

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 970

Press

~~Mis.~~

170-171

Dated

10 - 5 - 1865.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
10th May 1865.*

No. 170. Read the following letter from R. E. MASTER, Esq., Officiating Director of Revenue Settlement, to J. D. SIM, Esq., Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, dated Madras, 28th April 1865, No. 431-18:—

SIR,

1. Referring to my letters marginally noted, I have the honor to report, for the information of Government, the result of the enquiries made during my recent visit to Masulipatam, into the

12th December 1864, No. 1,457.
5th January 1865, " 24.

extent of damage caused by the cyclone of the 1st November last, both to the records of the Settlement Department and to the lands of the villages on the coast, as well as the measures which I propose to adopt to repair the damage.

2. The villages in which the Settlement operations have suffered, or are impeded, may be divided into two classes, viz., 1st, those in which the lands have been actually injured by the inundation; and 2nd, those in which the classification registers have been lost. The following Statement exhibits the particulars in a Talookwar form for the Masulipatam portion of the District, and shews also the total number of villages to be settled and the number in which there is no obstacle to the introduction of the Settlement:—

TALOOKS.	Villages, the accounts of which have been lost.		Villages, the lands of which have been injured by the inundation.		Villages in which there is no impediment to the introduction of the Settlement.		Total number of villages.	
	No. of vil-lages.	Area.	No. of vil-lages.	Area.	No. of vil-lages.	Area.	No. of vil-lages.	Area.
		Acres.		Acres.		Acres.		Acres.
1. Bandar	17	62,358	48	98,943	6	5,914	71	1,67,215
2. Gudivada	28	51,887	28	44,244	146	1,43,245	202	2,39,376
3. Bezwada	...	...	...	...	72	98,491	72	98,
4. Nandigama	...	...	...	...	119	2,29,836	119	2,29,
5. Tirvur	1	8,596	...	...	...	...	1	8,596
Total	46	1,22,841	76	1,43,187	343	4,77,486	465	7,43,514

3. A similar Statement follows for the Guntoor portion of the District, the preparation of the Settlement Report on which has been deferred with the sanction

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of Government, pending the receipt from the Survey Department of the correct areas.

TALOOKS.	Villages, the ac- counts of which have been lost.		Villages, the lands of which have been injur- ed by the inun- dation.		Remaining villages.		Total number of villages.	
	No. of vil- lages.	Area.	No. of vil- lages.	Area.	No. of vil- lages.	Area.	No. of vil- lages.	Area.
		Acres.		Acres.		Acres.		Acres.
1. Bapatla ...	60	2,37,073	...	...	44	1,90,867	104	4,27,940
2. Rapelli ...	37	1,25,070	7	24,100	86	2,11,591	130	3,60,761
3. Guntoor ...	6	15,203	...	...	97	2,68,709	103	2,83,912
4. Palnad ...	...	...	...	...	90	4,53,114	90	4,53,114
5. Krosur ...	123	2,68,041	...	...	32	51,993	155	3,20,036
6. Rajapet ...	3	10,357	...	...	90	3,66,454	93	3,76,811
7. Vinukonda ...	...	...	...	...	51	3,15,031	51	3,15,031
Total ...	229	6,55,744	7	24,100	490	18,57,761	726	25,37,605

4. It will be observed that in the Masulipatam portion of the District, 76 villages, aggregating 1,43,187 acres or 224 square miles, have suffered from the inundation; and that in the Guntoor portion seven villages, covering 24,100 acres or 38 square miles, have been similarly affected. I was at first under the impression that it might be necessary to re-classify these villages; but on further enquiry, and after personal inspection of some of them, I have arrived at the conclusion, that this operation is neither necessary nor desirable, and in this opinion the Collector of the District fully concurs. The lands have been injuriously affected by the sea water and by the deposit of salt mud which the flood brought with it. The crops on the ground at the time of the inundation were totally destroyed, and large remissions have consequently been granted in the current Fusly. Next season's crops will doubtless be but poor, and several years will probably elapse before the saline matter is thoroughly washed out and the lands recover their former condition. That the injury sustained, however, is but temporary, and that the lands will eventually recover, is universally admitted; and it is therefore obviously inexpedient to npt a re-classification according to the present condition of the soil, with a view to the imposition of an assessment, which, if not permanent, is intended to remain unchanged for many years. I recommend, and Mr. Thornhill agrees with me in the recommendation, that the new Settlement be introduced in the inundated villages in the same manner as in the rest of the District; that the Ryots be informed that the assessment imposed is the amount which will be payable on their fields when the latter have recovered their former condition; and that, with reference to the deterioration resulting from the inundation, they will receive temporary indul-

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gence from the Collector, in the shape of per-centage remissions, as long as it may be required.

5. On again referring to the Tabular Statements it will be seen that the accounts for 46 villages in the Masulipatam portion of the District, aggregating 1,22,841 acres or 192 square miles, have been lost; as well as those for 229 villages in the Guntoor portion, aggregating 6,55,744 acres or 1,025 square miles. Accounts are partially forthcoming for ten of the Masulipatam villages, and for 68 of those in Guntoor, that is to say, the Classification Registers for these villages have been recovered in an imperfect state. In the latter villages, partial, and in all the others, entire re-classification will be necessary. For this purpose I propose to organize an extra classification party of the requisite strength, and to place it under Mr. J. H. Cox, now first Assistant in the Cuddapah and Kurnool Party, re-placing him by Mr. Embley, whose services will probably be no longer required in Nellore. Mr. Cox has had considerable experience in classification and may safely be entrusted with the work. His attention will be given in the first instance to the Masulipatam villages, which are comparatively few in number, and there will be no difficulty in completing their re-classification in sufficient time, to admit of the new Settlement being introduced in them at the same time as in the rest of the District, during the Jamabundy of Fusly 1275.

6. On receipt of an intimation of the approval of Government, I will at once carry out the measures above described; and in the meantime Mr. Cox has been warned that he will probably be required to proceed to the Kistna.

No. 171.

ORDER THEREON, 10th May 1865, No. 970.

Land Revenue.

The arrangements proposed by Mr. Master, are approved.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. D. SIM,

Secretary to Government.

To the Officiating Director of Revenue Settlement,
,, the Board of Revenue.

Exd. T. O'Connor.

The arrangements pro-
posed by Mr. Master
are a threat.

W. 970

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Front St. George's
100. May 1865.

13. F. the 1st of May
14. the Board of the 1st

Pro 21 Jan'y/65 Wm
200 @ 205-

Rev = 1865 Dept
Dir: of Genl. & May
W. 1128

From
The Offg. Dir. Res. Lett.
To: The Secy to Government
Revenue Dept

Of 28: April/65
Ref 1st May -

W. 431
18.

Re: 10 May
Reporting the result of the
enquiries made during his
visit to Musulputam into
the extent of damage caused
by the cyclone of the 1st Nov.
lost both to the records of the
Sett. Dept. and to the lands
of the villages on the coast
as well as the measures
proposed to be adopted to
repair the damage.

With an Order

170-171

Ct May, 1865 P. 6.