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# MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

*Judicial* DEPARTMENT.

|          |           |                |
|----------|-----------|----------------|
| G.O. No. | 1322      | Press          |
|          | 155-156   | <del>MIS</del> |
| Dated    | 15-8-1862 | 19             |

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Not to be folded or roughly handled

1322  
155-156

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,*  
*15th August 1862.*

No. 155. Read the following Proceedings of Government in the Revenue Department,  
dated 9th August 1862, No. 1,697.

*Reforming the Village Establishments in Tanjore*  
*reported upon by Mr. Polly in his letter of the*  
*7th December last, and directing that the*  
*Taliary emoluments should be credited to the*  
*New Police Department.*

(Vide Proceedings Revenue Department, dated  
9th August 1862, No. 120.)

No. 156.

ORDER THEREON, 15th August 1862, No. 1,322.

Communicated to the Inspector General of Police.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,  
Chief Secretary.

Exd. T. O'Connor.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.  
PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Dated 9th August 1862, No. 1,697.

Read again letter from the Honorable C. Pelly, dated 7th December 1861, No. 1,117 and recorded in Proceedings of Government 3rd February 1862, No. 173.

1. The reform of the village establishments in Tanjore reported upon by Mr. Pelly in the foregoing letter presents no difficulties.

2. The office of Pottail or Head man was instituted in 1835; and a sum of Rupees 75,744, subsequently reduced to Rupees 69,191, was sanctioned from the General Revenues for the payment of the officers. The actual charge has however been little over Rupees 68,000. The salaries now paid range from Rupees 3 to 97 per annum. The object for which the office was established has not, it is stated, been hitherto attained. The influential Mirassidars, willing enough to act as village Judges and Magistrates, have regarded their Revenue functions as derogatory to their position, and have left these to the Curnums, or delegated them to their servants. It is proposed to remedy this state of affairs by selecting Mirassidars competent and willing to perform all the duties of their office, though probably they may not be the most influential members of the community. It is now proposed to give the Pottails salaries ranging from 48 to 84 Rupees per annum in the irrigated, and from 60 to 84 Rupees in the unirrigated, villages; the distinction being proposed because the latter class of villages are larger, and involve more labor and trouble. The cost of the new establishment will be Rupees 75,924. Mr. Pelly proposes that the salaries of these officers shall be paid by a deduction from their assessment according to the general rule already laid down, but the Collector prefers monthly payments. The Government approve the latter course.

3. The Curnum office was placed on a footing of comparative efficiency in 1807, and lands were assigned for the support of the officers, besides which they enjoyed some fees. As however the Government share of the produce of the lands was alone assigned, while the cultivation of the lands depended on the Mirassidars, the system proved inconvenient. In 1820 therefore, the estimated produce of the lands was thrown into a general fund, from which disbursements were made in the course of the year; the accounts being finally adjusted after the close of the year, when the value of the produce was known. This plan also had its drawbacks; and in 1830, the Collector took the average actual payments of four years (Fasli 1205 to 1238) as the standard amount of the Curnums' salaries for the whole District, making however but little alteration in the rates of

\* Lands..... 1,08,439  
Fees..... 15,622  
Rupees..... 1,24,061

salaries, which range from 6 to 7½ Rupees per mensem and are paid monthly. The present cost of the Curnum establishment is Rupees 84,460½, and the average annual value of the lands and fees Rupees 1,24,051.\*

4. The revised Establishment will cost Rupees 1,04,388, the salaries ranging from 6 to 9 Rupees a month in the irrigated, and from 7 to 9 in the unirrigated, villages.

5. The Vetties of Tanjore are regarded by the Mirassidars as their private servants. A similar claim to the services of the Taliaries has already been admitted† by Government, and a different course cannot be followed in respect to the Vetties. They are remunerated by fees deducted from the gross produce and valued at Rupees 25,363 per annum.

6. Mr. Pelly proposes that Government should relinquish all claims to the services of the Vetties, and in consideration of this, resume a moiety of the fees, inasmuch as these were a joint contribution of the Government and the Ryot. The present Vetties being thus resigned to the Mirassidars, it is necessary to employ others who shall be exclusively servants of the State. The cost of this establishment will be Rupees 42,696, the pay of the men being uniformly 3 Rupees per mensem.

7. The entire cost of the revised village establishments of Tanjore will thus be:—

|                 | Rs.      |
|-----------------|----------|
| Pottails ... .. | 75,924   |
| Curnums ... ..  | 1,04,388 |
| Vetties ... ..  | 42,696   |

Total per annum... 2,23,008

8. The assets already pointed out amount to Rupees 2,05,923, viz.:-

|                              | Rs.             |
|------------------------------|-----------------|
| Potails' salaries ... ..     | 69,191          |
| Curnums' do. ... ..          | 1,08,429        |
| Do fees ... ..               | 15,622          |
| Vetties' do. (moiety) ... .. | 12,681          |
|                              | <u>2,05,923</u> |

The deficit is thus Rupees 17,085. There are however various other funds available

9. When the assessment was fixed, deductions were made from the gross produce for fees to officials who are either no longer required, or who are (like the Vetties) claimed by the Mirassidars, as their private servants. In both cases, Government may fairly reclaim a moiety of the deductions as their share of the original joint contribution. The following are the assets from these sources:-

|                                  | Rs.           |
|----------------------------------|---------------|
| Doctors and Patakarens* ... ..   | 6,500         |
| Neeranikums† ... ..              | 5,895         |
| Taliaries‡ ... ..                | 22,829        |
| Taliaries land assessment ... .. | 776           |
|                                  | <u>36,000</u> |

The two last items belong to the Police, rather than Revenue. Mr. Cadell states that the extra demand on account of the resumption of the Government share of these fees will be very light, and will be cheerfully paid by the people, in consideration of the present Vetties, Neeranikums and Taliaries being declared to be their own servants.

10. Another source of income is the Nat Curnum Fund. These officers are peculiar to Tanjore, and are paid by a distinct cess on the Mirassidars who "have always cheerfully paid" it, seeing that it is devoted to the remuneration of so useful a class of Native servants. Formerly, Nat Curnums themselves collected their fees; in 1820 the Collector commuted these fees into a cess which was collected with the assessment, the Curnums being paid from the Treasury; and in 1851 the cess was incorporated with the general Revenue by Order of Government.

11. The changes which have since occurred, viz., the abolition of the Oolungoo Settlement, the simplification of accounts, &c., render the assistance of these servants less necessary now than formerly. Mr. Pelly would retain 113 of them at a cost of Rupees 13,560 for another year, while Mr. Cadell wishes to retain 30 more at a further cost of 4,440 per annum. The cess amounts to Rupees 34,845, so that whichever course is pursued there will be a considerable surplus. It seems to the Government that with new establishments, enlarged Taluqs, and all the other changes in progress the most prudent course is to allow the few extra servants proposed by Mr. Cadell for another Fasli, the subject to be reported upon at the close of the year.

12. The various items above mentioned amount, exclusive of the Taliary emoluments, to Rupees 2,53,163, while the charges, inclusive of the 143 Nat Curnums which the Collector proposes to retain for the present, amount to Rupees 2,41,008, leaving a net surplus of Rupees 12,155. The Government sanctioned the new arrangement subject to the condition mentioned above in paragraph 11 in respect to the Nat Curnums, and grant authority for its being carried out in the current Fasli.

|                                |                 |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|
| § Village Establishments ..... | 2,23,008        |
| Nat Curnums .....              | 18,000          |
| Rupees .....                   | <u>2,41,008</u> |

13. The Taliary emoluments should be credited to the new Police Department.

(True Extract.)

Chief Secretary.

To the Honorable C. Pelly.  
 „ Board of Revenue.  
 „ Judicial Department.  
 „ Accountant General.  
 „ Civil Paymaster.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

