up for the over-assessment in others. All the country has now been equitably assessed, and the result is an increase in the revenue of about Rupees 3,000, which is very satisfactory. The settlement seems to have been made with much care and tact, and, in my opinion, does Mr. Turner great credit. I also think that the Maharajah of Jeypore and the Diwan are worthy of praise for their cheerful concurrence and aid.

6. I will now proceed to notice the various points raised by Mr. Turner in the course of his report. In the first and last paragraphs thereof he again raises the question disposed of in paragraph 12 of G. O., 16th August 1871, No. 1136. I think that it is premature to doubt the permanency of the settlement just concluded without giving it a trial, nor do I think that such settlement would be made more permanent by the country being taken under direct Government management.

Such an expedient would be but a temporary one, and eventually it would be necessary to trust to the sense of interest of the Maharajah and his officials.

7. In paragraph 15 Mr. Turner applies for the services of a Medical Subordinate. I beg to support his application. It is certainly remarkable that such an officer should be attached to the offices of several of the Head Assistants in the plains, while no such provision is made for Mr. Turner's office in the unhealthy climate of Jeypore. It is to be noticed that the services of the Apothecary in charge of the Police Hospital are only available when the Assistant Agent is at head-quarters.

8. In paragraph 17 Mr. Turner seems to suggest the colonization of the east bank of the valley of the Sileru by coolies from the low country. I fear the estimation in which the climate, whether rightly or wrongly, is held by all low-country people will prevent the possibility of such colonization for years to come.

9. In paragraph 22 Mr. Turner refers to the Malkanghiri forests. These, it appears, were hitherto leased to a merchant for Rupees 500. The merchant was under no restriction as to either the sort or size of timber which he was to fell, and in consequence the forests have been recklessly denuded of all valuable timber. The right to cut timber is no longer leased to the merchant, and it is, I think, worthy of consideration if the Maharajah of Jeypore could not be persuaded to introduce forest conservancy throughout his zemindari. This has been done with more or less thoroughness by other Zemindars in the district. In order to set him the example we might undertake to manage the conservancy of Malkanghiri, handing over to the Rajah the net profits, if any, of the undertaking. To this I should imagine he would consent, as Malkanghiri would still bring him in a larger

revenue than he has hitherto derived from it. I should propose that the Forest establishment be under the orders of the Assistant Agent. There are no officers of the Forest Department in this quarter of the Presidency.

10. In paragraph 24 Mr. Turner applies for an additional grant for roads in Malkanghiri, where roads at present do not exist. The present annual grant of Rupees 10,000 for jungle-clearing is barely sufficient for the large tract of country in which it has to be expended, and, if nothing more is granted, it will be long before anything can be done to open out the country. The Maharajah of Jeypore has expressed himself willing to devote for three years 2,000 Rupees of the surplus which he will derive from Malkanghiri for the construction of a road through Malkanghiri to Moat at the junction of the Seviri and Sileru. If Government are willing to grant as much, it will be a great thing for this part of the country. Mr. Turner in an earlier paragraph refers to the influence of roads in lessening the ravages of tigers, and there is no doubt that this has been found by far the most efficacious way of clearing the country of such pests.

11. Having noticed the prominent points in the Assistant Agent's report, I will touch on the other heads connected with the administration in the Jeypore and the other Agency tracts of this district.

12. Statements A and B show the working of the Civil and Criminal Courts under this Agency.

13. Statement C gives details of Abkári revenue, which show a slight increase over the returns of last fasly.

14. *Roads and Jungle.*—The annual grant of Rupees 10,000 was allotted thus—

	Rs.
Principal Assistant Collector	1,100
Senior Assistant ,, ...	2,500
Assistant Agent	6,400

The allotments to the Principal Assistant and Senior Assistant were spent, as usual, in keeping the paths clear from jungle, and, in some instances, opening fresh ones. Details are given in the accompanying Statements D and E.

The money allotted to the Assistant Agent was spent as shown in Statement F.

Progress has been made in building the house for the Assistant Agent mentioned in G. O., Judicial Department, dated 19th August 1871, No. 1152. The whole of the Rupees 5,000 allotted for expenditure in the present year have been spent.

15. I request sanction for Rupees 62-14-0 expended by the Senior Assistant in rewards to Khonds and Sourahs.

From J. B. JONES, Esq., Acting Senior Assistant Agent, to the Acting Agent to the Governor of Fort St. George in Vizagapatam, dated Parvatipore, 20th April 1872, No. 88.

With reference to your letter of the 8th instant, No. 106, I have the honour to forward the following remarks.

2. I left Parvatipore on the 8th February, arriving at Gunupur on the 10th of that month. The treasury, stamps, and registration were examined and found correct; but the female ward of the Subsidiary Jail was filled with property belonging to a civil case, and this practice I ordered to be discontinued.

3. The Deputy Tahsildar pointed out to me the site of the new school, which is close to the Police Dispensary and in the way of all persons coming to the Taluq Cutcherry. I was of opinion that the scholars would be considerably disturbed while at their studies by the continual passing and re-passing of persons, and chose another site to the north-west of the cutcherry, situated on a rising ground facing the river. The inhabitants, however, objected to this on the ground of its being exposed to any feverish winds that may prevail, and the building will, therefore, be constructed on the site formerly chosen.

4. As regards the proposed jail at Gunupur, a site was shown by the Deputy Tahsildar to which I strongly object. The proposal was to begin at the end of the female ward of the Sub-Jail and continue the jail parallel to the Police huts up to the Police Dispensary. This would completely shut up the Police lines and narrow the square in front of the cutcherry, and in conjunction with the Superintendent of Police a site was selected immediately behind the cutcherry. When the jail is completed a door may be made in the wall of the Taluq Cutcherry, and one Constable will be sufficient to look after the treasury and also the jail itself.

5. On the 13th February I proceeded, in company with the Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent of Police, from Gunupur, through Noagam and Jaltoru, to Wadasara, and thence to Puttasinghi Station. The following day the Gomangoes from some fifty of the Sourah villages came in and were presented with head-cloths. A few women appeared, to whom wooden combs and small looking-glasses were given. The Gomangoes brought their accustomed tribute of a few fowls and some eggs. I walked to the village of Puttasinghi, about two miles distant from my encampment; but regret to say that the shyness of the people in their intercourse with Europeans has in no way diminished. Puttasinghi we found completely deserted, although the exodus of the inhabitants must have been accomplished almost simultaneously with our arrival, as we saw fresh which had only recently been cut up on a board in front of one of the houses.

6. I left Puttasinghi on the 17th February, and, after halting again a day or two at Gunupur, proceeded to Godairy, where I arrived on the 22nd February. A good many of the Khond Majjies arrived in the afternoon of this and the following dates, and were presented with head-cloths as usual. The rumoni Moriah Rukmana and her husband also came up.

7. While at Godairy I made inquiry into the truth of a report from the Inspector of Police of the Godairy Division regarding certain irregularities committed by a Khond named Gundra Majji, living at the village of Kotrakuppa between Dongusurda and Rayahiji. The Inspector stated in his report, which you heard, that this Gundra Majji had given a knife to the head man of the village of Pandrakhalu and had ordered him to go to the village of Dongusurda and call for the kist annually due to the Jeypore Rajah, with instructions that if the requisition were not complied with he (the head man) should return the knife with the upper end of the blade bent. The Inspector likewise stated that Gundra Majji, with some other Majjies and a hundred Khonds, their followers, had threatened the Station-house Officer of Chondrapuram Sub-station, who with a party of Constables was escorting to arrested thief, that if they did not release the thief they (Gundra Majji and his followers) would kill the Constables. On examining the Inspector Ramanna and Sibla Sittayya, the Dhora of the village of Kartagada, it appeared that about twelve days previous to his giving his deposition Gundra Majji had gone to the village of Pologuppa and demanded toddy and a sheep, but they gave him only a rupee and some rice. Sibla Sittayya stated that Gundra Majji had then 60 Khonds with him, and that he sent half of them to Jobba to demand toddy, and the rest went their own way. Sibla Sittayya likewise said that about four months previous to his being examined, Gundra Majji sent for him to the village of Jobba, among the Kottiga Khonds, and asked kist from him, and that he had then 200 Khonds with him; but he refused to pay him as the Patro any kist until he heard from the Jeypore Rajah. He, Sibla

Sittayya, had merely *heard* that Gundra Majji was coming to his village, but no particular time was stated. On the whole, I was of opinion that steps should be taken under Section 295 of the Criminal Procedure Code, and accordingly issued a warrant for the apprehension of Gundra Majji under the section above named. This subject will be again alluded to in a report I am sending you regarding a second visit of mine to Godairy a few days ago.

8. I inquired also as to the truth of a report that the Majji of Secundra, about ten miles from Godairy, had been sending a man to the village of Koiraguda to ask a woman for rice, it being understood that in the event of her denial she proved herself to be a witch. The Secundra Majji has since died and been succeeded by his son, who came to Godairy. As there was no probability of any violence being offered to the woman, I admonished the Secundra Majji, who denied all intention to injure the woman in any way, and let the matter pass. I shall write further upon this subject also, as stated in the latter part of the preceding paragraph.

9. The road between Gunupur and Godairy is in fair order, as also that between Gunupur and Wadasara. I was glad to observe that in the Sourah villages of Noagam and Jaltoru the main street was clean and the front of the houses swept and free from rubbish. I returned from Godairy on the 24th February, arriving at head-quarters again on the 27th February.

From J. B. JONES, Esq., Acting Senior Assistant Agent, to the Acting Agent to the Governor of Fort St. George in Vizagapatam, dated Parvatipore, 25th April 1872, No. 107.

With *reference* to *copy* of Taluq No. 105, sent by you direct to the Deputy Tahsildar and Sub-Magistrate of Gunupur, and likewise *copy* of order to him, No. 99, on the petition of the Amin of the *Jeypore* Rajah at Gunupur, referring to the exactions of one Gundra Majji living at Kotrakuppa between Dongusurda and Rayahiji, I have the honour to inform you that I requested the Assistant Superintendent of Police to be good enough to furnish the Sub-Magistrate with the assistance asked for by him; but, not receiving any further report from the last-mentioned officer, I deemed it expedient to proceed to Gunupur and confer with him as to the best course to be followed under the circumstances, and also that, in the event of my presence being necessary, I might be nearer to the place where the occurrences alluded to in the Sub-Magistrate's arzi were taking place. I arrived at Gunupur on the 12th instant, and was informed by the Sub-Magistrate that the Inspectors of Godairy and Wadasara, in company with the Police Constables to the number requested by him, had that day gone from Gunupur to Godairy, and would have been accompanied by himself had he not heard of my probable arrival in Gunupur.

2. From the statement of the Sub-Magistrate, who informed me that he only wished for the assistance asked for his own personal protection and that the case was not of so serious a nature as to require my going there, I deemed it inadvisable to proceed in person to Dongusurda, as by doing so the circumstances would be endowed with a pseudo importance they did not really possess and would have returned forthwith to Parvatipore, but was informed further by the Sub-Magistrate of a disturbance in Secundra, and I, therefore, wrote to the Assistant Superintendent of Police at Kurupam requesting him to come up. While awaiting his arrival I received from the Sub-Magistrate a copy of a further report to him from the Godairy Police Inspector, who stated that on his proceeding to Borrudi he found 400 Khonds assembled together, who stated that as one of their comrades had died they were going to demand from one Sunna Domba either goudi (*i.e.*, a life for a life) or his household articles, and had requested him (the Inspector) to decide as to which of the two should be given, and that on his demanding the surrender of 20 men together with 13 cattle stolen by them from Sunna Domba they refused to give them up, but consented to come to Godairy on Tuesday, the 16th instant, bringing the men in question with them and requesting the Sub-Magistrate to come to Godairy and settle the matter.

3. I proceeded to Godairy and awaited the arrival of the Borrudi Khonds, Borrudi and Koiraguda being close together. About ten Majjies arrived in Godairy on Tuesday evening, the 16th instant, and made no objection to restoring the cattle. They went back to Borrudi and returned

the next day, bringing 11 of the cattle with them, having left one bullock behind at a village a few miles from Godairy as it was too fatigued to proceed further. The 15th, it was alleged by all, belonged to Ratti Majji, who appears to have been one of those who went to Koiragoda for the cattle.

4. The complainant, Sunna Domba's son, and his brother-in-law stated that 20 Khonds from the village of Borradi came to his house at dead of night brandishing their weapons and crying out "Where is he, we will kill him!" meaning complainant, and the brother-in-law stated he consequently hid complainant and informed the Khonds that complainant had gone away. The evidence of the Borradi villagers, however, goes to show that Sunna Domba, who is a Paidi or Pariah, had lent the 13 cattle on hire to the Borradi Khonds and about 12 days ago took them back and tied them up in his cattle-shed and that the Khonds came and took away again the cattle, but offered no violence to any one and did not express their intention of killing any one, but stated they were taking the cattle as compensation for the death of one of their comrades who had been bewitched by Sunna Domba's wife.

5. I was informed that a dispute having arisen between Sunna Domba's wife, Kommali, and another woman about three years ago concerning some mango trees, the latter died shortly after, and, it being discovered, on burning the body, that a portion of mango which had stuck in the throat of the deceased remained unconsumed while all the rest was incinerated, Kommali was declared to be a witch, and, considerable odium having arisen against her in consequence at the suggestion of the Koiragoda Majji, she went to live at Ongarutti, a village close by, and has remained there ever since.

From the Inspector's report it appears that in the early part of this year a man by name Kobola was sent from Soondra to Kommali's house to ask for food, and was informed that, if she gave him some, well and good, and, if not, no further proof was necessary of her being a witch, and a knife with the point bent and a small bag of red powder tied at the end was sent round to the neighbouring villages. The bearer of the knife was stopped, however, by the Police, and, as will appear from paragraph 8 of my letter to you regarding my February tour, the Soondra Majji presented himself at Godairy and was admonished not to send round any missives of the kind in future.

6. Kobola, the man sent to Kommali's house to ask for food, unfortunately died about the 6th of this month, and the belief in his death having been confirmed by Kommali's incantations was unanimously strengthened and was immediately followed by a descent of the Borradi Khonds on the village of Koiragoda, where Kommali's son was still living with the 13 cattle belonging to his father previously mentioned.

7. The Majjies who appeared before me expressed their regret at what had occurred, and, as I saw there was no apprehension of further mischief on their part, I allowed them to return to their homes, the cattle being given up to Sunna Domba at Godairy.

8. As regards Gundra Majji, while at Godairy I examined a man by name Sodangi, the Dhora of the village of Pandrakhalla. He stated that Gundra Majji had been to Jeypore and returned with an umbrella from the Rajah and had been asking the Patros to pay him to him: but that he (Sodangi) had refused to do so, and that Gundra Majji had ordered him to leave the village. This man went on to say that Gundra Majji three years ago payed to him some brass pots for Rupees 18 and came a short time ago to his village and showing him 18 Rupees told him to bring the pots. Sodangi did this, whereupon Gundra Majji took the pots but refused to pay the money, and that four days afterwards Gundra Majji returned with 50 Khonds to his (Sodangi's) house. Sodangi ran away, and Gundra Majji took away a sheep that was tied up in front of his house. He stated that at the time of giving his deposition Gundra Majji was sitting in his house at Kattrakuppa, about two coss from Pandrakhalla.

9. I did not consider that my presence was called for any further under the circumstances, and returned to Parvatipore on the 17th instant.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,
19th June 1872.

From H. G. TURNER, Esq., Assistant Agent, Jeypore, to the Officiating Agent to the Governor of Fort St. George in Vizagapatam, dated Koraput, 25th March 1872, No. 32.

I have the honour to submit a report on the settlement of Malkanghiri, which has been carried out by the Diwan Puttabhiramiah under my superintendence.

2. Government, in their Order, 16th August 1871, No. 1126, seem to have been under the impression that this settlement took place last year by the Diwan on the reception of certain instructions from you. I had not an opportunity of seeing your order; but it is quite certain that nothing was done in Malkanghiri from the time that I left it, last March, until I entered it, in January of this year.

I should not have drawn attention to this were it not for the excellent illustration it affords of the remark I made in my former report on this part of the country, that, under the present system, a whole year must intervene between the recommendation to sequestrate (or, as in this case, to re-settle) a taluq and the execution of the order enforcing it.

3. *State of parties in Malkanghiri.*—We entered Malkanghiri at the northern extremity and halted at Geviadigilli. Here we were met by the head men of nearly all the surrounding villages, Cherenga, Matoli, Gangarur, Gumma, Pangam, Kododumal, and others. It seemed that they had fallen out with Bungari Devi and her management, had not paid their rents, and were in opposition to her. This opposition was headed by Sanyasi Patro, the former renter of the country, of whom I shall have more to say further on. It was occasioned by harshness in collecting outstanding balances, indiscriminate raising of rents, and generally by the mismanagement that I last year reported on.

4. *Removal of Bungari Devi from management.*—Our camp was soon joined by Bungari Devi, to whom I represented the need of vesting the management of the country in some more capable person. She was, of course, loath to descend from her position; but she was to some extent conciliated by the grant of a village on Mokhassa tenure, for which I had previously obtained the sanction of the Jeypore Rajah.

In her place a manager has been appointed on a salary of Rupees 50 with a travelling allowance of 1 Rupee per diem.

5. *Former rent system in Malkanghiri.*—Hitherto it has been the fashion in Malkanghiri to grant yearly leases so that the renter might have the opportunity of raising his terms at comparatively short intervals. The criterion of the wealth of a village, and accordingly of its capability of paying increased rents, was held to be the number of ploughs and hoes in use among the ryots. There was, therefore, so far from any encouragement being held out to a ryot to turn himself from a one-plough farmer into a two-plough farmer, actually a penalty attached to any increase in his agricultural operations. No allowance was made for land recently taken up, and it, therefore, came to pass that the rents became simply a plough and hoe-tax.

But, whether there was any increase during the 12 months in the wealth of a village or not, it seems, nevertheless to have been a settled policy to demand an enhanced rent at the commencement of the new year. Hence the rack-renting point was soon reached and passed, so that eventually the rents demanded and the rents collected became known and established as two different things.

The management had to be contacted with the latter, but the former was kept in reserve until any village head was so unwise as to effect an increase in the prosperity of his farmers, or to demur to any requisition made by the renter or her emissaries.

6. *State of the accounts.*—On examination the accounts were found to be of the most fragmentary and worthless description. The village heads had no written leases, nor were any counterparts lodged with the renter. The demand per village was known only to the Head Curnam, fortunately an able, ready young man. The collections were known to him and the village heads; but these had no receipts for money paid, and were in doubt whether the balances they owed were computed on the fictitious rent or on the actual rent, the fact being that they were always in debt.

7. *Reference to the ancient history of the country and Orjon Malik's administration.*—It seems strange that a country like Malkanghiri, which, from its numerous remains of by-gone days, must have been formerly a prosperous tract, should not possess among its villages—the system that is said to exist elsewhere through all vicissitudes of dynasties and governments—relics of ancient fiscal regulations. We do not look for these among the hill tribes as we believe them to be aboriginal; but Malkanghiri is neither ethnologically nor physically a Malialı region. Traces remain both in its traditions and in its archæology of a former governing class, who were evidently vastly superior in culture to the present tribes, and to whom these were certainly subordinated as ryots and helots. It is said that the country was formerly ruled by one Orjon Malik (of Malk-i-giri), who being a prosperous man was set upon by the Kings of Golconda, Jeypore, Bastar, and Hyderabad, and besieged and killed in a fort near Korkonda. His dominions fell to the share of Jeypore, who appointed the ancestor of the present Patro family to the management, as Orjon Malik had fallen by an arrow shot from his bow.

It can only be presumed that the reason why the former village system fell so utterly to pieces on the extinction of Orjon Malik's government is that it was never established with that degree of stability which is so characteristic of the fiscal system of the Mahomedans. The groves of tamarind trees, the old tank-bunds, and the mud forts were perhaps the work of one man or of one short dynasty, and, as these improvements had never been identified with the people, they fell into desuetude when the strong ruling hands were removed.

8. *Account of the system which took the place of Orjon Malik's government.*—The man who shot the straight shot at Orjon was an Oreiya Paik who had been educated in the traditions of tenure by service. He certainly held Malkanghiri from the Jeypore Rajah on those terms, and it is probable that he parcelled out the country among his followers on the same system. No rents were required by the Jeypore Rajahs until military service came to be of no value. It is most likely also that the Patros and their sub-Chiefs never got any rents; but that they demanded that the ryots should supply them, and took care that the ryots should starve ere their masters. The former, therefore, sank into the condition of serfs. They never possessed any property, and had no object in raising more produce than was required for their own support and that of their Chiefs. There were no fixed demands between the Village Chiefs and their ryots, but some fairly *ad hoc* demand was eventually arrived at between the heads and the Patro.

9. *Origin of the present rent system.*—The rent system between these parties took its rise out of the benefactions which the Patro exacted to enable him to appear decently at the Durbar, and they were regulated in amount by the power which the village head had to resist the demand, by the amount of coercion he possessed over his ryots, by the degree of relationship or favour in which he stood with the Patro, and, shortly, by everything but a consideration of the qualities of the soil and the capabilities of the cultivators.

Though this state of things had been partially rectified by the increased demand for cash which emanated from Jeypore, and which obliged the renter to be more careful in his settlement, its traces are still plainly visible. Thus, we found several instances of men evading rent obligations on such pleas as that they were relatives of the managing house, or that they were of a high caste, and, therefore, superior to such contingencies, or that their ancestors were not accustomed to contribute to the needs of the Patro.

10. *High and low rents.*—Thus it will be seen that, while, on the one hand, we had rack-rents to deal with, on the other we had pepper-corn rents, and that it was as necessary to enhance the latter as it was to diminish the former.

11. *Constitution of the villages and description of the powers of the Village Heads.*—The settlements we have made have been, generally speaking, with the heads of the villages. The terms "head of village" and "ryot" have been freely used in this report because they are well known and understood; but without some explanation the terms are liable to be misapplied as regards Malkanghiri, and it will be necessary to give some account of them.

Every one has his own theory about the ownership of land in India, and I have arrived at the opinion from reasons that I will not enter on here, that in the Jeypore country the ownership of land lies in certain tribes which are established throughout the country. But this ownership carries in all cases an admitted liability to land-tax. It would be easy to draw up a list distinguishing the land-owning tribes from the mere occupiers, and this will entail a long array of names in so far as regards Malkanghiri, for there we have only three to deal with, viz., the Matiyas, the Porjos, and the Kois.* Speaking of the whole country, wherever you set foot you will be told that the soil is Matiyabhumi, or Porjabhumi, or Koibhumi. But there will be degrees in the readiness with which you are so informed, ranging from the place where you find Matiyas or Porjos, or Kois in present possession to the place where the only evidence of the former ownership on *the grave-stones* erected by the ancient proprietors.† The alien villages established in these bhumis are constituted, in some instances, of entirely one tribe, as, for example, Gudabas or Rouas, or the community is made up of members of different races and tribes gathered together by some enterprising stranger.

Individual proprietorship in land has been reached and is recognized in this last class, and it is perhaps faintly discerned amongst those in-comers who have still preserved their tribal unity: but with the soil-owners it is not so. The land is with these vested for all administrative purposes in the village head. The ryots speak through him, and altogether refuse any settlement but that in which he alone is the contracting party. It has been thought best to continue this system with the second class: but with the first class, and, more especially with that section of it which is made up by the Paiks of Malkanghiri town, it has been found that individual settlement is willingly accepted. Many of the third class of villages are those which, as above said, have hitherto altogether evaded the payment of rent. We have, for convenience sake, settled with these heads for the present. In future the ryots will probably stand forth on their own account.

Village heads are, therefore, hereditary as in the first sort of villages, elective as in the second sort, and self-constituted as in the third sort, and their authority varies accordingly from the patriarchal power of the first class to a thing of nought in the last class.

Now leases ranging for three years, no enhancement of rents on any pretext during this period, the utter abolishment of the plough and hoe-tax, and settled periods for the payment of the instalments of rent.

12. *Details of the new settlement.*—In lieu of the uncertainty of taxation and mismanagement that had hitherto prevailed these village heads were offered the following terms:—

13. *How accepted by the ryots.*—In assessing the villages we were obliged, owing to our ignorance of the resources of the country, to take the old collections as a basis for calculation. All well-founded objections and pleas for the reduction of rents were separately considered and settled. The heads of the villages being instigated by Sanyassi Patro, made a feeble demonstration in favour of his being reinstated as manager; but they were soon talked out of this, and we were successful in inducing them to recognize the benefits now offered to them. They agreed to an increase on their former actual payments of 12½ per cent.; but this general resolution, taken by these men in solemn conclave in my presence, was to be modified in particular instances where villages had become deserted, wholly or in part, and where errors had been made in the amount of the rent said to have been paid.

Each village head received a written lease and handed a counterpart to the new manager, and, although not a single man of them could read, the novelty of transacting the agreement on paper seemed to favourably impress them.

14. *Kondakambere—Ravages of a Man-eater.*—From the north of the country we proceeded to Kondakambere, which in my last report on this subject I laid stress on as particularly hard put to by the management. Here we found, in addition to the rack-rents, as equally for-

* There are also at two villages of the Korsey Kopus who are perhaps land-owners.

† It is easy to distinguish between a Porja and a Koi grave-stone. The former is only about three or four feet high and two feet wide, while the latter is an immense slab of rock six or seven feet high and three or four wide and two feet wide. Porja stones are sometimes as big, but these are rare. The Matiyas do not erect grave-stones individual.

midable devastator in the shape of a man-eating tiger. This brute had created such a panic throughout the country that village after village was becoming deserted. In one morning's march I passed through three from which the people had recently fled. Two persons were brought to me in Kondakambera who had been mangled by this brute. They had been set upon just outside the village, the tiger having lain in wait by the path for them. I was sorry to leave them without relief; but the cases were beyond my skill, and I have no medical attendant.

13. *Requests that a Medical Subordinate may be attached to the Assistant Agent when on tour.*—I take this opportunity of again requesting you to move Government in this matter. I have recently been down rather often with fever; but it is not on my own account so much (for I can treat myself), but on behalf of my followers, public and private, and also on behalf of the people whom I go among, that I solicit medical aid. If I were in the healthiest station in the Presidency I should have the services of experienced and learned doctors; but here, in a most pestilential climate, I am denied even the services of a Dresser. I write bitterly on the grievance as I believe that it has only to be laid before Government to be redressed.

16. With respect to the destruction of the man-eater, it would be of no avail to offer a larger reward than that already allotted for the skin of a tiger in these hills. If a hundred Rupees will not induce these people to endeavour to kill it, neither will a larger sum. But there is no readier way of counteracting the evil propensities of these brutes than by clearing the jungle. If a tiger has no means of concealing itself it will rarely spring on a man. A man going into the jungle to get wood or leaves for his platter will always be exposed to danger; but much benefit will be afforded by clearing paths, so as to enable intercourse to be kept up between village and village.

Note.—At Koraput I have the services of the Apothecary. It is on hour that I require the aid solicited.

Jungle-clearing.

I have not been able to spare more than Rupees 50 from my road money to expend in Kondakambera, and nothing has been done in the other villages. This matter will be considered further in the paragraph on the communication of Malkanghiri.

17. *Settlement of Kondakambera.*—Turning now to the settlement of this Kondakambera part, we found it advisable to deal with the heads of the villages and to remove the Patro from the direct management. He has still some share in the superintendence of the tract, and, as his influence is great and of long standing, it will be well to continue him in some authority. The sum demanded by the former renter (Rupees 450) being altogether behind the capabilities of the tract, it has been reduced to Rupees 230 or thereabouts.

17½. *The southern part of the valley of the Silera.*—From Kondakambera I marched south some three or four stages, passing en route altogether only three villages besides those which were deserted. My path lay along the valley of the Silera, a valley bounded on one side by the Godilera Hills and on the other by the Malkanghiri Chain. This last divides the valley from the Malkanghiri country proper, and it attains in the Pacha country an elevation of between 4000 and 5000 feet.

Miles of fertile Lanka (Terai) land lie uncultivated on each side of this charming river. On the east bank the land belongs to Government, on the west to *Jeypore*. It is deplorable that no effort is made to reclaim this land. It possesses a never-failing supply of water both from the Silera and from the numerous brooks running from the mountain ranges mentioned above. It is situated within 30 miles of Mout, to which place boats can come from the Godavery, and it has none of the characteristics of the hill lands to which the Hindoo is so averse. If a few of the steamer-loads of coolies who are being shipped to such remote places as the Mauritius were disembarked at Mout the result would be more profitable to Government and more advantageous to the people.

18. *The eight southern mootahs of Malkanghiri.*—From this valley I crossed the hills into Malkanghiri proper, where the southern mootahs next claimed attention. There are eight in number, viz., Anantapilli, Pottoh, Culmella, Veerattanpalem, Sainnikonda, Kattamanapilli, Nolakambera, and Boringvada. They have some 90 villages, mostly inhabited by Kois. For many generations they have been ruled by hereditary managers, and it was thought best to settle with them. Pottoh has a Telugu population, and it is the largest as well as the most flourishing village in the south.

There has never been so much mismanagement in these southern mootahs as in the villages to the north. The hereditary Chiefs have always been in a position to withstand the Patro's arbitrary demands, and the village heads under these men do not complain of harsh excessive requisitions. Very little is known about the part even to the Malkanghiri officials; but observation will now be extended to it, and some definite information may be looked for. It possesses a most fertile soil comparable, according to an authority, with that of the most valuable land in the Vizagapatam District. Moreover, it supersedes every other part of the Jeypore dominions in one most important particular, that of accessibility. Its connexion by water with the Godavery will when developed insure its future prosperity.

19. *The Paiks of Malkanghiri and Korkonda.*—The town of Malkanghiri and the village of Korkonda are inhabited by Paiks (Oriya soldiery) who have amused themselves with the idea that they are entitled to *enjoy* certain land round about those places rent-free in consideration of service done the renter. They never do any services, and consequently are eating the bread of idleness. We have put a stop to this. All these men, more than a hundred in number, have received leases for the lands they occupy, and for the first three years are to be charged, out of respect to some prescriptive right that may be accorded to them, one-half of what is deemed to be the market-value of the land. Twenty of these Paiks are kept for the requirements of the revenue administration, and they receive extra pay. In consideration of the easy terms which all these posts have obtained they are to attend the Dasera feast to keep up the ancient style of homage, which is usual to pay the Rajah at that period.

20. *Various reforms.*—Similarly many villages round about Malkanghiri were charged with the duties of wood and labour to the renter and her people, and were exempted from paying rents. This has been altered, and agreements have been exchanged with the village heads.

A great number of middlemen, such as wardens over two or three villages, petty managers of hypothetical divisions of the country, and superior officials over these, have been done away with, and the whole management has, as much as possible, been concentrated in one man.

21. *Financial success.*—Now, to sum up these alterations—and, it is to be hoped, improvements,—it may be premised that whereas, under the renter's management, the Rajah's exchequer used to be credited with a precarious 3,000 Rupees a year, it is in future to receive between Rupees 6,000 and Rupees 7,000. This great increase is simply owing to the fact that the actual collection in former days amounted to nearly Rupees 5,800; but such was the waste, and so many were the hands the sum passed through, that the renter found herself unable to raise the Rupees 3,500 without borrowing from a Sowcar. Further, it has been found that the abuse of over-assessment was more than counterbalanced by the abuse of under-assessment, and that the reductions made in the rack-rented villages amounted to less than the increase imposed on the quit-rented villages.

22. *The Malkanghiri Timber Question.*—On further investigating the sources which went to make up the Rupees 3,500, it was found that no less than Rupees 500 were procured from the timber trade of the country. This was leased to a merchant for this amount. He was also the man from whom Bangari Devi borrowed her money, and, as may accordingly be imagined, he did with the timber pretty much what he liked. The fact is that he has cut down every stick of wood, teak, *jal saj*, and everything that it would pay him to export. The forests in the neighbourhood of the Sileri are ruined; but there is still a fair quantity of teak and a very large amount of *sal*-wood which could be worked with capital.

We have refused to make a further agreement with this man on anything approaching the same terms which he enjoyed under the former management; but we are rather at a loss to fix on a judicious plan in their stead. The difficulty is in the want of professional knowledge and superintendence. The Rajah would never be persuaded to maintain an establishment at the same rates of salary as are given by the Government, so that the idea of procuring professional aid from that quarter, which at first presented itself to us, must be abandoned.

23. I myself am of opinion, as I some time ago told you, that the whole subject of forest conservation in Jeypore should be made a matter of Government inquiry with a view of assuming charge of it. This is not the place to enter into the question; but I consider it one of the utmost importance, both as affecting the future prosperity of this country and as having in a large measure to do with the supply of the freshes to the Godavery. It may be an undecided point whether forests do, or do not, influence the amount of rainfall; but there can be no question that when rain does fall the presence of forests is indispensable to the proper distribution of the water. The highlands of the Eastern Ghauts are the reservoirs of the coast districts, and, if the abundant foliage which furnishes these reservoirs with innumerable weirs and sluices be destroyed, no artificial devices will prevent the water from rushing uselessly to the ocean. I am not now alluding to the timber trade; this, in my opinion, is of quite secondary importance. What I am anxious to draw attention to is the wholesale clearings of the hills in the up-country, where are found the sources of the Indravatti and the Sevari, the two principal freshet-feeders of the Godavery.

Although this consideration is paramount, I do not think that the adventure would involve loss. I believe that the expenses of renting the jungles and conserving them would be covered by the sale of the sal wood, which exists here in abundance. I do hope that you will see fit to bring this matter prominently to the notice of Government and advocate action being taken in it.

24. *Proposed system of roads for Malkanghiri.*—The proximity of the Malkanghiri country to the Godavery has already been noticed in this report. From Most, where the Sevari and the Silavi meet, there is sufficient water to allow boats of some size to pass to the Godavery. This place is, therefore, the natural port of the country, and it is necessary to connect it by roads with the principal villages. It is proposed to make a road from Govindpilli to Most, passing through many of the best villages in the country. It will proceed from Govindpilli to Pangrun, thence by the Akasa Teak Forest through Padangiri to Malkanghiri, thence through Potloh and Asantapalli to Most. The distance is about a hundred miles. A branch road will connect Salmi with this main line on the one hand, and on the other a line will be opened out with Kondakambera. It is with much reluctance that I ask you to apply to Government for a grant for these communications. I am aware that the administration of Jeypore is a dead loss to Government; but at the same time I believe that the best way of obtaining some return for our outlay is the expenditure of money in road-making and in rendering the country accessible. The Rajah has determined to spend the enhancement increase that has accrued to his cash chest in irrigation and road works, and to this end has authorized me to state that he is ready to contribute Rupees 2,000 a year, for three years, towards the construction of the road above described. But Rupees 6,000 will go only a short way towards making a road a hundred miles long, and I, therefore, trust that Government will supplement this by a grant of the same amount. Some hundred of Rupees I should devote to clearing the jungle in tiger-infested localities.

25. *Report on Sanyasi Patro's conduct.*—I shall bring this report to a close by an account of the conduct of Sanyasi Patro. This man has frequently been before the public. He is noticed in Mr. Carmichael's book as having been sent to prison for levying illegal taxes, and is there described as a "very turbulent character." I, however, since my residence in Jeypore, have not found him in any way obnoxious until on the occasion of my recent visit to Malkanghiri, when, as I stated above, I ascertained that he was trying to get the ryots to resist the new settlement.

I thereupon warned him that any repetition of such conduct would entail removal from the country, and left him for my tour to the south with many protestations on his part of obedience and reformation.

When, however, I arrived at Asantapalli I ascertained from the heads of the villages of Timarupilli and Potch that a man had come from Sanyasi Patro's village and had directed them to abstain from any settlement until they had seen Sanyasi at Malkanghiri. This took place while I was in Kondakambera, that is, since I had parted with the man in the north of the country.

Deeming this to be a most flagrant instance of contumacy, I on my return to Malkanghiri town directed Sanyasi to proceed forthwith to Jeypore, there to await your orders. The action this

taken by this man has had no sort of effect, and it is unhesitatingly denied by him. But there can be no doubt that whether, with his knowledge or not, one of his dependents did try to raise an opposition, and if Sanyasi could permit either himself or any of his servants to this venture to thwart us whilst in the country, it can easily be imagined how he would intrigue when I am absent from the country. Seeing, therefore, the hazard that always even in the most favourable circumstances attaches to the introduction of a new *regimé*, it seemed to me in the highest degree impolitic to allow such a schemer to remain in the country.

The man is an old man and near the end of his tether of activity, and, as banishment to the Vizagapatam plains would be in his case an excessive punishment and would also entail considerable expense on the Jeypore Rajah for his support there, I think that all the ends of the position will be fully satisfied if he be directed to live in Singapur village, near Jeypore, till further orders.

26. *Conclusion.*—To conclude. It is perhaps to be regretted that Government did not take possession of Malkanghiri and administer it on behalf of the Rajah. I may be very wrong in my opinion; but I think that the measure of visiting a new settlement being effected without providing for its permanency otherwise than by the mere cursory inspection of a Government Officer is a measure of doubtful benefit. I cannot insist on any one of my orders or suggestions being carried out. To be sure, they will be obeyed; but, as I have no power to interfere in details, such orders as I give can only be of a general and suggestive nature. It is not necessary to describe the slipshod and perfunctory way in which all such suggestions are carried out, where obedience is prompted not by fear, but by hope of "master's favour." We were obliged to remove the manager, and it would have been a most opportune movement for the substitution of a Government official. The man now placed in charge, though, as I believe, an honest, hard-working man, is, from the distance from the head-quarters of the Diwan and from the lack of that manuscript correspondence that is characteristic of our administration, placed in a position of considerable independence. This consideration conjoined with the experience we have of the instability of innovation does not allow us to indulge in exuberant prognostication of the future welfare of Malkanghiri. Seeing, however, that we have removed a management that was unpopular; that we have granted a fixity of tenure hitherto unknown in the land; that we have cut down all the excessive rents which were with good reason objected to; that we have put an end to the obnoxious plough and hoe assessment; that we have removed the middlemen and have secured the villagers from visitations of the manager's peons so long as they are punctual in their payments; that we trust to open out to the ryots an accessible market by connecting their villages with this part of the district; and that we have done this, not only without opposition but with the hearty concurrence of the Jeypore Rajah and of the immediate tillers of the soil, we may with reason look for considerable increase in the prosperity of Malkanghiri.

A.

Statement of Suits filed and disposed of in the Courts subordinate to the Agency Court during the year 1871.

Courts		Pending on 1st January 1871.	Instituted in the year.	Remitted by transfer or on reference.	Total.	Decided.	Referred to Subordinate Courts.	Total.	Pending on 31st December 1871.
Agent to the Governor	A.		3		3	2		2	1
	O.	1	12		13	13		13	121
Principal Assistant Agent	A.								
	O.	1			1	1		1	9
Senior Assistant Agent	A.								
	O.								270
Assistant Agent	A.	1	1		2	1	1	2	2
	O.	4	12		16	2	14	16	14
District Munsif of Gumpoor	A.		3		3	3		3	
	O.	6	28		34	27		27	213
Do. of Nuzvidupatam	A.		1		1	1		1	
	O.	6	26		32	27		27	215
Do. of Rayapilli	A.		1		1	1		1	
	O.	12	25		37	37		37	203
Do. of Colamalak	A.		1		1	1		1	
	O.	14	17		31	28		28	206
Do. of Sakir	A.		1		1	1		1	
	O.	1	8		9	7		7	208
Do. of Swargavaripilli	A.		1		1	1		1	
	O.	8	11		19	15	1	16	211
Do. of Kotapad	A.		1		1	1		1	
	O.	6	20	1	27	21		21	217
Do. of Narsingapore	A.		1		1	1		1	
	O.	12	12		24	11		11	230
Total	A.	1	12		13	11	1	12	3
	O.	70	171	1	242	194	14	208	2,336

(Signed) R. J. MELVILLE,
Acting Agent to the Governor.

Vizagapatam,
7th *May* 1872.

B.

Return of Prisoners committed for trial in the Agency Session Court during year 1871.

—	Number of cases.	Number of persons.	Sentenced to death.	Transportation.	Rigorous imprisonment.	Simple imprisonment.	Fine.	Total number of persons convicted.	Number of persons acquitted and discharged.	Remarks.
Murder—Section 302, Indian Penal Code ...	3	4	(*a*) 2	...	...	...	...	2	2	(*a*) One hanged. ,, commuted to transportation for life.
Murder and culpable homicide—Sections 302 and 304, Indian Penal Code.	4	4	...	(*b*) 1	(*c*) 1	...	...	2	2	(*b*) Transportation for ten years.
Culpable homicide—Section 304, Indian Penal Code.	3	3	...	...	(*d*) 3	...	...	3	...	(*c*) Three years' rigorous imprisonment.
Mischief by fire—Section 436, Indian Penal Code.	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	(*d*) One, ten years' } Rigorous imprisonment. ,, two ,, } ,, three months' }
Giving or fabricating false evidence—Sections 193 and 194.	2	2	...	...	(*e*) 2	...	...	2	...	(*e*) One, one year's } Rigorous imprisonment. ,, six months' }
Abduction—Section 366, Indian Penal Code.	3	9	...	...	(*f*) 8	...	...	8	1	(*f*) One, eight months' Three, six months' each } Rigorous imprisonment. One, four months' Three, two months' each
Attempt at abduction—Sections 366 and 511, Indian Penal Code.	1	3	...	...	(*g*) 3	...	...	3	...	(*g*) One, four months' } Rigorous imprisonment. Two, two months' each }
Rape—Section 376, Indian Penal Code ...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	
Attempt at murder and causing grievous hurt—Sections 307 and 326, Indian Penal Code.	1	3	...	...	(*h*) 2	...	...	2	1	(*h*) One, two years' } Rigorous imprisonment. ,, 18 months' }
Delivery of false coins—Sections 241 and 242, Indian Penal Code	2	3	...	...	(*i*) 1	(*k*) 1	...	2	1	(*i*) Six months' rigorous imprisonment with 3 Rupees fine. (*k*) Simple imprisonment until the rising of the Court.
Being in possession of false coins—Section 242, Indian Penal Code.	1	1	...	...	(*l*) 1	...	...	1	...	(*l*) Four months' rigorous imprisonment.
Kidnapping—Section 362, Indian Penal Code.	1	1	...	...	(*m*) 1	...	...	1	...	(*m*) Two months' ,, ,,
Causing grievous hurt whilst committing house-breaking—Sections 450 and 380, Indian Penal Code.	1	1	...	...	(*n*) 1	...	...	1	...	(*n*) Five years' ,, ,,
Voluntarily causing hurt to deter a public servant from his duty—Section 332, Indian Penal Code.	1	1	...	...	(*o*) 1	...	...	1	...	(*o*) Three months' ,, ,,
Adultery, and abetting the same—Sections 109 and 497.	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	
Total ...	27	40	2	1	24	1	...	28	12	

NOTE.—The Assistant Agents tried 111 persons, of whom 60 were convicted.
Of the 1509 persons tried by the Sub-Magistrates 643 were convicted.

(Signed) R. J. MELVILLE,
Acting Agent to the Governor.

VIZAGAPATAM,
7th *May* 1872.

E

C.

Abkári Estimates.

Taluqs.	Fasly 1280. Rs.	A.	P.	Fasly 1281. Rs.	A.	P.
Kuruput	8,945	4	0	11,694	1	4
Nowrungapore	10,506	5	0	8,111	0	8
Ketzpol	8,391	12	0	7,533	5	4
Malkunghiri	2,634	0	0	5,004	0	0
Total ...	31,907	5	0	31,742	7	4

The actual abkári collections for the nine months ending with March 1872 is Rupees 23,807-2-0, the estimate for the remaining three months is Rupees 7,934-5-4, making a total of Rupees 31,742-7-4 for the whole of the Fasly 1281, which is not less than the estimate for Fasly 1280.

Vizagapatam,
7th *May* 1872.

(Signed) R. J. MELVILLE,
Acting Agent to the Governor.

D.

Statement showing the expenditure on Golcondah Hill Roads during the Official year 1871-72.

	Rs.	A.	P.
1. Re-clearing 25½ miles of old road from Golcondah to Gudem and Dharakonda through Maharam, at Rs. 5 per mile ...	126	9	0
2. Re-clearing 36½ miles of old road from Kristnadevipeta to Dharakonda through Koyur, at Rs. 5 per mile	180	8	0
3. Re-clearing 10 miles of old road from Koyur to Gudem through Buderalla, at Rs. 5 per mile	50	0	0
4. Re-clearing 21½ miles of old road from Kondamanta to Gudem through Langasingy, at Rs. 5 per mile	108	0	0
5. Re-clearing 9 miles of old road from Lammasingy to Antrela through Lotagodda, at Rs. 5 per mile	45	0	0
6. Re-clearing 7½ miles of old road from Kristnadevipeta to Rampala through Antada, at Rs. 5 per mile	36	0	0
7. Re-clearing 3½ miles of old road from Yerravaram to Dhoraparvatam through Bandivalsa, at Rs. 5 per mile	16	0	0
8. Re-clearing 7½ miles of old road from Dharakonda to Srivarasadi, at Rs. 5 per mile	36	0	0
9. Re-clearing 5½ miles of old road from Srivarasadi to Karakapadu, at Rs. 5 per mile	28	0	0
10. Re-clearing 2½ miles of old road from Petapadu to Suviti through Karakapadu, at Rs. 5 per mile	12	0	0
11. Re-clearing 4½ miles of old road from Duckerti to Mittalapalem, at Rs. 5 per mile	23	0	0
12. Re-clearing 4½ miles of old road from Lammasingy to Gangaram Madugula, at Rs. 5 per mile	24	0	0
13. Re-clearing 5½ miles of old road from Boodaru Ghaut to Kondakamberu, at Rs. 5 per mile	26	0	0
14. Re-clearing 6½ miles of old road from Golcondah to Kondamanta, at Rs. 5 per mile	33	0	0
15. Re-clearing 3 miles of old road from Lotagodda to Antrela through Vangodda, at Rs. 5 per mile	15	0	0
16. Re-clearing 3½ miles of old road from Duckerti to Addategula, at Rs. 5 per mile	18	0	0
17. Re-clearing 21 miles of cart-road, at Rs. 5 per mile ...	105	0	0
18. Re-clearing 19 miles of old road from Nataveram to Kristnadevipetta through Saruguda, at Rs. 5 per mile	95	0	0
19. Salaries of establishment	120	6	6
20. Contingent charges	0	4	0
Total ...	1,097	2	6

(Signed) R. J. MELVILLE,
Acting Agent to the Governor.

Vizagapatam,
7th *May* 1872.

E.

Statement showing the particulars of expenditure incurred by the Senior Assistant during 1871-72 *on account of clearing Jungles and making roads.*

	Rs.	A.	P.
Clearing jungle from Chalapadam to Rayaghada	150	0	0
Do. from Rayaghada to Singapur	350	0	0
Do. from Komalapeta to Isankota	100	0	0
Do. from Narayanapatnam to Parvatipore	245	0	0
Do. from Parvatipore to Chalapadam	135	0	0
Do. from Parvatipore to Kurapam	400	0	0
Do. from Kurapam to Gummalakshmipuram	120	0	0
Do. from Gunpur to Gummalakshmipuram	99	0	0
Do. from Palcondah to beyond Seetampeta	500	0	0
Do. on various Police beats in the Soorah and Khond Hills	293	3	10
Total ...	2,392	3	10

(Signed) R. J. MELVILLE,
Acting Agent to the Governor.

Vizagapatam,
7th *May* 1872.

F.

Particulars of expenditure of Jungle-clearing allotment in Jeypore.

	Rs.	A.	P.
For Bogapadru Ghaut work	1,778	13	0
„ Devadora work	1,910	4	0
„ Gholadora	1,162	2	6
„ clearing jungle in Kombara village	50	0	0
„ „ „ from Govindipalli to Rangapani	25	0	0
„ making a channel from Baghora to Magura	402	13	2
„ repairing the Sub-Magistrate's office at Koraput	15	10	3
„ „ the Subsidiary Jail at Nowrungapore	40	0	0
„ „ the bungalow at Pattangi	50	0	0
„ sinking a well in Kommala village	25	0	0
To salary of Mr. Supervisor Fletcher	908	2	3
„ hire of bandies for road-work	25	0	0
For clearing grass on roads	10	0	0
Total ...	6,402	13	2

(Signed) R. J. MELVILLE,
Acting Agent to the Governor.

Vizagapatam,
7th *May* 1872.

MEMORANDUM.

The Budget allotment for jungle-clearing for 1871-72 was 10,000 Rupees, which was allotted as follows :—

	Rs.	A.	P.
Principal Assistant	1,097	2	6
Senior Assistant	2,500	0	0
Assistant Agent	6,402	13	6
Total	10,000	0	0

The whole of the amount allotted to the Principal Assistant's division has been expended (*vide* statement appended.)* Out of the Rupees 2,500 allotted to the Senior Assistant, Rupees 2,392-3-10, as per particulars† attached, have been expended and the remaining sum of Rupees 107-12-2 refunded into the treasury. The Assistant Agent expended the whole of the allotment to his division. The particulars are given in Statement F.

* D.
† S.

Besides the above a sum of Rupees 10,000 was also sanctioned for the Assistant Agent's house at Kuruput and 5,000 Rupees expended on that account during the year.

VIZAGAPATAM,
7th *May* 1872.

(Signed) R. J. MELVILLE,
Acting Agent to the Governor.

MEMORANDUM.

	Rs.	A.	P.
Value of cloths, &c., purchased at Goosper by the Senior Assistant Agent for distribution to the Hill Chiefs	46	2	3
Ready money paid to Khonds and Sourahs	16	12	6
Total	62	14	9

VIZAGAPATAM,
7th *May* 1872.

(Signed) R. J. MELVILLE,
Acting Agent to the Governor.

No. 37. Ootacamund, 19th June 1872, No. 831.

From the report above recorded of the Hill Tracts of the Vizagapatam District the Government learn that owing to the anticipated distress in the low country the Agent was unable to make his annual visit to Jeypore and the Maliahs. The same cause prevented the Principal Assistant from visiting the Golcondah tracts.

2. These were visited by the Tahsildar of Golcondah. The results of the Tahsildar's tour are not reported; but the Government conclude from no remarks being recorded that the condition of this portion of the Principal Assistant's charge is satisfactory. They sanction the proposal that batta at double rates be granted to the Tahsildar and the Revenue Inspectors who accompanied him, the charge being met from the Agency Tour Fund, which can bear this charge.

3. It is satisfactory to learn from the report of the Senior Assistant that the quiet of the Sourah Hills has remained undisturbed. The tact shown by Mr. Jones, the Senior Assistant, in preventing the threatened disturbance on the Khond Hills owing to the conduct of Gundra Majji is very creditable to that officer, and the Government are glad to learn that he was well supported by the Police and

Subordinate Magistracy. It is observed that Gundra Majji has since been arrested.

4. His Excellency in Council has read with much interest the very full report submitted by the Agent of the settlement of the Malkanghiri country, which has been carried out by the Diwan of the Jeypore Rajah under the personal supervision of Mr. Turner, the Junior Assistant.

The principal features of this settlement are—

1*st*.—The appointment of an Amin on a fixed salary charged with the management of the revenue in Malkanghiri under direct instructions from Jeypore; and

2*nd*.—The grant of three years' leases to the heads of villages, the rents to be payable at fixed periods, written agreements and counterparts being exchanged by the contracting parties. In some instances, as in the case of the Ooriya Paiks (feudal soldiery) at Malkanghiri, the settlement was made individually instead of with the heads of villages.

5. It appears that in fixing the amount of the rents under the new settlement regard has been paid to the amount of previous collections rather than to the nominal demand.

6. The whole country has now been equitably assessed, and the result is an increase in the revenue of about 3,000 Rupees, while the people have been relieved from great uncertainty of demand and from the extortions of a great number of petty officials charged formerly with the collection of the revenue.

7. His Excellency in Council cordially concurs in the opinion expressed by the Agent that Mr. Turner has shown much care and tact in carrying out a settlement which is likely to confer lasting benefits on a portion of the country in which Mr. Turner evidently feels a commendable personal interest. His Excellency the Governor in Council desires the Agent to inform the Maharajah of Jeypore that the ready concurrence which he has given to this important measure is regarded by the Government with much satisfaction.

8. The Government see no reason to doubt the propriety of their refusal to accept the recommendation made last year by the Assistant Agent, to enable him on his own responsibility to assume the management of any portion of the country suffering from maladministration. The facility with which Mr. Turner has carried out a considerable measure of reform is the best proof that the exceptional power which he sought is unnecessary. He should not have revived the question.

9. Paragraph 7 of the Agent's report, in which he urges the necessity of a Medical Subordinate being attached to the Assistant Agent, will be referred to the Inspector-General, Indian Medical Department, with a request that he will comply at an early date with this requisition. The peculiarly unhealthy character of those hills makes it very essential that the Assistant Agent and his establishment should have special medical aid. The services of the Medical Subordinate will also be fully utilised in treating cases met with during the Assistant Agent's frequent tours.

10. The Government are not prepared at present to take any action regarding the direct colonization of the east bank of the valley of the Silcru by coolies from the low country. They agree with the Agent in thinking that the fear of the climate,

which is general among all low-country people, will long prevent the realization of Mr. Turner's benevolent wishes.

11. The question of undertaking the conservancy of the forests of Malkanghiri, discussed in paragraph 9 of the Agent's letter, will be referred to the Board of Revenue for report after communication with the Conservator of Forests.

12. The Government learn with satisfaction that the Maharajah of Jeypore has liberally proposed to devote for three years 2,000 Rupees of the surplus which he will derive from Malkanghiri for the construction of a road through Malkanghiri to Moat at the junction of the Seviri and Sileru. The application for a grant from Government of a similar amount will be considered in the Financial Department.

13. The total amount, Rupees 10,000, allotted for roads and clearing jungle appears to have been usefully expended, and satisfactory progress has been made in the construction of a house for the Assistant Agent at Koraput.

14. From the enclosures to the Agent's report marked A and B, showing the working of the Civil and Criminal Courts in the Agency, it appears that the total number of suits disposed of by the Civil Courts during the year under review was 279 Original and 9 Appeal, as against 185 Original and 7 Appeal suits in the preceding year. The number of suits pending on the 31st December 1871 was 122, the number of suits remaining undisposed of on the 1st January having been 78.

15. The number of criminal cases committed for trial before the Agency Session Court during the year was 27, being one more than the number so committed for trial during the previous year; and of 40 persons who were accused in these cases 28 were convicted, while the comparative results for the year 1870 were 37 persons accused and 14 convicted.

16. The disbursement of Rupees 62-14-9, expended by the Senior Assistant in rewards, is sanctioned.

(True Extract.)

R. S. ELLIS,
Chief Secretary.

To the Agent to the Governor of Fort St. George in Vizagapatam.
" Inspector-General of Police.
" Revenue Department.
" Financial do.
" Accountant-General.
" Inspector-General, Indian Medical Department.

Enl. A. S. Rodgers.

Year 1872 Dept.
Govt. of [1872] Madras.

JUDICIAL.

To

THE AGENT to the GOVERNOR at
FORT ST. GEORGE at VIZAGAPATAM,
&c., &c., &c.

Dated June, 19th. Ojem 950
Rect. — 24 10-7-72
Ans.

~~G. O. 19th June 1872, No. 831.~~

JUNE.
Nos. 36-37.

No 1256

1. Reviewing report on the Hill Tracts of the Vizagapatam District during 1871-72.

With an Order C