

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 37

Press
Mis.

69-71

Dated

8

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1861.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
8th January 1861.*

Read the following papers:—

No. 69. Memorandum from H. NEWILL, Esq., Director of Revenue Settlement, to J. D. BOURDILLON, Esq., Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, dated Madras, 31st October 1860, No. 1,127.

1. The form of account for the new Settlement appended to the printed Proceedings of Board of Revenue, dated 9th instant, No. 4,629, "Details of measurements of Revenual Fields," differs from the authenticated MS. copy previously received in the introduction of a column in which are to be included the measurements of the sides of the fields in four lines, viz., for North, South, East and West.

2. This possibly may be an oversight, but if not, I beg leave to observe that if the details of the measurement of each side of the fields are to be entered according to the printed form, it will increase the number of lines in the statement four times at least, and thus make the account more than four times the bulk. The sides of the fields are not, as already explained in my letter of 8th September last, No. 856, in all cases the data of the calculation of the area, and where the fields are measured, as they often are, in taks, the four dimensions of each tak* must be given, thus again doubling, trebling or quadrupling the space, without, as appears to me, any advantage to be gained from such voluminous detail of measurement, which, as I have already observed, more properly belongs to the field book, and not to the assessment account.

3. If four extra columns are opened for these dimensions, it will make the statement inconveniently large, and require probably larger paper than foolscap which may not be available in the requisite quantity, and the above objection will not be otherwise removed altogether.

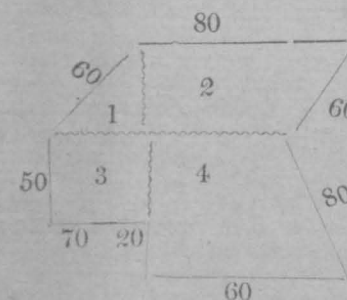
4. For the minor numbers of interstitial fields (if it is decided that they are to be entered in the account) a column must of necessity be opened, as the old numbers are often most irregular, and not always forthcoming, and again several such holdings are part of one and the same old number which again may not be one field within a continuous boundary, but consist of several separate patches.

5. These circumstances show the impracticability of retaining the old numbers in all cases, and considering that the new numbers which are adopted in the demarcation and classification accounts and in the maps and field books, must be the basis of all future account, it seems to me more than questionable as to whether the complication which will be introduced by entering the irregular old numbers should not be dispensed with altogether.

6. The first of these points on which practical objections were stated in my letter of 8th September, has been passed over in the Board's Proceedings without any mention whatever of these objections, and it appears necessary that they should be brought to notice before orders are passed by Government.

7. I would also solicit attention to the question in paragraph 3 of my letter, as to whether the minor measurements are to be considered unalterable in the same way as the professional Survey measurements, and the conclusion to be arrived at from its solution.

APPENDIX.



To enter $60+50=110$ as the length of the west side would be a positive error as regards the calculation of area, or any representation of the dimension of these two sides, and such an erroneous account would be altogether inconsistent with the character of the professional Survey. In the same way $70+60=130$ for the south side would be glaringly erroneous, and more or less the same irregularity would prevail throughout.

(Signed) H. NEWILL,
Director of Revenue Settlement.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
8th January 1861.*

No. 70. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 1st November 1860, No. 5,042:—

Read Memorandum from the Director of Revenue Settlement, dated 31st October 1860, No. 1,127.

(In Cons. 1st November 1860, No. 5,576.)

1. The form referred to by Mr. Newill was erroneously printed; on the mistake being discovered a few days ago, a correct form was sent to the Press and has just been printed. In the correct form, the columns objected to by Mr. Newill in paragraphs 1 to 3 of his Memorandum are omitted.

2. As regards paragraphs 4 to 7 the Board observe that in the correct form there are columns for both the old and new numbers of fields, the retention of the former being in the opinion of the Board absolutely necessary for the interests of the people, whose private documents, such as mortgage deeds, bills of sale, &c., are prepared according to them and not according to the new numbers assigned to the fields by the Survey and Settlement Department.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. D. SIM, *Secretary.*

No. 71.

ORDER THEREON, 8th January 1861, No. 37.

Ordered that the above papers be recorded with reference to the Order of Government, dated 17th December 1860, No. 2,429.

(Signed) J. D. SIM,

Acting Secretary to Government.

No. 4,629.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 9th October 1860.

Read letter from the Director of Revenue Settlement, dated 8th September 1860, No. 856, regarding the mode in which the new Settlement should be recorded.

(In Cons., 6th October 1860, No. 5,045.)

1. The Board have given this important subject their careful consideration, and have discussed it with Mr. Newill personally. The following are the conclusions at which they have arrived:—

First.—The Register should be in English with printed headings. It is intended to be the record of the ultimate results of the Survey and Assessment, and the standard of reference for years to come. It is important, therefore, that it should be in English, both for the convenience of the Collector, and to render it more difficult to tamper with it. As under the standing orders of Government, the numerical entries must all be in English figures, the completion of the Register in English will involve little additional labor. What little extra labor it may entail will be fully counterbalanced by the above advantages, and also by the circumstance of the Director being thus enabled personally to scrutinise its entries, instead of doing this through the intervention of readers.

Second.—The revenue fields whether interstitial or not should be entered. The Survey is a revenue one; these revenue fields are the estates of the people, and the assessment, &c., is on them. The survey blocks are merely Departmental allotments, adopted for convenience, but unknown to the people who have no concern with them. To omit the former and insert the latter would deprive both Government and the people of much of the advantages of the survey.

Third.—Where new numbers have been given to the interstitial fields, these must be inserted in the Register, as well as the *old* numbers: these last will appear in existing leases, mortgages and other similar documents.

Fourth.—The Taram of the land should be stated, as the people are more familiar with this mode of classification than with one of money rates only.

Fifth.—The denomination of the land whether Government or Inam, tank road or village site irrigated, &c., should be shown.

Sixth.—The nature of the irrigation, whether tank, channel, &c., should be entered and double-crop land should be distinguished.

Seventh.—A *bi-f me noir* should be attached to the Register of each village. This will be the explanatory record of the Director's reasons for his assessment, and will be extremely useful for future reference. In this will properly appear the considerations which led the Director to place a particular village in a higher class than its neighbors, and other similar information.

Eighth.—The registered *Puttadars'* names should be entered, and if in any particular case the right of possession is disputed, a note should be added simply stating that the title is disputed.

Ninth.—The Register should be prepared in duplicate, and should be prepared on good English paper, and be clearly written. The original will be bound and preserved in the Collector's Office, and the authenticated duplicate in that of the Board. No alterations will be allowed without the written order of the Collector, and the previous sanction of the Board. Vernacular copies will be made for the use of his village Officers.

2. The Register thus prepared may involve more time and expense in preparation than the form proposed by Mr. Newill, but it will be a complete record of the survey, useful alike to Government and the people, the Revenue Officers and the Courts. Considering the character of the survey and its expense, it would be bad economy to be satisfied with a less perfect record. Some of the details may, of course, be obtained from the Field books, but in fact all that the Register is to contain may be gathered in the same way from the current records of the Survey or Assessment Departments. What is wanted is a genuine document comprising within itself, in a convenient form, all the information required by Government and the people.

N^o 37
 Proceedings of the Madras Government
 Under date the 8th January 1864.

Read the following Papers.

From the Secy of Rev. Settlement.

Regarding the form of account
 proposed by the Board of Revenue (Here enter 31 Oct/63 N^o 1127)
 in their Proceedings of 9th Instant
 for the record of the new Settlement.

Pro of the Board of Revenue.

Submitting certain ex- (Here enter Nov. 1863 N^o 5067)
 planation regarding the form
 of account proposed for the re-
 cord of the new Settlement.

Ordered that the

above papers be recorded
 with reference to the
 order of June 7 17th
 December 1860 N^o 2429.

MS *RS*

note.
 From the Secy of Rev. Settlement
 the papers I have the
 honor to bring them
 on the Proceedings
 of the 9th Instant.

3. Orders will be separately issued for the guidance of Collectors in registering charges of possession, &c., occurring hereafter.

4. A form of Register as proposed by the Board is appended. Any improvements which may suggest themselves to the Director as the work progresses will be readily considered by the Board, and they request that Mr. Newill will commence operations as now proposed, and send them as soon as possible a complete Register, Memoir, Map, &c., of one village to be laid before Government for their information, and final decision as to the form of Register to be universally adopted. The Board think this will be the best practical mode of settling the question, which is one of great importance. The special Establishment required, if any, and all other working details can be considered at the same time, and the whole matter be decided in a single reference.

(A true Extract.)

(Signed) J. D. SIM,
 Secretary.

To H. Newill, Esq., Director of Revenue Settlement.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

Survey Number. New numbers (if any) of Revenue or interstitial fields.		Old number of Revenue or interstitial fields.	Description of the field.	Whether irrigated or not, and how.	Description of soil.	Extent of each field.	Taram and rate.	Amount of assessment.	Cultivated or waste.	Pottadar.	Remarks.
A.	C.	CLASS.	R.	A.	P.	R.	A.	P.			

(Signed) J. D. SIM,
 Secretary.

Exd. J. Wright.

Regarding the form of
account for the record of
the new Settlement.

Feb 27/71.

Revenue 1861 Dept.
No: of Govt for January.

Feb 27.

No: of the old and new
for January 1861.

Regarding the form of
account proposed by the
Board of Revenue for the
record of the new settle-
ments, recorded.