

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	265	Press ~~Mis.~~
⁵⁴⁴⁻⁴⁵ Dated	31-1-	1868

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
31st January 1868.*

No. 544. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 21st January 1868, No. 480:—

Read the following letters:—

From the Collector of Cuddapah, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 4th September 1867, No. 121.

With reference to Board's Official Memorandum as per margin, I have the honor to inform you that I have had the convenience of the people of this district when locating officers always before me, and as with the small assistance I now have, not having an Assistant at all, I have the honor to inform you that I consider my Head Assistant must remain at head quarters, which are very central for his three talooks, Sidhout, Badvel, and Pullampett.

From the Acting Collector of Nellore, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 6th September 1867, No. 716.

1. I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your Official Memorandum No. 893, dated 27th August 1867, requesting me to report whether there are any special reasons which render it advisable that the Head Assistant Collector should be retained at head quarters, and if not, at what place I would propose to locate that Officer, having in view the convenience of the people, and the best distribution of the Revenue Ranges of the district.

2. The Head Assistant is the only Officer at head quarters invested with full Magisterial powers, who is competent to assist the Magistrate in the disposal of the large number of cases on his criminal file. With the present lack of men to fill appointments, and the early promotion that prevails in the service, I do not anticipate that any Assistant will be left long to a Collector after he has become qualified to be invested with full powers of a Magistrate. There is, at present, but one Assistant Collector in this district, and he was recently, at my recommendation, invested with the powers of a first class subordinate Magistrate. He will have to exercise these powers for six months before he can be invested with full powers.

3. The Government have declined to invest the Treasury Deputy Collector with any Magisterial powers, and they also negatived a proposal of mine to invest a few of the most intelligent and efficient of the Sub-Magistrates with first class powers, because they had not passed the tests. There is not a single Sub-Magistrate in this district invested with first class powers. The Assistant Magistrate and the Deputy Magistrate appointed to general duties, and stationed at Naidoopet, have therefore abundant work in disposing of all cases in the Principal Division within the jurisdiction of a first class Sub-Magistrate. Unless, then, the Magistrate has the aid of the Head Assistant at head quarters, he will have himself to take up and try all cases in three talooks and three divisions, cognizable by a Magistrate exercising full powers. This would necessarily occupy daily a very large portion of his time, and I would submit that the Revenue administration of the district would

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probably suffer in consequence. If the Magistrate could always have an Assistant at head-quarters invested with full powers, and if a few of the Sub-Magistrates could be invested with first class powers, there would remain no objection that I am aware of to the Head Assistant being stationed within his own division.

4. The Head Assistant has the Revenue and Magisterial charge of two talooks, Kavali and Udiyagiri, and in addition the Magistrate charge of a third, Atmakur. The area, population, and revenue of these talooks are shewn below :—

Name.	Area.	Talook population.	Revenue in Fusly 1276.	Population of Cusbah town.
	Miles.			
Kavali... ..	59½	65,336	1,60,708	2,185
Udiyagiri	862	91,583	69,677	3,226
Atmakur	500	90,771	2,39,059	2,330

5. The distance of each Cusbah town from Vellore, and the distance from each other, is given below :—

Nellore to Kavali...	34
Do. to Udiyagiri ...	59
Do. to Atmakur	28
Udiyagiri to Kavali ...	48
Kavali to Atmakur	34
Atmakur to Udiyagiri ...	31

6. If hereafter it should be considered desirable that the Head Assistant should reside within his own division, the best place at which he could be located in my opinion would be Kaligiri, a town, where population is 1,454, about equidistant from Kavali, Udiyagiri, and Atmakur. This was formerly the Cusbah of an abolished talook, and a Tahsildar and old Head of Police used to be stationed here, and roads are under contemplation for connecting it with Nellore, Kandukur, &c.; of course it would be necessary to build an Office here for the Head Assistant, and he would further be obliged to build a house for himself.

7. Under present arrangements, though the Head Assistant makes his head quarters at Nellore, he is in the habit of making quarterly tours through his three talooks.

From the Collector of Coimbatore, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 4th November 1867, No. 296.

1. In reply to your Official Memorandum, dated 27th August 1867, No. 893, I have the honor to state that, as the hills are, I understand, to be separated from this district, and constituted a separate agency, the absence of the Collector from head quarters here will not be so frequent or prolonged as it necessarily has been hitherto, and consequently the presence of an Officer of a Head Assistant's experience will not be so much required as it is now. I trust, however, that if the Board determine that the Head Assistant should live out in the district, they will not insist on the step until the change above alluded to has been made, and the Collector has been relieved of all the hill work, which is a source of greater anxiety and trouble than the whole of the low country.

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2. Still, after these changes have been carried out, I would advocate the retention of the Head Assistant Collector at head quarters, as the Collector will then be enabled to move about the district freely, and see what is actually being done. Coimbatore requires that the presence of the Collector should be more felt in all parts of the district than has hitherto been the case.

3. Roads and Public Works of all kinds would then get an impetus, which they have long required, and fortunately, when it is likely that the Collector will have more time on his hands to move about, the ways and means, for the improvement of roads and irrigation works, in the shape of funds, are also becoming available.

4. It is probable that, when the hills are separated from the district, a re-distribution of the existing charges will have to be made, but it will be time enough to consider this when the changes take place. The Head Assistant Collector will most likely have charge of Poollachy and Oodoomulpettah Talooks, and will have to live at Poollachy; but as there is no house for him there, it will be advisable to retain him at head quarters until one is provided.

5. Poollachy is the nearest Cusbah station to the Annamallay Hills on which several Europeans are now settled, and is consequently the most appropriate locality for the European Assistant to take up his quarters. It also possesses the advantage of being centrally situated, and within easy reach of Coimbatore.

6. As I expect to go home early in April next on sick certificate, if I can hold on till then, when I presume the separation of the hills will take place, I hope no change of the Head Assistant Collector's station will be made before that time, as I have much work on hand which I am anxious to complete ere I leave, and which, if left unfinished, will give my successor considerable trouble. If the Head Assistant Collector is removed, I shall not be able to finish this work, as much current work, now conducted by him, will devolve on me. I have an unpassed Assistant and Deputy Collector, but I need not point out that, under existing rules, unpassed men are a greater source of responsibility than assistance.

7. At present the burden of the work, no light *burden*, connected with the Municipality in Coimbatore, is performed by Mr. Galton, Head Assistant Collector, who also has to look after Pothanore Railway Station cases as Justice of the Peace, in the event of any Europeans being criminally brought before him.

1. The foregoing letters have been received in answer to an Official Memorandum No. 893, issued in accordance with the directions of the Board to the Collectors of Cuddapah, Nellore, and Coimbatore, and requesting them to report whether any special reasons existed for the retention of the Head Assistant Collector at head quarters; and if not, at what place in each district he should be located, with a view to the convenience of the people, and the best administration of the Revenue Ranges of the district.

2. The Board have for some time been of opinion that the Head Assistant should, wherever possible, reside within the talook under his charge; and they are unable to gather from the letters in which the three Collectors addressed on the subject have given their reason for his retention at head quarters, any sufficiently weighty to induce them to alter their previous opinion.

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3. They resolve, therefore, to submit these letters to Government for their consideration and orders.

4. The Collectors urge the amount of Magisterial work which will be thrown on their hands in the event of the removal of the Head Assistant from head quarters, as a principal reason for retaining him there; but the Board would observe that, as a Collector, when going out into his district for any lengthened period, can always call in his Head Assistant; so when he has no Assistant with full powers to assist him in Magisterial work he can do the same as a temporary measure, reporting that he has done so.

5. In the event of Government acquiescing in the view taken by the Board on this subject, they would suggest that the Head Assistant of Nellore should be stationed at Naidoopet with charge of the Zemindary tracts, as well as one or two adjoining Government talooks. The Deputy Collector now at Naidoopet might be removed to Kaligiri.

6. The Coimbatore Head Assistant might go to Errode, which, now that it is the place of junction of the Madras and Great Southern of India Railways, will probably become an important place. The Deputy Collector who would be displaced might be removed to Poollachy.

7. The Collector of Cuddapah will be requested to name a fitting station for his Head Assistant.

No. 545.

ORDER THEREON, 31st January 1868, No. 265.

Miscellaneous.

Before passing orders on this proposal, the Government desire to receive any remarks that the Collectors of

Nellore and Coimbatore may wish to offer on the stations selected by the Board for their Head Assistants.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,

Secretary to Government.

To the Collector of Nellore.
,, the do. of Coimbatore.
,, the Board of Revenue.

Ed. F. R. Bantleman.

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List. 1 Copy to the Collector Nellore
1 Copy to the Collector Coimbatore
1 Copy to the Board of Revenue
31st January 1868

20-12-90
20-10-92
29-5-94

From the Collector for Nellore
of 18-12-90 No. 599.

To Board of Revenue
for consideration.

For D. O. No. 3602
of 29-1-69. 258
Re to 15-4-69-1291.
Per f. n. 3745/94

No 544 & 545.

Recd. 1868. Department.
Pro: of Govt. for Nellore
No. 260.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

Dated 21st January 1868.

Supd. 27-1-68
Recd. 28-1-68

No. 480.

Submitting to Government with expression of Board's opinion, letters from Collectors of Cuddapah, Nellore, and Coimbatore, assigning reasons for the retention of the Head Assistant Collector at Head quarters; suggesting the places at which the Head Assistant Collectors of Nellore and Coimbatore should be stationed in the event of Government acquiescing in view taken by Board on the subject, and requesting Collector of Cuddapah to name a fitting station for his Head Assistant.

No 260-31st Jan

Wm. C. J. L.