GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

MILITARY DEPARTMENT.

29th January 1886, No. 665.

Pay and Allowances—House-rent.

Read the following paper :—

No. 402. *From Colonel O. R. NEWMARCH, Officiating Secretary to the Government of India, Military Department, to Lieut.-Colonel A. KENNEY-HERBERT, Secretary to the Government of Madras, Military Department; dated Fort William, 21st January 1886, No. 136-B.*

Pay and Allowances.

With reference to the correspondence ending with your letter, No. 92, dated the 6th January 1886, regarding the scale of house-rent payable by Majors on the lower rate of pay for whom special quarters have not been built, I am directed to say, for the information of the Governor in Council, that when such Officers apply for and occupy Field Officers' quarters for their own convenience, they should pay the higher rate of rent; but when required to do so, from other quarters not being available or other reason, they should pay only the lower rate.

No. 403. ORDER THEREON, 29th January 1886, No. 665.

Communicated to the Provincial Commander-in-Chief and the Public Works Department, in continuation of Proceedings of Government, No. 6133, dated 3rd November 1885.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) A. KENNEY-HERBERT, Lt.-Col.,
Secretary to Government.

To the Quarter Master General.
" Controller of Military Accounts.
" Public Works Department, with a copy of Proceedings of Government, No. 6133, of 1885.

Exd. E. C. Shanker.

No 338 W a/ Feby 8. 1886

Communicated
to Supty Engineers &
the Examiner P. W. Accts

3/2/86

3.2.86

Govt. of (1886) Madras.

MILITARY.

To
THE QUARTER MASTER GENERAL,
&c. &c., &c.

2 FEB

Dated *January, 29th.*

Issued

Recd. 2/2/86 *Encl.* 1

G.O., 29th January 1886, No. 665.

No 338 W a/ Feby 8. 1886

JANUARY.
Nos. 402-403.

Pay and Allowances—House-rent.

Majors on the lower rate of pay.—Decision of the Government of India on the subject of the scale of house-rent payable by — for whom special quarters have not been built, communicated to departments concerned.

Supty Engrs
Exr. P. W. Accts

8/2/86

With order

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

MILITARY DEPARTMENT.

29th January 1886, No. 665.

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A. Kenney-Herbert Lt.-Col.,
Secretary to Government

To the Quarter Master General.
,, Controller of Military Accounts.
,, Public Works Department, with a copy of Proceedings of Government, No. 6133, of 1885.

Exd. E. C. Shunker.

Govt. of (1885) Madras.

MILITARY.

To
THE QUARTER MASTER GENERAL,
&c., &c., &c.

Dated November, 3rd.

Issued

Recd. *Encl.*

G.O., 3rd November 1885, No. 6133.

NOVEMBER.
Nos. 23—26.

Pay and Allowances—House-rent.

Harvey, Major, 2nd Battalion, South Wales Borderers.—Remission of the recovery from—of a charge made on account of rent of quarte at Secunderabad in 1883, sanctioned, and an explanation regarding the rates of rent charged called for by the Government of India.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

MILITARY DEPARTMENT.

29th January 1886, No. 665.

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A Kenney Herbert Lt.-Col.,
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To the Quarter Master General.
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Exd. E. C. Shunker.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

MILITARY DEPARTMENT.

3rd November 1885, No. 6133.

Pay and Allowances—House-rent.

Read the following papers :—

No. 23. *From Brigadier-General R. C. STEWART, Quarter Master General, to Lieutenant-Colonel A. KENNEY-HERBERT, Officiating Secretary to Government, Military Department; dated Ootacamund, 19th August 1885, No. 2682-A.*

Letter No. 2067 of 7th December 1883 (with eight enclosures) from General Officer Commanding, Hyderabad Subsidiary Force.
Letter No. 685 of 22nd July 1885 (with five enclosures) from Officer Commanding, 2nd Battalion, South Wales Borderers.

I am desired to submit, for the favorable consideration of Government, the correspondence as per margin in connection with an appeal made by Major Harvey, 2nd Battalion, South Wales Borderers, against a charge made on account of rent of quarters at Secunderabad in 1883.

2. During the months of August, September and October 1883 Major Harvey occupied Captain's quarters at Secunderabad, and for the whole of this period has been charged house-rent as a Major, though during August and September Field Officer's quarters were not available for him.

3. Under the provisions of Para. 2203, Madras Army Regulations, it seems clear that for these months he should not have been charged any more than the rent payable on the inferior quarters actually occupied by him.

4. On the 1st October 1883, however, Field Officer's quarters became available, but Major Harvey did not occupy them, because (1), being in receipt of the lower rate of Major's pay, he demurred to paying the full amount of a Major's house-rent which was payable on these quarters which had been built for Field Officers drawing the higher rate, and (2) his regiment being at the time under orders to move to the camp of exercise shortly after, he considered his case worthy of special consideration.

5. The Provincial Commander-in-Chief accordingly desires me to bring the matter before Government with his strong recommendation that, under the circumstances above explained, Major Harvey be granted a refund of the difference of house-rent (Rs. 75) claimed by him for all three months (August, September and October) during which he occupied inferior quarters.

6. General Rowlands, moreover, thinks it desirable that a general ruling to govern future cases should be obtained in respect to the scale of house-rent payable by Majors on the lower rate of pay for whom special quarters have not been built.

7. House-rent for officers generally was doubtless fixed with due regard to the allowances drawn by them, and as since then Majors on a lower scale of pay have been created, it would not seem equitable that those drawing this lower rate should pay the same house-rent as those in receipt of the higher rate.

G O no 2673 W/85

No. 24. *To the Secretary to the Government of India, Military Department; dated 26th August 1885, No. 4697.*

No. 25. *From Major-General G. CHESNEY, Secretary to the Government of India, Military Department, to Lieut.-Colonel A. KENNEY-HERBERT, Officiating Secretary to the Government of Madras, Military Department; dated Simla, 21st October 1885, No. 965-B.*

Pay and Allowances.

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your No. 4697, dated the 26th August last, forwarding, for the consideration and orders of the Government of India, correspondence relating to an appeal made by Major Harvey, 2nd Battalion, South Wales Borderers, against a charge made on account of rent of quarters at Secunderabad in 1883.

2. In reply I am to say, for the information of the Governor in Council, that the Government of India sanction the remission of the recovery from Major Harvey of Rs. 75 charged as the difference of rent between Captains and Field Officers' quarters for the months of August, September and October 1883, and to add that a decision on the general question raised in these papers will be given hereafter.

3. I am to inquire, however, why Rs. 45 and Rs. 70 were fixed as the rates of rent for Captains and Majors, as, the quarters being on the grade system, the rent charged should apparently be at the rate laid down for such quarters.

No. 26. ORDER THEREON, 3rd November 1885, No. 6133.

The sanction of the Government of India communicated to the Provincial Commander-in-Chief, with the request that the information desired by the Government of India in para. 3 of the letter read above may be afforded as early as practicable.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) A. KENNEY-HERBERT, Lt.-Col.,
Offg. Secretary to Government.

To the Quarter Master General.
" Controller of Military Accounts.

Exd. E. C. Shunker.

Public Works carefully to inspect the old irrigation works noted in the report and Statement, No. VIII., and to submit estimates for the repair of such of them as may be likely to yield a profitable return on the outlay. The Deputy-Collector estimates the cost of their restoration at Rupees 9,940, but this, I am inclined to think, is below the mark.

15. The proposals contained in paragraphs 33 and 34 having in view the abolition of "Minahas" or deductions in favour of privileged classes and the classifying and rating of Inam lands, to save trouble in the possible event of their resumption and to facilitate the calculation of local cesses, payable under Act IV. of 1871, appear judicious and do not call for remark.

16. In paragraphs 35 to 42 inclusive, the Deputy-Collector explains the effect on the revenue which his proposals, if adopted, are likely to have, and it is satisfactory to observe that the redistribution of the assessment which the scheme embraces whilst materially relieving those ryots who are overburdened with taxation and imposing but an equitable and moderate demand on those who have hitherto not contributed a fair share is likely to result in a large present augmentation of the public revenue, and ere long the extension of cultivation which is almost certain to follow the introduction of the new system will go to swell further the income of the State. From the Statement entered in the margin of paragraph 35 having reference to dry lands, it appears that the result of the introduction of the rates proposed will be a net increase of revenue to the amount of Rupees 4,911. In amani and hill villages where the burden of public taxation now presses the heaviest, there is a decrease of Rupees 834 as compared with the demand for Fasli 1282, whilst in mixed villages there is a slight increase equal to about 9 per cent. In the plough villages an increase of Rupees 5,092 appears, or 68 per cent. more than the demand for the above fasli under the plough system. This large increase is due to the simple fact that the ryots of these plough villages have hardly paid anything hitherto for the lands occupied by them. The Deputy-Collector points out that in only six villages the average assessment per cawny slightly exceeds Rupees 1, whilst in the others (exclusive of the seven hill villages) the average was less than 1 rupee, and in some "instances under 10 Annas per cawny. It will be observed from paragraph 37 that under the scale proposed, the average rate per cawny in Chekkady will be only Rupees 1-8-11, or less than the average of Trinomalai Taluq of which it forms a part, and considerably less than Mr. Ashton's rates. Had these been adopted, the increase would have been in dry revenue 68 per cent. whilst, according to the proposals under notice, it does not exceed 27 per cent. As Mr. Ashton has left on record that the assessment imposed by him was collected with ease, and that cultivation was extending under the settlement made by him, I think, that so far as the ryots are concerned, the more moderate proposals now submitted may be accepted without question. The rates will probably have to be raised hereafter, when the taluq is taken in hand by the Settlement Department, but I consider it very advantageous, having regard to the previous circumstances of the Estate, that this provisional and admittedly moderate settlement should have preceded the more exact operations of the regular department.

17. A reference to paragraph 38 will show how the hill villages will benefit by the introduction of the proposed system.

18. Adverting to the admittedly heavy demand on the ryot in the case of wet cultivation under the "Waraputh" or sharing system, the Deputy-Collector points out that at present the average rate per cawny is close upon Rupees 9, whilst it ranges as high as Rupees 14, and as indicated in paragraph 6 of this letter this is not the full measure of the ryots actual payments. In lieu of this a scale of rates has been proposed (*vide* Statement No. X.) which gives an average of Rupees 6-0-5 per cawny. This is less than the average wet assessment in the settled portion of the taluq by Rupees 0-2-8, and may, I think, be fairly accepted. A reference to the table entered in the body of paragraph 40 will show a deficit in the demand of Fasli 1282, on the area actually irrigated in that year to the extent of Rupees 111-4-3, but if that portion of the wet ayacut now actually occupied but cultivated with dry crops owing to the excessive rates leviable under the present system is under the proposed rates cultivated with wet crops the net increase will be Rupees 757-4-1. If the irrigation works on which these occupied lands depend are put in proper repair, there can be no reasonable doubt but that, under the proposed moderate rates, the ryots will avail themselves of the advantages of irrigation to the fullest extent.

19. The immediate benefits to the public revenue likely to result in the case of lands actually under occupation are given below :—

	Net increase. RS.
On dry lands	5,745
On wet lands	757
Total...	6,502

and if the culturable waste measured during the survey, but at present unoccupied is taken up, as it is likely to be, under the moderate terms proposed, a still further increase to the following extent will be brought to account :—

	RS.
Dry	6,797
Wet	325
Total...	7,122

Vide Statement appended to paragraph 41 of Stri Baliah's report. From paragraph 42 the Board will observe that the measurements made under the supervision of the Deputy-Collector do not include ¾ths of the area measured by Mr. Ashton, so that there is a considerable margin left for an eventual extension of cultivation as the demand for land increases.

20. In paragraph 44 the Deputy-Collector submits a scheme for the revision of village establishments in the Jaghire, the net financial results of which is an excess over present charges to the extent of Rupees 868, caused by the proposed entertainment of taliaries and toties. No village has at present a taliary, and very few have any provision for the remuneration of toties. I quite agree with Stri Baliah that each "vuttam" or group of villages should have a toty and taliary.

21. I can find nothing in the proposals submitted to alter or modify, and in forwarding them, for the Board's consideration, I would suggest that if the scheme has their approval, Government should be moved to pass orders in time to admit of the new settlement being introduced in the coming fasli. It will be apparent to the Board that to ensure the benefits which the proposed settlement seems to hold out, so far as the wet cultivation is concerned, the submission of an early report on the condition of the irrigation works is essential, and I trust it may be found possible to depute a special officer for the purpose. One of the Department of Public Works Ranges in this district has been without an officer since May 1873, so that it would be impossible for the present staff to undertake the task with any hope of performing it satisfactorily within a reasonable time.

22. In conclusion, I beg to bring to the favourable notice of the Board the able manner in which, without any additional establishment, Stri Baliah has performed the duty entrusted to him. He has, I know, given much anxious care and personal supervision to it, and has notwithstanding this extra call on his time, contrived to carry on his other work in a highly creditable manner. His division is admirably administered, nearly the whole of the revenue of 1282 was collected within the fasli; his correspondence file is free from arrears, and all information called for from his Office has been promptly supplied. It is with much pleasure that I avail myself of this opportunity just as I am about to leave the district, to leave on record a favourable opinion of the merits of this able and deserving officer, an opinion which I hope the Board of Revenue will feel themselves in a position to endorse.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From C. SRI BALIAH, Deputy-Collector on General Duties, South Arcot, to H. E. SULLIVAN, Esq., Acting Collector, South Arcot, dated Trinomalai, 13th December 1873., No. 531.

WITH reference to Government Order No. 38, dated 11th January 1873, and your letter No. 121, dated 12th February 1873, I have the honour to submit my proposals for the provisional settlement of Chekkady Jaghire, in Trinomalai Taluq.

2. As a preliminary to the report, I beg to submit a few observations on the system adopted by Mr. Ravenshaw in settling six* of the ten Hooloos Taluqs in the year 1808, as the Government direct that the rates prevailing in the settled adjoining taluqs should be introduced into the Jaghire. As shown in the Enclosures I. and II., Mr. Ravenshaw divided the soils in the district into eighteen varieties for wet, and twenty-six for dry. An estimate was then framed of the quantity of grain each different sort of soil would yield, and two or more varieties, whose productive power was assumed to be identical, because the estimated outturn was the same, were placed in one class; in this manner six classes were formed for wet and seven for dry; each class was then divided into three sorts, best, middling and lowest; but as the assessment imposed on the highest sort of one class was often the same as that imposed on the middling of the class immediately above it and on the lowest of the next higher class, the number of rates of assessment or *tarams* was only sixteen for wet and twelve for dry, inclusive of double crop, and doubtful of double crop lands. Of the estimated produce, which Mr. Ravenshaw himself admitted to be higher "than the lands yielded on an average," 50 per cent. was taken as the Government share; this was then commuted to money payments, at the rate of a pagoda for 5 Kallams.

* The other four were subsequently settled by Mr. Cunliffe on the principles of Mr. Ravenshaw's settlement.

Report to the Board of Revenue, dated 10th May 1808, paragraph 9.

There was a general reduction in the rates of assessment introduced in 1855, and the consolidated assessment on two crops was then swept away. The subjoined Statement gives the above particulars in one view :—

Class or Taram as per Mr. Ravenshaw's Settlement.		Estimated produce per Cawny.	Government share.	Money value of the Government share at 5 Kallams a pagoda.	Assessment as revised finally.	Present Class.	Remarks.
				RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.		
		KALLAMS.*	WET.				The first seven classes in wet were double crop and doubtful of double crop lands. These were transferred to one crop—*vide* Selections from Records No. XXII. Papers relating to the revision of assessment in South Arcot. The above remarks apply to the 1st and 2nd class lands in dry also.
VIII.	...	45	22½	15 12 0	11 13 0	VIII.	
IX.	...	40	20	14 0 0	10 8 0	IX.	
X.	...	35	17½	12 4 0	9 3 0	X.	
XI.	...	30	15	10 8 0	8 7 0	XI.	
XII.	...	25	12½	8 12 0	7 0 0	XII.	
XIII.	...	20	10	7 0 0	5 10 0	XIII.	
XIV.	...	15	7½	5 4 0	4 4 0	XIV.	
XV.	...	10	5	3 8 0	2 13 0	XV.	
XVI.	...	5	2½	1 12 0	1 7 0	XVI.	
			DRY.				
III.	...	30	15	10 8 0	4 4 0	2nd.†	† The present 1st class in Dry is the old garden land which pays a special rate of assessment viz. Rupees 7 per cawny.
IV.	...	25	12½	8 12 0			
V.	...	20	10	7 0 0			
VI.	...	18	9	6 4 9	3 12 0	3rd.	
VII.	...	15	7½	5 4 0	3 3 0	4th.	
VIII.	...	12	6	4 3 1	2 10 0	5th.	
IX.	...	10	5	3 8 0	2 7 0	6th.	
X.	...	8	4	2 12 10	1 15 0	7th.	
XI.	...	6	3	2 1 7	1 8 0	8th.	
XII.	...	4	2	1 6 5	1 0 0	9th.	

* *Kallam is equal to 36 Madras measures.*

3. The particulars connected with Mr. Ravenshaw's settlement are to be found in the paper of instructions issued by him to the Survey Amins, of which a translation was submitted to the Board of Revenue by the Collector Mr. Hyde, with his letter No. 57, dated 2nd May 1816. Much was doubtless left to the discretion of the Amins in determining the *sorts* of lands, and it would appear from paragraph 1 of the Rules for classing and assessing waste lands, that they were assessed one or two classes lower than cultivated fields of the same description and quality. Hence the inequalities noticeable in the present rates of assessment: these inequalities are more apparent in dry fields, although the assessment need not have fluctuated as in the case of wet lands, according to the nature of irrigation and the position of the lands in respect to it.

4. I have therefore thought it safer to test the soils in the fourteen settled villages surrounding the Jaghire to see if the rates prescribed in the instructions were actually imposed; I find a difference with a result on the whole favourable to the ryot. The rate on a particular soil is, on an average, that which, by the paper of instructions, should have been imposed on a soil two classes below in Dry and one class below in Wet. I do not think this is attributable entirely to any subsequent change in the soil; for I have invariably examined the sub-soil, about a foot below the surface. The rates in the settled villages have been examined, also with a view to obtain more satisfactory data for my calculations; for if they were based solely on the nature of the soil, the rates I should have to recommend for Chekkady would be higher than those prevailing in the surrounding villages; whereas there are special circumstances to be detailed hereafter, which require that the rates in the Chekkady Jaghire should be lower than those in the surrounding villages.

5. I wish to make a few remarks on one or two points connected with the present Revenue system which I find were not prominently noticed in the former correspondence on the subject. A reference to the enclosed Statement III. shows that the forty-four villages forming the Jaghire are held under three different systems of Revenue as regards Dry cultivation :—

(*a.*) In thirty-four villages,* the *plough* system prevails: *i. e.* the assessment is levied at the rate of 10 Rupees and 8 Annas for each plough and of 1 Rupee and 12 Annas for each axe, without any reference to the area cultivated;

* Plough villages.

(*b*.) In five villages* the *Amani* system, as it is called, prevails; *i. e.* the assessment is regulated by the extent of cultivation, but varies according to the nature of the crop raised with a deduction of 25 per cent. in favour of non-resident ryots;

* Amani villages.

(*c*.) In five villages† both the *amani* and *plough* systems prevail, and in these villages the anomalous character of the present system is more prominent; the lands lying side by side are held on the two different tenures, and as the average assessment in columns 7, 12 and 15, shows the amount paid under amani tenure is in no case less than treble that paid for the same kind of land held on *plough* tenure. The Statement shews further how the average assessment varies between the villages of the three different classes and between the lands of the same village in the mixed class. I would here add that the area of cultivation under the plough system is never registered, and that I am thus unable to obtain the average area so cultivated for a certain number of years. The extent of cultivation in Fasli 1282 had been obtained in the course of the recent measurement before agricultural operations for the current fasli commenced.

† Mixed villages.

Note.—The amani system prevails in the mother villages and the plough system in the hamlets.

6. In all villages where there is any wet cultivation, the practice regarding it is uniform; the produce is divided equally between the Government and the ryots after making certain deductions from the gross produce, to be hereafter noticed.

7. It is, I think, better to guard against the impression that the present "*barbarous*" system while it is admittedly injurious to the interests of Government, finds any favour with the generality of ryots. The powerful unquestionably like it for many obvious and cogent reasons; they have the greater portion of the Ayacut in their holdings; they cultivate different lands at pleasure without any danger of losing those allowed to lie fallow; for these are not available for cultivation by others so long as they are not formally given up; and land is seldom or never relinquished, for the assessment depends on the number of ploughs brought to account, and not on the extent of land cultivated or fallow in a ryot's holding.

The poor have invariably been the sufferers; the poor soil falls to them and there is scarcely in any village available open waste sufficient for a plough, which is not claimed by somebody; a poor ryot rarely cultivates more than 3 or 4 cawnies with his plough, and for this, he has to pay the enormous assessment of Rupees 10-8-0; the same sum his richer and more fortunate neighbours pay for 12 cawnies or more.

8. I have carefully examined the extent of the actual holdings in the plough village of Reddipolliem and the result fully bears out *my* view that the plough system, while it benefits the rich, is ruinously disastrous to the poor. The Monegar holds 115 cawnies and pays for only four ploughs or Rupees 42. He professedly cultivates about a moiety of the area every year, but it is more than probable that he cultivates a larger portion with a greater number of ploughs, which however, are not of course brought to account. It is simply idle to hope to cultivate more than 10 cawnies of dry land at the most with one *Pakka*‡ plough, and this is placed beyond all doubt by the average area for a plough, viz. cawnies 12-6-2 as shewn in Statement No IV.; this includes the occupied *fallow* which averages 25 per cent. of the holding. The Monegar and the Curnam are of the same caste and probably relations; and as most of the ryots are illiterate and subservient to the Monegar, no complaint is ever made about him or his holding; but I discovered in my examination of the fields that although he contributes but a 20th part of the beriz,§ he occupies ¼th of the whole area of the village including some of the richest lands.

‡ A Pakka plough has more than one pair of bullocks.

§ Rupees 796-9-8 for Fasli 1282.

The Statement marginally given shows how the holdings of the other ryots in the village vary; fifteen of them are within 10 cawnies a plough and there is but 5 Annas and 3 Pice of land in the *plough holding* No. 43, for which the assessment is Rupees 10-8-0; this unfortunate ryot pays for ⅓rd of a cawny exactly the same sum which the Monegar pays for 29 cawnies; to put it roughly, the ryot pays Rupees 5 and the Monegar pays Rupees 0-1-0 for the same extent of land.

PARTICULARS.	No.
Ryots holding above 25 cawnies a plough	2
Do. ,, above 20 ,, ...	4
Do. ,, above 15 ,, ...	8
Do. ,, above 10 ,, ...	13
Do. ,, above 5 ,, ...	13
Do. ,, below 5 ,, ...	2
Total ...	42

9. It is thus no wonder that, as remarked by Mr. Ashton, (hereafter to be noticed), the headmen of the villages petitioned for the old practice, when that gentleman introduced money rates. The above remarks apply more to Dry cultivation which is very extensive in Chekkady than to wet. I may here remark that such instances of occupying too large an area per plough, are by no means uncommon; I have come across several of them in other villages also.

10. In short, the defects of the present system may be summed up as follows:—

I. It opens a wide door for frauds; spare bullocks are generally used but never brought to account. In the days of the Jaghiredar the ryot paid 50 per cent. more per plough if spare bullocks were used;

II. It is repressive of industry and injurious to the ryot as he cannot use additional ploughs without incurring a liability to enhanced assessment. So when the rain falls, he ploughs as much land as he can with his one plough hurriedly and indifferently, and the cultivation is consequently inferior;

III. Many ryots are too poor to have a Rent Roll of Rupees 10-8-0 which is the minimum under the plough system, while in other and richer parts of the district, 67 per cent. of the ryots pay less than Rupees 10;

IV. The incidence of taxation is unequal in the same villages and on lands of the same quality.

(2) As to the *Nunjah Waraputh*, (*i.e.*,) division of produce when wet crops are raised, the baneful effects of the present Revenue system are even worse. Under the Jaghiredar the ryot's share of the produce was 30 *per cent. only*, but I am informed that this low rate of warum or ryot's share did not affect the cultivation, as the frauds on the part of the ryots were not generally noticed. They had certain grain fees also allowed them, so that altogether their share came to more than 50 per cent. After the assumption of the Jaghire there was apparently less scope for frauds; and the cultivation of the wet ayacut which is, however, comparatively limited in the Jaghire, was almost abandoned. In 1854, Mr. Hall, the Collector, raised the ryot's share to 50* per cent. but the wet cultivation did not extend perceptibly, and this is in a measure due also to the neglected condition of the irrigation works.

* *Vide* order to the Tahsildar of Trinomalai, No. 70, dated 17th October 1854.

11. With the limited establishment allowed to the Tahsildar, he is seldom able to provide for the necessary guard against the fraudulent removal of crops by the ryots; when the crop is not fraudulently removed before the arrival of the Revenue Inspector, it is often detained on the field for a long time before that ubiquitous official, who has many villages to look after, arrives to watch the interests of Government in the division of the crop; the ryots in the few villages where wet crops are raised complain of the loss they sustain by the detention of the crop, and urge that this disadvantage more than the equal division of the produce, induced them generally to give up wet cultivation.

12. Before proceeding to my recommendations, it is I think advisable to give a short account of what has as yet been done towards introducing money rates into Chekkadi.

This Jaghire with three† others was conferred on the 29th July 17[illegible]9 by the Nabob Wallaja Mahomed Ali Khan Bahadur on his Devan Syed Mahomed Assin Khan Bahadur in consideration of his long and faithful services, and on the assumption of the Carnatic in 1802, the Jaghire was renewed by the British Government in the name of the grantee's son Kallim Ullah Khan Bahadur on the 27th March 1802; *vide* Paravana annexed to the letter of Mr. W. Oliver, Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 29th August 1811.

† 1 Sankarapuram, in Kalakurchi Taluq.
2 Paliemcottah.
3 Kollamalai, in Chellumbram Taluq.

Owing to a dispute between Kallim Ullah Khan and his brothers, there was a civil action brought before the Supreme Court of Judicature at Madras againt Kallim Ullah Khan and the Honourable East

India Company, and under the Orders of the Court communicated through the Government Order No. 17, dated 27th April 1821, the Jaghire was placed under the Collector's management and the villages were rented out, till the Jaghire was finally resumed by Government in 1829—*Vide* Government Order dated 30th January 1829, communicated with the Board's letter, dated 16th February 1829.

13. In paragraphs 9 to 13 of his Jamabundy Report for Fasli 1247, dated 16th October 1838, No 89, the Collector, Mr. Ashton, reported that with a view to introducing a regular field assessment from that year (Fasli 1248) in Chekkady and Senkarapuram Jaghires, he had informed the villagers that they would be called upon to pay the Teerwah according to the area cultivated instead of on the number of ploughs and axes. In their Proceedings, dated 15th July 1839, paragraphs 16 to 20, the Board of Revenue disapproved of the measure generally on the ground that, though it might be advisable to introduce one uniform system of assessment, sufficient reasons had not been adduced to prove that circumstances had so far altered as to justify such a change; more particularly that its adoption would render the ryots liable for a demand of Rupees 3-8-0, when previously they had paid only 1 Rupee a cawny.

On the 8th August 1839 Mr. Ashton explained the unequal and inconsistent imposition of the tax, the arbitrary exaction of it on no defined principle from the poor cultivators; that he never intended to state that each cawny was subjected to a payment of 1 Rupee or indeed any fixed rate, but that such amount only was brought to account; that it was natural that the powerful should endeavour to uphold such a system, and that he did not suppose the cultivating ryots objected to the change; that the rates established in the Jaghire on the whole extent of cultivation had been easily collected during the fasli; that it would be difficult to revert to the old system; that if the rates ordered by him were thought to be excessive, they could be reduced in any degree, provided the assessment were put on the extent of cultivation which he accordingly earnestly advised. Before the receipt of this letter the Government, in their Order, dated 20th August 1839, communicated with the Board's Order of the 2nd March 1840, concurred in the Board's view urging the necessity of a field survey prior to the introduction of money assessment. A copy of paragraph 8 of the Government Order is given below for easy reference :—

"The remarks of the Board of Revenue expressed in the paragraphs noted in the margin on the pro- " position of Mr. Ashton to abolish the custom which " now obtains in thirty-two* villages in the Chekkady " and in several villages of Sankarapuram Taluq of levying the demand not on the extent of cultivation " or the species of produce, but on the number of " ploughs and axes supposed to be required for the " cultivation of the land, and to substitute in lieu of it an average Teerwah at the rate of 3½ Rupees " per cawny which he admits to be treble the amount of what the inhabitants have been accustomed to " pay, are extremely pertinent and deserving of attention; and the inference to be drawn from the fact " of a small proprietor being content with that mode of payment is by no means to be overlooked, and " although the present system is far from being the best, or such as his Lordship in Council approves " of, still as it is one to which the ryots of that part of the district have been long accustomed and " which it would appear they are unwilling should be changed, he concurs with the Board of " Revenue in thinking it inexpedient to subject the inhabitants at once to such a heavy tax, more " especially as it does not appear upon what data Mr. Ashton has gone when he concludes 3 Rupees to " 1½ to be the average rate per cawny, and a sum which they can be reasonably called upon to pay, " and approves of their order to him to suspend its collection. The attention of the Principal " Collector is particularly directed to the other orders of the Board of Revenue, conveyed in paragraph " 20 connected with this subject, with a view to their being carried into execution with as little delay " as possible."

17, 18, 19, 20 and 21.

* Only so many were then under cultivation.

14. In his Jamabundy Report, dated 20th August 1840, for Fasli 1249, (the second year of the introduction of money rates) Mr. Ashton expressed the impracticability of reverting to the plough system in the middle of the fasli year, and reiterated his application for sanctioning the change he had introduced, alleging that a much larger sum than that brought to account was collected by fraud and retained by the headmen, who in consequence petitioned for the old practice, and that the rates introduced by him were not too high, as the soil was excellent, and under their imposition the cultivation

had extended. The Board repeated their former objection, in their Order, dated 19th April 1841, and in a few days after Mr. Ashton left the district.

15. In the meanwhile, the third year of the introduction of money rates passed away, and orders were given for the return to the old system from Fasli 1251 by the Commissioner, Mr. Dent, on the 18th June 1841. He also gave orders for the preparation of a Comparative Statement showing the excess paid by the ryots under the change introduced by Mr. Ashton.

16. In reporting on Board's petition (No. 249 of 1842) and in reference to a letter from the Board, Mr. Hallet, in his letter No. 95, dated 28th November 1842, explained all that had taken place. The excess collected in the three years of the change was Rupees 7,997-12-0 which Mr. Hallet recommended should be reserved as a fund to be expended on the repairs of Anicuts and other irrigation works in the Chekkady Jaghire when the lands are taken up on a fieldwar assessment. He at the same time in concurrence with the views of Mr. Ashton, urged the necessity of introducing money rates. I subjoin his remarks which it would appear were passed by him after he had tested the survey made by Mr. Ashton.

Paragraph 11.—" Chekkady till lately was a *terra incognita*, it was assumed in 1829 but Mr. Ashton " was the first Collector who ever visited the country. I know that Mr. Ashton was struck with the " richness of its soil and its evident capacity. During last September, I took means to judge for " myself. I was surprised at the fertility, the superiority of the cattle, and openness of the country " compared with what I had expected. In the latter respect, the Taluqs of Chatput, Trinomalai, Tri- " kalur and Kalakurchi are not superior to it. I therefore do not hesitate to affirm that the time has " arrived when Chekkady together with the whole of the Jaghire of which it is a part, should be assessed " like the remainder of South Arcot; the necessity indeed of which the Government and Board have " acknowledged provided a survey be first concluded."

* * * *

Paragraph 12.—" I find it very advisable as the country is for ever assumed by our Government to " propose to introduce into the whole Jaghire of Senkarapuram (of which Chekkady forms a taluq) the " system of taxation prevailing in the remainder of the Soobah, and for reasons previously expressed I do " not intend to recommend any favor to be shewn towards Chekkady."

Paragraph 13.—" The late Principal Collector undertook the survey desired by the Board; he con- " ducted it free of all additional expense to Government, entirely by Taluq and Huzur servants, and I am " able to state that owing to his exertions and unceasing attention, it was finished in a manner superior " to the ordinary execution of such undertakings by extra temporary officers."

17. Mr Hallet proposed the rates marginally given; no answer was received to this letter notwithstanding that the Board's attention was again called to it, in Mr. Collector Davis' letter, No. 73, dated 1st September 1843. I would here observe that no records of Mr. Ashton's survey either of Chekkady or Senkarapuram are now available. The Cadjan records in your Office have been destroyed, and the Pymash Registers were evidently never copied on paper, as no effect had been given to the survey.

For wet lands.

7 Rupees for land where there is a channel only for irrigating.

8¾ Rupees for land where there is a tank supplied only by rains.

10½ Rupees for lands where there is a tank supplied by rain and river channel.

For dry lands.

2 Rupees for inferior quality and immemorial waste.
2½ Rupees for middling and waste within 10 years.
3 Rupees for the best and on sheikal lands.

18. The Statement in the margin gives in one view the beriz of the Jaghire villages under cultivation in the three years of Mr. Ashton's change, and in the year antecedent as well as subsequent to it. As I have already had occasion to remark, that the area under cultivation in plough system villages is not recorded, and it is likely that the increase in the beriz of the villages in the first year of the change (Fasli 1248,) is not entirely attributable to the introduction of high rates alone. But the cultivation could not have materially improved in one year in the thinly peopled and jungly tract, and the increase is, in my

Systems.	No. of villages.	Beriz of Fasli 1247.	Beriz in faslies under the change.			Beriz in Fasli 1251.
			1248	1249	1250	
Amani	5	468	506	560	599	558
Mixed	5	2,301	3,093	3,933	3,375	2,836
Plough... ...	25	1,920	4,054	4,321	3,800	2,114
Total...	35	4,690	7,654	8,815	7,776	5,509

opinion, mainly due to the increased rates. In the amani and mixed villages the rise in the beriz was not striking. In the former, there was a slight increase of revenue, viz., 8 per cent. The increase in the mixed villages was a little more than 34 per cent. over the beriz of the preceding year. In the plough villages, the beriz in several villages trebled and quadrupled, and the entire beriz was more than double what it was in the preceding year.

The whole revenue in all the Jaghire in Fasli 1248 was 63 per cent in excess of that in Fasli 1247.

19. Nothing further was done in the matter except that on the recommendation of Mr. Hall, the Collector, certain extra collections were dispensed with, a fixed rate of assessment, viz. Rupees 7 a cawny was sanctioned for *Punjah* garden lands and fasaljasti or second crop assessment on dry lands was abolished—*Vide* Board's Proceedings, dated 9th October 1854.

20. In 1855, the Chekkady and Sankarapuram Jaghires were surveyed by Colonel Priestley's party, but the work was so imperfectly done, that it was found impracticable within five years afterwards to proceed with the classification of the lands without a re-survey. The following remarks of the Director, Mr. Newill, are contained in his letter to Board, No. 369, dated 23rd April 1860, paragraphs 33 and 34—*Vide* Selections from the records of the Madras Government, papers relating to the General Revenue Survey, page 476; the lands in eleven villages were not measured at all.

Paragraph 33.—"It may be noticed in this place that the settlement of the Sankarapuram and "Chekkady " Jaghires in South Arcot surveyed by the Survey Department while on its experimental "footing has not been undertaken. They are detached far away from the general scene of operations, "and great doubts existed as to the survey fields being now traceable after the lapse of about five years. "Further enquiry was made on this and other points with the view to ascertaining whether the "assessment of these tracts might not be taken up without inconvenience to the general work. The "result is contained in the following report from my Deputy, dated 27th January 1860."

"Sankarapuram contains sixty-four villages of which the cultivated area has been entirely surveyed "and demarcated; but no traces remain of the field boundary marks, and large tracts of jungle that "have and, never been measured in detail have lately been brought under cultivation."

"Of forty-four villages in Chekkady, but twenty-four were entirely demarcated and surveyed, while "the scattered patches of cultivation only were measured in some, and in others any attempt to survey "was found impracticable. These two Jaghires contain 108 villages, with an area of cawnies "134,619, the cultivated portion of which has nearly doubled in extent subsequent to the survey of "Fasli 1264, and it appears to me to be but a waste of time to undertake the classification of the land "until the correct area of every field now cultivated and likely to be cultivated hereafter shall have "been correctly ascertained by the Survey Department."

Paragraph 34.—"The introduction, therefore, of the settlement in these tracts could not be satis- "factorily made without the further survey of the large additional extent of land subsequently brought "under cultivation, even supposing the surveyed fields could be re-traced in the absence of marks, and "there seems no alternative but to leave these Jaghires till the South Arcot District is taken in hand."

21. "The Board's attention was called to the unsatisfactory state of things in Checkkady lapsed Jaghire, in Government Order, No. 834, dated 31st March 1868, and they were requested to apply a speedy remedy to it: and the subject that had remained unnoticed for some years, was again mooted, and in the Board's Proceedings, No. 3,656, dated 16th May 1868, the Collector was desired to report on the existing state of affairs at Chekkady and suggest remedial measures.

Mr. Collector Reade took up the matter and collected materials for a report; he in Fasli 1279 introduced money rates which caused an immediate loss* of 39 per cent. on the preceding year's beriz, but I do not find that the sanction of the Board of Revenue or of Government was obtained; and in the following year, Mr. Reade ordered his temporary settlement to be abandoned and the old system reverted to.

* Beriz of Fasli 1279 Rs. 18,398. Amount remitted being difference of Teerwah according to old system and the fieldwar assessment Rs. 7,152, Difference 11,246.

I do not propose to follow Mr. Reade's principle, for he seems to have lost sight of the Board's Orders, dated 15th July 1839, and referred to in Government Order, quoted at length in paragraph 13 above. It was to the following effect:—

"It is desirable no doubt that Chekkady villages together with the rest of Kallim Ullah "Khan's Jaghire have been incorporated with the Circar lands, that one uniform system of assessment "should be introduced, but this can only be done by a regular survey conducted on the same principle as the rest of the district by Mr. Ravenshaw, and no time should be lost in commencing it."

Mr. Reade, divided the soils into but four classes, and introduced arbitrary rates, as detailed in the margin. The preparation of the registers and the classification of the soils entirely devolved on the Village Curnams. There was no supervision whatever on the part of the superior servants either in the Taluq or Hoozoor, and as reported in my letter, No. 307, dated 23rd July last, recorded in the Board's Proceedings, No. 1,515, dated 6th August 1873, the registers were nothing more than lists of lands *actually* cultivated in that year. No notice was taken of intervening waste or other cultivable lands and village common grounds, &c.

For Wet.
Rupees 6, 4, 3 and 2.
For Dry.
Rupees 2, 1½, & 1 and 8 Annas.

22. The registers have now been prepared afresh, the fields omitted to be measured in 1279 have now been brought to account, excluding hills and jungles and otherwise uncultivable tracts, and in several instances the entire villages had to be re-measured. The work was entrusted to the Revenue Inspectors and was revised by the Taluq Sheristadar. Along with the measurement the soils were also registered according to the category adopted by Mr. Ravenshaw. I inspected almost all the villages of the Jaghire. I did not go up the hills to inspect the limited area under cultivation in five out of the seven villages on them, and I can assure you that no pains were spared in registering the soils as correctly as possible.

23. Almost all the varieties of soil are to be found in the tract. It is in several places rich and fertile, as a large proportion of the people are by habit a pastoral tribe, and breed cattle largely, picketing them at nights in their fields. The country is, however, rugged and hilly, and throughout of uneven level, owing to hill streams which intersect it. The sub-soil, except in a few villages, is gravelly. The cultivation is liable to suffer most from want of rain, as the soil does not retain moisture owing to its uneven surface and to the sub-soil being hard.

24. I would here call attention to two Statistical Statements IV. and V., showing separately for Dry and Wet the ayacut, its cultivation in Fasli 1282 (the average area of wet cultivation has been obtained for ten years), the assessment levied in Fasli 1282, and the average assessment per cawny under the different systems now in force.

25. For purposes of settlement I have grouped the villages into three classes, those (14) held on amani and mixed tenures, and four of the plough villages where the soil is rich and the cultivation permanent have been classed in the first group: the villages, (23) lying at the foot of the hills or interwoven with thick jungles and where cultivation is limited owing to the unhealthy character of their climate, and their being consequently thinly populated, are entered in the second group, and the seven villages on the hills which I propose to assess specially come in the last group.

Settlement of the dry area.

26. Statement VI. shows the dry area in each village distinguishing the occupied portion from the unoccupied cultivable waste, and the assessment I propose to levy in view of the rates obtaining in the adjoining villages, adverted to in paragraph 4 above, and in consideration of the following special circumstances:—

I. The soil, although very good in appearance, is more liable for reasons already given to suffer from want of rain than in the settled villages;

II. The lands are more frequently subject to inundations from the hill streams and the cultivation suffers in consequence;

III. The ryots have, from time immemorial, been accustomed to a light rate of assessment, as will be found by a reference to the average assessment per cawny, given in columns 7, 12, and 15 of the Statement III.;

IV. Several of the cultivating ryots are Lumbadies and Koravars with whom cultivation is an occupation from bare necessity, *i. e.*, when the market for oil-seeds and other commodities they generally deal in, is dull; and the least difficulty thrown in their way is sure to affect the present cultivation injuriously;

V. The mischief done to crops by wild beasts has also to be considered. It involves additional labour on, and loss to, the cultivator;

VI. The country is unhealthy, hilly, jungly, and thinly populated ; far removed from any markets, and with no roads to get to them.

27. From the Appendix. A showing the dry area of *each class* of soil in the villages and how Mr. Ravenshaw assessed like soils in the Hooloos Taluqs you will observe that in the case of the villages in the first group, the rates proposed are lower by two classes than those indicated in the instructions of Mr. Ravenshaw, and lower by three classes in the villages in the second group. As regards the villages in the third group, they require to be treated more indulgently in my opinion. Mr. Ravenshaw was fully alive to the necessity of an exceptional indulgence in favour of the hill ryots generally. He directs as follows in paragraph 16 of his rules :—

Enclosure VI. is an abstract of Appendix A.

"The lands cultivated upon hills and its ? environs shall also be classed and assessed according "to their nature, and they shall be described as such in the accounts in order that a small rent may "be fixed thereon" and I do not think more than 1 rupee a cawny for the best lands on the Hills would be fair. While the ryots on the plains profited by the plough system, those on the Hills were sufferers under it. From the peculiarity of their position, their cultivation was necessarily limited, but the amount of assessment per plough or axe was the same as in the villages below the hills.

A hill ryot cultivating ⅛th of a cawny with his hard manual labour, (for bullocks cannot be worked on the slopes,) paid Rupees 1-12-0, while the ryot on the plain paid the same for a cultivation of four or five times as much area and with much less trouble.

28. A reference to the Statement below specifying the rates in force in a few of the villages in Salem District which lie at the foot of the Chekkady Hills on the other side, shows that the rates of assessment there are very light compared to those in force in this district. There are three rates in those villages of the Salem District which are less than 1 Rupee, the lowest rate of assessment in this district.

Statement showing the rates of dry assessment in the undermentioned Villages of Uttangharai Taluq, Salem District.

No.	Names of the Villages.	Rates of assessment per acre.	Area under each rate.	Total assessment.	Assessment per cawny.
		RS. A. P.		RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.
182	Chikalari	0 8 0	290 95	145 7 0	0 10 6
		0 12 0	382·79	287 15 0	0 15 10
			673·74	433 6 0	
175	Narippalli	0 4 0	39·8	9 12 0	0 5 3
		0 8 0	258·84	129 7 0	0 10 6
		0 12 0	325·95	244 10 0	0 15 10
		1 0 0	18·65	18 11 0	1 5 1
		1 4 0	28·71	35 14 0	1 10 4
			671·23	438 6 0	
173	Vira Naikempatti	0 4 0	111 58	27 14 0	0 5 3
		0 8 0	1,524·26	762 2 0	0 10 6
		0 12 0	582 58	437 2 0	0 15 10
		1 0 0	172·49	172 8 0	1 5 1
			2,390 91	1,399 10 0	
180	Manthikolampatti	0 8 0	22·75	11 6 0	0 10 6
		0 12 0	362 57	272 1 0	0 15 10
			385 32	283 7 0	
176	Periappatti	0 8 0	94·10	47 1 0	0 10 6
		0 12 0	287·65	215 13 0	0 15 10
			381·75	262 14 0	

I do not, however, recommend that the minimum rate should be less than 1 Rupee in the villages at the foot of the Hills. There the ryots have under the plough system paid as much as 1 Rupee or a little less a cawny, and they do not ask for or expect a lower rate of assessment. But the villages on the Hills have to be exceptionally treated in view of their peculiar position, and this recommendation receives additional strength from the fact, as above shown, of the villages on the plain (but in Salem District) having been very lightly assessed. I have, therefore, divided the soils in the Hill Villages into but two classes, and charged the 1st class lands with the last rate (1 Rupee) obtaining in the district.

The other class should, I beg to recommend be charged with the special rate of 8 Annas a cawny. This indulgence will be viewed by the ryots as a great boon, and by its adoption the Government would only lose the petty sum of Rupees 25 Annas 9 on last fasli's cultivation.

Cultivation in 1282.	AREA TO BE ASSESSED.	
	At 1 Rupee.	At 8 As.
108 9 1	157 7 0	51 2 1

Loss by the adoption of lower rate Rupees 25-9-0.

29. GARDEN.—The *Punjah* Garden lands pay Rupees 7, per cawny, as I have already shown, but there is no reason why this special rate should be continued irrespective of the nature of the soil.

The Tottakal lands in Hooloos villages continue to pay Rupees 7 a cawny, but they have the advantage of lying invariably around the village sites; but in Chekkady, this special assessment is levied on any land, be it near the village site or far removed from it, provided the ryot took the trouble to sink a well on it and raise garden crop. Supposing the special rate is to be continued on the lands so cultivated in 1282, the year adopted for comparison, the unequal pressure of the taxation would be evident when the owner of the adjoining land, paying probably 1 Rupee or Rupees 1-8-0 a cawny converts it into garden just after the money rates are introduced. I have, therefore, assessed the lands under Dry according to their soil alone, irrespective of the improvements made by the ryot. The financial result of this is, a deficit of the small sum of Rupees 314-13-11* on the beriz of the year 1282. I must here remark that this special rate of Rupees 7 a cawny is in existence in the highly assessed amani and mixed villages alone, while in the plough villages the most valuable garden crop on a cawny hardly pays a rupee. In these latter, the garden cultivation is more extensive† than in the limited number of the former, and to deny the indulgence to the over-assessed ryots while their neighbours have always enjoyed it and are still to enjoy it, would be unfair and inequitable.

	C. A. P.
* Area of Punjah Garden lands cultivated in Fasli 1282...	68 2 0
Assessment thereon ... ... Rupees	476 14 0
Deduct the assessment hereafter leviable ,,	162 0 1
Difference or loss Rupees...	314 13 11

† Cawnies 105.

30. SETTLEMENT OF WET LANDS.—These lands are limited in area and lie in fifteen villages. The wet area in five of them has not been under cultivation within the memory of the present generation. In one of them, viz. Vejiappanur the entire wet Ayacut was recently transferred to certain ryots at Rupees 2-8-0 an acre, and the tank was made over to them under the Rules for the restoration of ruined tanks, contained in Standing Order No. 125.

In the Village of Reddipolliem, already noticed in paragraph 8, the lands are cultivated with dry crops although the two tanks were completely restored in the year 1868, and there is sufficiency of water for wet cultivation. The water has never been used, for the ryots do not like to raise wet crops on account of the hard bargain Government drives with them in insisting on an equal division of the crop : so although there is plenty of water available for wet cultivation, the ryots prefer to pay for the lands at the plough rate and to raise dry crops. The ayacut viz., 50 cawnies, taking 13½ cawnies per plough, (the average in this village) hardly pays Rupees 40 under the plough system while the wet assessment payable on it would amount to Rupees 348-2-3 according to the rates proposed.

As several of the reasons in favour of a light rate of assessment for dry lands detailed in paragraph 26 above, fully apply to the wet cultivation also, I have classed† the wet lands one rate or two lower (according as the village belongs to the first or second group) than those they would bear under

† For details *Vide* Appendix B.

the rules of Mr. Ravenshaw, this can lead to no needless sacrifice of revenue, as 88 per cent. of the are has hardly ever been under Wet cultivation.

VII is an abstract of Appendix B.

The Statement VII. contains all particulars connected with the cultivation and assessment (both present and proposed) of wet lands.

31. That the country once abounded in rich wet cultivation is manifest from the number of rough stone weirs in ruins. Across the river Pambanar there are no fewer than ten anicuts within a distance of ten miles, and we come across the old wet lands with regur loam in the several villages* under their influence and these have been classed under Dry in several cases subject of course to be re-assessed as Wet in the event of means of irrigation being provided in accordance with the provisions of Circular Order No. III. of 1870.

* 1. Malianur.
2. Reddipolliem.
1. Tanippadi.
1. Vellore and Malamuujanur.
1. Naranacooppum.
1. Tirrunadathanur.
1. Royandapuram and Puthur.
1. Appoo Naikenpaliem.
1. Andappattu.

I have done so as the anicuts are partly or wholly in ruins, and no wet cultivation was ever raised within the last fifty or sixty years. I am of opinion that the introduction of money rates on wet lands would lead to an extension of their cultivation provided the irrigation works are placed in an efficient condition, and I believe the Government are bound to give some attention to the matter as the excess collection of Rupees 7,997-12-0 by the Collector, Mr Ashton, which should have been refunded, has apparently been retained as a reserve to be expended on irrigation works in Chekkady Jaghire when money rates are introduced. Several of the tanks are silted up and otherwise neglected, no repairs having been executed for several years except to a few of them in the famine year 1868.

I have now prepared a Statement No. VIII. showing in one view the nature of irrigation works in Chekkady, their present condition, the estimated amount required to restore them, and the anticipated increase to the revenue, besides the permanency thereby derivable to the present cultivation. I would suggest, in consideration of the number of works involved, that a special officer of the Public Works Department be deputed to examine the works and prepare estimates.

32. SECOND CROP.—I would here remark that the assessment payable on a second crop, if raised on the wet lands by means of Government water, does not enter into the present calculations, and in view of the neglected condition and the inferior capacity of the few tanks in existence, I do not anticipate any increase of revenue on this head except in very favourable years.

33. MINAHAS.—It will be distinctly notified to the ryots that minahas or deductions in favour of Brahmins and Porakudis on dry cultivation will cease simultaneously with the introduction of money rates. No minahas are allowed on wet cultivation. There are Brahmins in but two villages, Royandapuram and Vellore, and the amount of deduction on their account in Faslis 1282 was but Rupees 13-15-2 as shown in foot note 1-B. to the Enclosure No. IV.

34. INAM.—The Statement below shows the area of Inam lands, under Dry and Wet, the nature of their tenure, and also the proposed assessment on them. I have thought it advisable to fix the assessment on Inam lands also, to avoid any inconvenience in calculating the land cess, and in subjects ing them to their full assessment should the occasion ever arise for their resumption.

Nature.	DRY.						WET.						TOTAL.					
	Extent.			Assessment.			Extent.			Assessment.			Extent.			Assessment.		
Enfranchised personal ...	11	0	0	14	10	0	5	8	0	28	13	6	16	8	0	43	7	0
Religious	7	12	1	20	7	0	7	7	3	45	11	4	15	4	0	66	2	4
Totti	4	10	3	10	14	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	10	3	10	14	2
Calendar Brahmin ...	1	0	0	3	3	0	1	4	1	7	12	11	2	4	1	10	15	11
Vedavarthi	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	7	0	0	1	0	0	7	0	0
Total...	24	7	0	49	2	2	15	4	0	89	5	3	39	11	0	138	7	5

The assessment on the Inam lands has not for obvious reasons been taken into account in arriving at the average assessment per cawny in comparing the present Revenue with that derivable under the proposed system.

Description of Villages.	Demand in Fasli 1282.	Result of proposed rates.	Decrease	Increase
	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
Amani	2,913	2,202	711	0
Mixed	7,103	7,756	0	653
Plough	7,401	12,493	0	5,092
Hill Villages ...	206	83	123	0
Total...	17,623	22,534	834	5,745
		Net Increase Rs. 4,911.		

	Cawnies.
* Total Area	4,089
Area held under amani ...	1,704
Do. under plough ...	2,385

35. RESULTS ON THE REVENUE.—First as to dry, the Statement in the margin gives the result on the revenue by the proposed rates, separately for the villages hitherto held under each of the three different systems of revenue, compared with the demand for the year 1282. The Hill Villages are shown distinctly, as they are exceptionally treated. In Amani Villages, there is a decrease of nearly 25 per cent. and this was of course to be expected from the heavy assessment levied in them. In the mixed villages the increase is not striking ; it is only a little over 9 per cent. and this is due to nearly 48 per cent. of the cultivated area* having been held under the amani system.

The increase is in a still higher ratio in the aggregate beriz, of the plough villages viz, 68 per cent. This needs no explanation ; it is to be found in the lands having hitherto paid a very low assessment under the lax system now to be abolished. In only six villages the average assessment per cawny was a little over 1 Rupee. In the rest, setting aside the seven Hill Villages to be separately noticed, the average was below 1 Rupee and in some cases, within 10 Annas.

The total increase of Dry Revenue is only 27 per cent. against 33 per cent. under the rates of Mr. Ashton already adverted to.

36. Annexed is a Statement showing under each class of soil the entire Dry area under occupation, and how the rates vary—

Classes.	Assessment per Cawny.			Area.		
	RS.	A.	P.	C.	A.	P.
4th	3	3	0	127	12	0
5th	2	10	0	545	2	2
6th	2	7	0	2,178	11	3
7th	1	15	0	1,815	12	0
8th	1	8	0	4,733	10	3
9th	1	0	0	4,552	4	1
				13,953	5	1

Classes.	Percentage of Area.
4th	1
5th	4
6th	16
7th	13
8th	34
9th	32
Total ...	100

The first Class or garden rates of 7 Rupees a Cawny and the Second and Third Classes (Rupees 4-4-0 and Rupees 3-12-0 respectively) do not appear at all, and the marginal memorandum shows in what proportion the other classes of soils form the area. Nearly ⅔rds of the soil fall under the last two classes, paying 1 Rupee and 1 Rupee 8 Annas respectively.

37. The average assessment per cawny in the Taluq of Trinomalai is Rupees 1-10-2 under Dry and the average for Chekkady is less viz, 1-8-11. It has to be borne in mind that far higher rates than those now recommended were proposed for the Jaghire by Messrs. Ashton and Hallet. The minimum rate was not below Rupees 1½ or 2, and there is the recorded testimony of Mr. Ashton that the increased revenue was collected easily and that cultivation had extended under it.

There is therefore no reason to fear that by the rates proposed the demand would be rendered too heavy or that the present cultivation would diminish in consequence. On the other hand, the ryots have already begun to cultivate in neglected parts, and I am sanguine that the present measures would lead to a positive increase of revenue at no distant time, and as the ryots can now regulate the extent of their individual holdings according to their own resources, the evils of contracted holdings with a disproportionately heavy assessment on one hand and of too large holdings with indifferent cultivation on the other, would gradually disappear. I am inclined to think that my proposals have been more in favour of the ryots than of the revenue, and any further reduction of the latter is, I submit, certainly not called for. You will observe further, that the rates proposed are neither too high as those of Messrs. Ashton and Hallet would appear to be, nor too low, as those imposed by Mr. Reade, and as the average is less than in the settled villages of the Trinomalai Taluq of which Chekkady forms a part, it is reasonable to hope that the rates, when introduced, will be acceptable to the ryots in general and will conduce to their increased exertion and to extended cultivation.

38. As regards the seven Hill Villages, I have already observed that the ryots did not profit by the present system as much as those on the plains. This is exemplified by a reference to the average assessment hitherto paid by the Hill ryots which, under the axe system, rose as high as Rupees 4-10-8 a cawny, as shown marginally

VILLAGES.	AVERAGE RATE PER CAWNY.	
	Plough.	Axe.
Ayembadi	3 8 0	4 10 8
Nattampalli	1 9 0	1 12 0
Akkarappatti ...	2 0 1	2 5 8
Melamuchchi	3 0 0	1 12 0
Ramakkal	... ...	0 10 4

39. My remarks on the wet revenue need not be as comprehensive as on dry. The wet cultivation is very limited in area for the main reason that the ryot had hardly 47½ per cent. left to him out of the entire produce. From the gross produce, the Monegar's allowances as well as Alla Mera* were deducted, both of which came to nearly 5 per cent. and a moiety of the remainder formed the ryot's share. The average assessment per cawny under the proposed rates is Rupees 6-0-5 against Rupees 8-14-6 paid on the average cultivation for ten years.

* 2 Marcals a cawny credited to Government Revenue.

An examination of the Villagewar average shows that the assessment was in Chinniampett as high as Rupees 14 a cawny, a rate of assessment higher than that paid by the 1st class lands in the settled or Hooloos Taluqs. Hardly 12 per cent. of the entire area is under Wet cultivation, and should the irrigation works be improved, there is no reason to doubt that with the money rates now introduced, most of the area will be brought under cultivation within a very short time.

It is also worthy of note that the average wet assessment in Trinomalai Taluq is Rupees 6-3-1 a cawny or Rupees 0-2-8 in excess of that proposed for Chekkady.

40. Annexed is a Statement showing the wet revenue under the proposed rates compared with the demand for Fasli 1282.

Particulars.	Demand in 1282.	Revenue as proposed.	Decrease.	Increase.
	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.
Wet cultivation	423 5 8	312 1 5	111 4 3	....
Dry Do.	954 11 11	1,823 4 3	....	868 8 4
Total ...	1,378 1 7	2,135 5 8	111 4 3	868 8 4
Net Increase ...	....	....	....	757 4 1

The net increase of revenue is 55 per cent. on the wet area under cultivation. The Dry cultivation on wet pays a fixed rate of Rupees 3-8-0 a cawny and the amount so obtained has not of course been taken into account in striking the average rate per cawny. Of the wet area under cultivation viz. 330 cawnies, *85 per cent. is cultivated with dry crops. The remainder (48 cawnies) formed the wet cultivation proper in Fasli 1282 and the revenue derived was Rupees 423 or Rupees 8-13-0 a cawny.

* 282 Cawnies.

41. The subjoined Memorandum gives in one view the ayacut including the unoccupied cultivable waste, as well as the occupied area, and the maximum revenue derivable on the entire area measured both dry and wet.

Description.	OCCUPIED.		UNOCCUPIED CULTIVABLE WASTE.		TOTAL.	
	Extent.	Assessment.	Extent.	Assessment.	Extent.	Assessment.
	C. A. P.	RS. A. P.	C. A. P.	RS. A. P.	C. A. P.	RS. A. P.
Dry	14,100 6 2	22,534 10 11	4,734 5 2	6,796 7 9	18,834 12 0	29,331 2 8
Wet	330 1 0	2,135 5 8	78 0 2	325 3 5	408 1 2	2,460 9 0
Total...	14,430 7 2	24,670 0 7	4,812 6 0	7,121 11 2	19,242 13 2	31,[illegible]91 11 9

42. That the revenue is susceptible of still further improvement in course of time will be evident from the large area covered with jungles which have not now been measured in consequence. The total area excluding Poremboke measured in Mr. Ashton's survey was cawnies 27,691 as the Statement furnished to the Board of Revenue by the Collector Mr. Hallet, in his letter, No. 95, dated 28th November 1842 shows, and the area now measured is hardly 69 per cent. of it, and the inference is obvious that no lands that might be brought under cultivation at any distance of time were omitted in that survey, and calculating the assessment leviable on the unmeasured area at 1 Rupee a Cawny, the lowest rate in the district, the Government demand when the entire area is occupied, would be a little more than double the revenue now derived as shown below :—

		RS.
1.	Demand in Fasli 1282	19,000
2.	Assessment on the area now settled	31,791
3.	Do. on the unmeasured area	8,448
	Total of Items 2 & 3	40,239

43. To prevent further correspondence and delay, should the proposed rates be still deemed too high, which I can hardly think they will be, I beg to annex a Statement showing the revenue derivable on the occupied area should the land in the several classes (Wet and Dry) be assessed one class or Taram lower. The decrease would be Rupees 4,885 compared with the result of the rates already recommended, and the increase on the revenue in Fasli 1282, Rupees 783 or only 4 per cent.

PARTICULARS.	Demand in 1282.	ASSESSMENT ON THE OCCUPIED AREA.		DIFFERENCE BETWEEN COLUMNS	
		As proposed.	As per alternative recommendation in P. 43.	3 and 4	4 and 2
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.
	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
Wet	1,378	2,135	1,674	461	296
Dry	17,623	22,534	18,110	4,424	487
Total...	19,001	24,669	19,784	4,885	783

44. VILLAGE OFFICERS.—There are but three classes of Village Officers in the Jaghire;

1stly.—The Village Curnam,

2ndly.—The Moneagar who is also generally the Munsif, and

3rdly.—The Notagar, or the Shroff. The Curnam and Notagar are remunerated by a percentage deduction from the beriz according to the scale in use in the settled taluqs of the district, and the amount is divided among the two officers in the proportion of 11 to 4.

The allowance to the Moneagar vary according to the nature of the Revenue System in force. On wet cultivation, he gets Rupees 2-5-8 on every 100 Rupees of the revenue besides a merah or grain fee at 5 mercals on every 30 kallams produced, which amounts to Rupees 1-6-0 on every 100 Rupees. His fees in all amounts nearly to Rupees 3-12-0 on 100 Rupees, against Rupees 2-4-0 in the settled villages.

It will be observed that the fees are deducted before the division of produce in equal shares between the Government and the Ryot, and the Government thus bear only a moiety of the charge. For dry cultivation, the Monegar is paid Rs. 2-5-8 for every 100 Rupees of the Revenue under the Amani system. The entire sum is paid by the Government. In the plough villages, the rate of remuneration is 5 per cent; also borne entirely by Government. Calculated on the beriz of Fasli 1282, the net saving to Government by introducing the system in the settled villages would be Rupees 313-3-4 as shown below :—

	RS.	A.	P.
Monegar's wages, under the system to be abandoned actually paid for Fasli 1282.	740	11	4
Deduct amount payable at Rupees 2-4-0 per 100 on the beriz, viz., Rupees, 19,000.	427	8	0
Difference ...	313	3	4

And it may not be out of place to observe here that the Village Monegar had thus a direct personal interest in opposing the introduction of money rates by Mr. Ashton.

45. In no village is there a Taliary, and in only a few is there a recognized Totti. These useful classes of servants were doubtless in existence in all the villages in the days of the Jaghiredar when they were remunerated by grain fees. There are Tottie's Inams in a few villages only; in other villages the Totti is kept up at the cost of the Village community. In my recommendation, contained in letter No. 327, dated 6th August 1873, for the clubbing of villages and revision of Village establishments, I proposed to form the forty-four villages of the Jaghire into fifteen *Vattams*, and I beg here to recommend that each *Vattam* be provided with a Totti and a Taliary with there additional men of the latter class to be distributed among the more important villages named in the margin. It is proposed to fix the wages of Totties and Taliaries at 3 Rupees per mensem, and the amount payable in one year would thus be Rupees 1,188* and the entire cost of the Village servants (those of the other servants being calculated on the beriz of Fasli 1282) would come to Rupees 2,601 annually, against Rupees 1,733 actually paid as particularized below :—

1. Malamunjanur.
2. Pudur.
3. Malianur.

*Men. Rs.
33× 36=1,188

Paid in 1282.

	RS.	A.	P.
Wages of Curnams and Nottams.	985	9	0
Do. of Monegars.	740	11	4
	1,726	4	4
Assessment on the Totti Inam lands to be resumed at $\frac{5}{8}$th of the Taram assessment.	6	12	8
	1,733	1	0

To be paid.

	RS.	A.	P.
1. Wages of Curnams and Nottams	985	9	0
2. Do. of Monegars	427	8	0
3. Salaries of Totties and Taliaries at Rupees 3 per mensem.	1,188	0	0
	2,601	1	0
Excess to be paid...	868	0	0

ENCLOSURES Nos. 2 to 11.—Statements.

THE settlement of the Chekkady Villages in the Trinomalai Taluq of South Arcot has long been under consideration, and when the subject was recently again mooted, the Government, in their Proceedings of the 11th January 1873, No. 38, decided that a provisional settlement should be made by the Collector. The task was entrusted to the General Deputy-Collector Stri Baliah whose report on this portion of the Jaghire accompanied by the Collector's remarks are now submitted to Government.

2. Some few words are necessary regarding the history and present position of this grant which comprized—

(1.) Senkarapuram consisting of fifty-eight villages in Kalakurchi and of four in Trikalur.

(2.) Paliemcottah or the upland tracts of the Chellumbrum Taluq, containing forty-five villages.

(3.) Kollymally which consisted of forty villages of exceptional fertility under the Veranum Tank, also in Chellumbrum.

(4.) Chekkady the tract now under consideration and which comprises forty-four villages situated as already stated in the Trinomalai Taluq. From Mr. Hallett's letter to the Board, dated 28th November 1842, No. 95, it would seem that Chekkady formed originally a taluq of Senkrapuram.

3. The entire Jaghire was conferred by the Nabab Wallajah on his Dewan Syed Mahomed Assein Khan Bahadoor, and renewed by the British Government in the name of his son Kallim Ullah Khan Bahadoor. Family dissensions arose, and suits were filed in the Supreme Court, and the Jaghire placed under the Collector's management. In 1829 it was finally resumed by Minutes of Consultation, dated 30th January of that year, but no cause is assigned for this measure.

4. The Land Revenue systems which prevailed throughout this Jaghire were various and for the most part highly unsatisfactory, the Deputy-Collector characterizes some of them as "barbarous," and it seems to have been the wish of every Collector to set matters on a more satisfactory footing. This desire was effected long since in the case of Paliemcottah which was surveyed by Colonel Priestley in 1854, and soon after classified and settled with very good results by Mr. Hall. Similarly Kollymally was next surveyed by Colonel Priestley and settled with the rest of the Chellumbrum Taluq by the Special Department in 1858. But the remaining divisions, probably owing to their remote situation, have, notwithstanding attempts

at amelioration, continued up to the present time under the system so often condemned, and although Chekkady will now soon be improved, Senkrapuram yet remains to be dealt with.

5. The system now prevailing in the Chekkady villages may be thus briefly described. 1st, as regards dry lands. There are three different modes of realizing the revenue. (1). By the " plough and axe system" which prevails in thirty-four villages, and which the Deputy-Collector and Collector both prove to be ruinous to the poor, unduly favourable to the influential, and sadly detrimental to the interests of Government. The cess of Rupees 10-8-0 per plough and Rupees 1-12 per axe is levied irrespectively of area, so that the rich man tills, say 12 Cawnies, for precisely the same assessment that his poorer neighbour pays for only 3. Mr. Hallett seems to have been of opinion that originally this method was merely a specie of cowle to enable ryots to clear jungle, but the present working of the cess produces apparently nothing but hardship to the deserving, and loss to the State. (2). By the " Amani" System. This is not very clearly explained, and the term seems hardly to be used in its ordinary acceptance. The Deputy-Collector states that the assessment varied according to the crops grown, so that " Tirvah dittam" would seem to be the more appropriate term. There must have been some rough paymaish, and the lands must have been annually examined in order that each crop might be taxed according to the " Dittam," or regulated rate fixed thereon. (3.) The mixed system or combination of the " plough" and " amani" which exists in the remaining five villages, and which results in lands of the same quality situated side by side, being assessed at three times as much under the " plough tenure" as they are under the " amani."

6. 2*nd*.—As regards wet. Here the practice is uniform, it is termed " Waraputh" and consists of the actual produce being equally divided between the Government and the ryot after certain deductions have been made from gross outturn.

This now almost obsolete practice has been so often condemned that the Board need only remark that the delays in measuring the crop when ready for the sickle cause such serious loss to the ryots that they prefer growing dry crops to wet, and thus 85 per cent. of the wet cultivated area is under " Poonjah produce."

7. As clearly shown in the letters now under review, the attempts to rectify matters in Chekkady have been numerous, although not hitherto successful, and Government appear to have certainly had good grounds for saying " there must be some old paymash"* as two schemes have already been submitted for the Board's consideration. The first of these was a well matured measure introduced by Mr. Ashton in Fasli 1248 by which a field assessment for dry lands was to take the place of the plough and axe systems. The Board and Government objected to the change, apparently being under the impression that no field survey had been made, whereas this essential preliminary seems to have been carefully conducted. Finally although Mr. Ashton's settlement worked very satisfactorily for three years† and although the increase in revenue was large and easily, paid orders were issued for its discontinuance by Mr. Dent in 1841 when he was appointed as Commissioner, and the beriz then soon fell to nearly its former standard. In his letter to the Board, dated 28th November 1842, Mr. Ashton's successor, Mr. Hallett, after a personal inspection of Chekkady forcibly advocated the introduction of the money rates as proposed by his predecessor, and further recommended that the sum of Rupees 7,997-12-0 being the surplus collected during the temporary existence of Mr. Ashton's rates should be reserved as a fund for the repairs of the irrigation works in this special tract. But no orders were received although Mr. Davis the next Collector called attention to the matter.

8. The next step of importance was the survey of these villages by Colonel Priestley. This was undertaken when the department was young, and owing to its having to face considerable difficulties before experience had shown how they were to be met, the result was very different from what it would be now. There was no demarcation field by field, the theodolite stations can, in many instances be no longer found, and the face of the country has become so altered that it was at last reluctantly resolved to abandon the attempt at utilizing the survey of 1854.

9. In 1868 Mr. Reade's attention was called to the necessity for remedial measures, and consequently in Fasli 1279 he drew up and introduced a scheme, apparently without the Board's sanction which at once reduced the beriz 39 per cent. This scheme Mr. Reade abandoned the following year. The work seems to have been conducted on a very rough and ready plan, to have been executed by the village officers without supervision and to have applied only both as regards measurement and assessment to lands in occupation during that year. It was consequently not approved of, and after some correspondence* as to the feasibility of restoring Colonel Priestley's survey, as already explained, the task of revising the assessment was entrusted to Stri Baliah.

10. From the foregoing it will be gathered that there have now been no less than four surveys of this tract. The first by Mr. Ashton which seems to have been exceptionally good, but which is useless owing to the records having apparently been destroyed; 2nd. That executed by Colonel Priestley ; 3rd. Mr. Reade's which extended only to the lands in actual occupation ; 4th. The one now carried out by Stri Baliah. The letters before the Board do not show how the latter has been conducted, but it is presumed that it is similar to that adopted by Mr. Ravenshaw, with rectangular measurements by twenty-four feet pole. It seems that no use whatever, not even apparently of the existing boundary marks was made of Colonel Priestley's work during this last survey, but Mr. Reade's measurements as far as they went seem to have been utilized. Stri Baliah's survey extends over the entire area " excluding hills, jungles and otherwise uncultivable lands." The following brief return shows the area under occupation, and that falling under unoccupied cultivable waste by the recent measurements :—

—	Occupied.	Unoccupied.	Total.
Dry ...	14,100	4,734	18,834
Wet ...	330	78	408
Total...	14,430	4,812	19,242

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* G. O., dated 11th January 1873, No. 38.

† Faslis 1248, 1249, 1250.

* Board's Proceedings, dated 25th November 1872.

11. The classification has been conducted according to the principles followed by Mr. Ravenshaw when he made his settlement of the Hooloos taluqs of South Arcot in 1808. The soils by this scheme are divided into eighteen descriptions for wet and twenty-six for dry, grain valuations being affixed to each; but as many of these valuations are identical, the several descriptions fall into six classes for wet, and seven for dry. Those for wet are now given as an example.—

No.	Soils.	Class.	Estimated produce for one crop in Kallams.			Taram according to produce.		Remarks.
			Best.	Middling.	Lowest.	Produce.	Taram.	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	Land having black-earth and sand mixed	1st	45	40	35	45	8	The first seven classes or Tarams do not appear as they were consolidated two crop assessments levied on double crop, and doubtful of double crop lands.
2	Land filth and dirt of the village...					40	9	
3	Do. the filth and slime of a large tank					35	10	
4	Do. do. do. of a river ..					30	11	
5	Do. having white-earth and sand mixed					25	12	
6	Land having black-earth and clay mixed	2nd	40	35	30	20	13	
7	Do. red-earth and sand do. ...					15	14	
8	Do. having a filth and slime of a small tank					10	15	
9	Do. having red-earth and clay mixed	3rd	35	30	25	5	16	
10	Do. do. white do. and do.							
11	Do. having black and steril-earth mixed	4th	30	25	20			
12	Do. red and do. do. ...							
13	Do. white and do. do. ...							
14	Do. abounded with sand ...	5th	25	20	15			
15	Do. with lime-stones							
16	Steril land	6th	15	10	5			
17	Barren							
18	Sandy of an iron colour							

12. It will be seen that these "classes" are sub-divided into "best," "middling" and "lowest," and that, owing again to the valuations often being identical, the final tarams, or rates of assessment, stand at nine for wet. For dry there are also nine. Previous to Mr. Edward Maltby's revision in 1855, there were sixteen for wet and twelve for dry, but the higher rates then all disappeared, and the original scheme is now reduced to nine for both dry and wet, as shown hereafter. The estimated produce was commuted at the rate of 70 Rupees per garce, and half of this taken as the Government share. The rates thus resulting stand as follows, after deducting as just explained the higher gradations swept away by Mr. Maltby:—

Dry.				Wet.			
Taram.	Rate of Assessment.			Taram.	Rate of Assessment.		
	RS.	A.	P.		RS.	A.	P.
1	7	0	0	8	11	13	0
2	4	4	0	9	10	8	0
3	3	12	0	10	9	3	0
4	3	3	0	11	8	7	0
5	2	10	0	12	7	0	0
6	2	7	0	13	5	10	0
7	1	15	0	14	4	4	0
8	1	8	0	15	2	13	0
9	1	0	0	16	1	7	0

By this plan the money rates were first ascertained and then fixed upon the land once for all, a far more expeditious course, than that at present, in vogue in the Settlement Department where the classification comes first, and the money rates are imposed long afterwards.

12. Before beginning work the Deputy-Collector examined some of the neighbouring villages and found that at the time of the old settlement the lands had in reality been more leniently treated on the field than on paper, and that dry lands had been apparently reduced two tarams and wet land one taram below the established standard. It will be seen immediately that Stri Baliah has adopted similar means for avoiding undue pressure upon the ryots.

13. The villages have now been formed into three groups.

1st. Fourteen villages possessing the best soil and the most permanent cultivation.

2nd. Twenty-three villages at the Hill-foot where the country is more jungly, the climate less healthy, and the population thinner.

3rd. Seven villages on the Hills which from their isolated position deserve special treatment. Considering that the Chekkady tract has been always lightly assessed; that many of the cultivators consist of Lumbadies, and others who would again resort to their wandering life on the least provocation; that the country is unhealthy, and infested with large game which plays havoc with the crops, the Deputy-Collector following Mr. Ravenshaw's method of alleviation has reduced the first group villages two tarams, and the second group three tarams below the rates they would otherwise have borne. Still following Mr. Ravenshaw's footsteps, the Deputy-Collector arranged that, for the third group comprizing the Hill villages "a small rent should be affixed thereon," at 1 Rupee per cawny for the best lands, and at ½ a Rupee for the inferior.

The result of these measures as regards each description of soil cannot be ascertained from the reports, but the extent of land falling under each taram in each group is herewith given.

Description of land.	Proposed taram.	1st Group.			2nd Group.			3rd Group.			Total.		
		Extent.			Extent.			Extent.			Extent.		
1	2	3			4			5			6		
		C.	A.	P.	C.	A.	P.	C.	A.	P.	C.	A.	P.
Dry.	4	127	12	0	......	...	...	...	...	...	127	12	0
	5	545	2	2	......	...	...	...	...	...	545	2	2
	6	1,938	1	3	240	10	0	...	...	...	2,178	11	3
	7	1 ,333	1	2	482	10	2	...	...	...	1,815	12	0
	8	2,619	4	2	2,114	6	1	...	...	...	4,733	10	3
	9	1,525	2	3	3,027	1	2	57	7	0	4,609	11	1
	10	......	...	...	......	...	...	51	2	1	51	2	1
	Total...	8,088	9	0	5,864	12	1	108	9	1	14,061	14	2
	Area transferred from wet to dry on light rate of assessment under Standing Order, No. 125 ...	38	8	0	......	...	...	...	...	...	38	8	0
	Total dry...	8,127	1	0	5,864	12	1	108	9	1	14,100	6	2
Wet.	11	56	5	1	......	...	...	...	...	...	56	5	1
	12	156	15	2	......	...	...	...	...	...	156	15	2
	13	53	4	0	0	15	2	...	...	...	54	3	2
	14	39	1	0	16	13	3	...	...	...	55	14	3
	15	6	10	0	......	...	...	...	...	...	6	10	0
	Total wet...	312	3	3	17	13	1	...	...	...	330	1	0
	Grand total...	8,376	6	1	5,882	9	2	108	9	1	14,430	7	2

14. The garden lands appear to have been leniently treated, as they have been assessed as dry according to the quality of the soil with the extra alleviation of two or three tarams below the proper valuation. The "old well lands" in the Hooloos Taluqs, pay apparently 7 Rupees per cawny, and it appears to the Board that it would have been correct to classify the Chekkady "old well lands," *i.e.*, those constructed before 1854, at their proper and legitimate dry rates without bringing them arbitrarily down in the scale. The Deputy-Collector urges that if they are not all classed like ordinary dry lands, a ryot who now digs a well will be better off than his neighbour who dug one thirty years ago. But the mere fact of digging a well can hardly be said to change ordinary "dry" land into "garden," as these original "well lands" embrace as a rule, the most favoured spots, and the most favoured soils, and which, owing to ~~these fortuitous~~ circumstances were long ago fixed upon for occupation, and taken up wherever available.

15. By the mode of classification adopted, the falling off in revenue in the Amani and mixed villages will be Rupees 314-13-11, as shewn in paragraph 29 of the Deputy-Collector's letter. There are however 105 cawnies of "Garden" in the plough villages which "hardly pay a Rupee" a cawny, so that on these lands there will be an increase, although to what extent cannot be gathered, as all has been merged under the head of Dry.

16. Owing to the unpopularity and stringent nature of the Waraputh system the area under wet cultivation is very circumscribed being only 330 acres, the classification has been made in the same manner as regards the reductions below the correct standard rates as in the case of dry. The result is an increase of Rupees 757-4-1 over the assessment now paid. This may seem high but a few words of explanation will show that it is not so really. Only 12 per cent. of the wet area is under wet cultivation, the ryots preferring to grow dry crops on the "Nunjah ayacut;" but in the comparison now made the dry rates paid for such crops are taken against the wet rates now fixed, so that the increase is as it were fictitious, and more a matter of account. Stri Balaiah's wet rates never exceed Rupees 8-7-0 per cawny, whereas the old gradations run up to 14 Rupees, so that in the case of the regularly cultivated wet lands the proposals show a decrease of Rupees 111-4-3—*Vide* paragraph 40 of the Deputy-Collector's report. The present average is less than that paid throughout the rest of the taluq, and comes to Rupees 6-0-5 or 4-8-0 per acre which seems sufficient and fair. It is moreover anticipated that under the rates now advocated, and with improvements to the irrigation works, the wet ayacut will no longer be mainly under dry crops, but turned to its legitimate use.

17. From Appendix A, it will be seen that the increase in the dry assessment comes on the whole to Rupees 4,911 which falls mainly upon the plough villages in which as fully explained, the lands were held at unduly low rates owing to the lax system which allowed the rich and influential to cultivate a fictitiously large area, under the assumption that it was all tilled by "one plough." In the Amani villages the rates fall by Rupees 710. Including the hill villages which, as already stated, have been assessed as only two rates, viz., 1 Rupee and ½ Rupee per acre the total increase in the dry demand comes to 27 per cent.; the average per cawny being 1-8-11 or 1-2-11 per acre which is as in the case of wet below that of the taluq at large.

18. Appendix B, shows the extent of occupied dry land falling under each money rate by the scheme now submitted. It will be noted that the run of the classification is lenient, the bulk of the area falling under the lower gradations. In fact the two lowest rates embrace 66 per cent. of the whole area.

Considering that both Mr. Ashton and Mr. Hallett were struck with the fertility of the Chekkady villages; that the present rates proposed are lower than those advocated by the above Collectors, when prices were lower and roads were fewer; that that they are less than those now paid in the villages of the rest of the taluq and considerably below those levied during Mr. Ashton's temporary settlement when they are said to have been collected with ease; and that Mr. Sullivan not only approves of them, but even thinks that they must eventually be raised, the Board consider that they may be safely introduced, and request that orders may be passed so that the introduction may be carried into effect during the ensuing fasli. The total increase on both "dry" and "wet" will as shown in Appendix "A" be Rupees 5,668 or 27 per cent.; but in this is included an area of cawnies 125 being increase by the recent survey, and by new cultivation.

19. Appendix C. shows that even by the present paymaish which excludes large quantities of cultivable land situated in remote localities, and which embraces nearly 8,000 cawnies less than that made by Mr. Ashton, there is a breadth of 4,734

cawnies of dry land assessed at Rupees 6,796 and of 78 cawnies of wet assessed at Rupees 325 hereafter available for cultivation. Under Mr. Hall's settlement in Paliemcottah already referred to, that part of the Jaghire improved considerably and cultivation greatly increased, the Board consequently see no reason why the same satisfactory results should not soon be apparent in Chekkady. It is quite clear that to give this tract a fair chance under the new régime, attention must be at once paid to the irrigation works, which have been allowed to go to decay, most probably because owing to the withering waraputh system the ryots did not care to grow wet crops. Now that this incubus has been removed, special care should be taken to set the means of supply in order, as there would appear to be no lack of the supply itself. The Board, therefore, advocate that, if possible, a special officer be deputed for the restoration of the irrigation works; estimating first for those which are likely to yield the most profitable return.

20. The report states that there is likely to be but little second crop raised; but when it is raised the charge must be half the first crop assessment as has lately been arranged for the Hooloos Taluqs. The "Minahas" or favorable allowances to Brahmins and others should disappear as recommended. They were swept away at the time of Mr. Maltby's revision which is in fact the basis of the present settlement. Mr. Garstin must submit a detailed scheme for the reorganization of the village establishment in Chekkady, as the Act permits the introduction within a portion of the district. With the 6¼ per cent. in lieu of the fees now paid, with the abolition of the Notakars who will be no longer needed, and with the sum which Government may be disposed to grant as an equivalent for the payments they now entirely make, it is hoped that the funds available may suffice.

21. It only remains for the Board to express their entire concurrence with Mr. Sullivan as regards the able and satisfactory manner in which this long pending task has been performed by Stri Balaiah. It has moreover been brought to a successful termination without extra hands, and without hindrance to current work. The Board hope soon to have before them the report on the Senkrapuram villages.

A.

COMPARATIVE Statement shewing the present and proposed Assessment for the dry and wet occupied lands of the Chekkady Jaghire villages of South Arcot District.

Description of land.	Particulars of different systems.	As per Revenue Accounts of Fasli 1282.			As per proposed Settlement.			Difference.			
		Extent.	Assessment.	Average.	Extent.	Assessment.	Average.	Extent.	Percentage.	Assessment.	Percentage.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9		10	
		C. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	C. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	C. A. P.		RS. A. P.	
Dry.	1st Group. Amani	1,072 0 3	2,912 12 2	2 11 6	1,155 8 2	2,202 7 7	1 14 6	+ 83 7 3	8	— 710 4 7	24
	1st Group. Mixed	4,101 1 3	7,103 4 6	1 11 9	4,101 1 3	7,756 4 2	1 14 3	....	...	+ 652 15 8	9
	1st Group. Plough	2,870 6 0	2,331 5 8	0 13 0	2,870 6 3	4,772 9 9	1 10 7	+ 0 0 3	...	+2,441 4 1	105
	Total...	8,043 8 2	12,347 6 4	1 8 7	8,127 1 0	14,731 5 6	1 13 0	+ 83 8 2	1	+2,383 15 2	19
	2nd Group.—Plough	5,864 12 1	5,069 12 0	0 13 10	5,864 12 1	7,720 5 4	1 5 1	....	...	+2,650 9 4	52
	3rd do. —Hill villages.	108 9 1	206 8 0	1 14 5	108 9 1	83 0 1	0 12 2	....	...	— 123 7 11	59
	Total dry...	14,016 14 0	17,623 10 4	1 4 1	14,100 6 2	22,534 10 11	1 9 10	+ 83 8 2	1	+4,911 0 7	28
Wet.	1st Group. Amani	87 13 3	371 4 7	4 4 11	90 13 0	532 6 0	5 13 9	+ 2 15 1	3	+ 161 1 5	43
	1st Group. Mixed	141 5 1	625 5 3	4 6 10	136 1 3	953 14 7	7 0 2	— 5 3 2	4	+ 328 9 4	53
	1st Group. Plough	33 5 0	276 10 6	8 4 11	85 5 0	571 15 5	6 11 4	+ 52 0 0	154	+ 295 4 11	107
	Total...	262 8 0	1,273 4 4	4 13 8	312 3 3	2,058 4 0	6 9 6	+ 49 11 3	19	+ 784 15 8	62
	2nd Group.—Plough	25 13 3	104 13 3	4 0 11	17 13 1	77 1 8	4 5 6	— 8 0 2	32	— 27 11 7	27
	Total wet...	288 5 3	1,378 1 7	4 12 6	330 1 0	2,135 5 8	6 7 5	+ 41 11 1	15	+ 757 4 1	55
	Grand total, dry and wet...	14,305 3 3	19,001 11 11	....	14,430 7 2	24,670 0 7	....	+125 3 3	1	5,668 4 8	30

B.

STATEMENT showing the Financial results of dry and wet occupied lands in each group of the Chekkady Jaghire villages of South Arcot District.

Description of land.	Proposed class.	Rate of Assessment per Cawny.	1st Group.		2nd Group.		3rd Group.		Total.	
			Extent.	Assessment.	Extent.	Assessment.	Extent.	Assessment	Extent.	Assessment.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
		RS. A. P.	C. A. P.	RS. A. P.	C. A. P.	RS. A. P.	C. A. P.	RS. A. P.	C. A. P.	RS. A. P.
Dry.	4	3 3 0	127 12 0	407 3 3	…… … …	……… … …	… … …	… … …	127 12 0	407 3 3
	5	2 10 0	545 2 2	1,431 0 7	…… … …	……… … …	… … …	… … …	545 2 2	1,431 0 7
	6	2 7 0	1,938 1 3	4,724 2 4	240 10 0	586 8 2	… … …	… … …	2,178 11 3	5,310 10 6
	7	1 15 0	1,333 1 2	2,582 13 11	482 10 2	935 2 5	… … …	… … …	1,815 12 0	3,518 0 4
	8	1 8 0	2,619 4 2	3,928 14 8	2,114 6 1	3,171 9 3	… … …	… … …	4,733 10 3	7,100 7 11
	9	1 0 0	1,525 2 3	1,525 2 9	3,027 1 2	3,027 1 6	57 7 0	57 7 0	4,609 11 1	4,609 11 3
	10	0 8 0	…… … …	……… … …	…… … …	……… … …	51 2 1	25 9 1	51 2 1	25 9 1
	Total…	………	8,088 9 0	14,599 5 6	5,854 12 1	7,720 5 4	108 9 1	83 0 1	14,061 14 2	22,402 10 11
	Area transferred from wet to dry on light rate of Assessment, under Standing Order, No. 125 …	………	38 8 0	132 0 0	…… … …	……… … …	… … …	… … …	38 8 0	132 0 0
	Total Dry…	………	8,127 1 0	14,731 5 6	5,864 12 1	7,720 5 4	108 9 1	83 0 1	14,100 6 2	22,534 10 11
Wet.	11	8 7 0	56 5 1	475 4 4	…… … …	……… … …	… … …	… … …	56 5 1	475 4 4
	12	7 0 0	156 15 2	1,098 12 6	…… … …	……… … …	… … …	… … …	156 15 2	1,098 12 6
	13	5 10 0	53 4 0	299 8 8	0 15 2	5 7 3	… … …	… … …	54 3 2	304 15 11
	14	4 4 0	39 1 0	166 0 4	16 13 3	71 10 5	… … …	… … …	55 14 3	237 10 9
	15	2 13 0	6 10 0	18 10 2	…… … …	……… … …	… … …	… … …	6 10 0	18 10 2
	Total Wet…	………	312 3 3	2,058 4 0	17 13 1	77 1 8	… … …	… … …	330 1 0	2,135 5 8
	Grand Total…	………	8,376 6 1	16,789 9 6	5,882 9 2	7,797 7 0	108 9 1	83 0 1	14,430 7 2	24,670 0 7

C.

STATEMENT showing the financial results of Dry and Wet unoccupied waste lands in each group of the Chekkady Jaghire villages of South Arcot District.

Description of land.	Proposed class.	Rate of assessment per Cawny.	1st Group.		2nd Group.		3rd Group.		Total.	
			Extent.	Assessment.	Extent.	Assessment.	Extent.	Assessment.	Extent.	Assessment.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
		RS. A. P.	C. A. P.	RS. A. P.	C. A. P.	RS. A. P.	C. A. P.	RS. A. P.	C. A. P.	RS. A. P.
Dry.	4	3 3 0	21 10 3	69 1 5	…… … …	…… … …	… … …	… … …	21 10 3	69 1 5
	5	2 10 0	79 6 2	208 7 0	…… … …	…… … …	… … …	… … …	79 6 2	208 7 0
	6	2 7 0	378 8 2	922 10 8	35 5 0	86 1 2	… … …	… … …	413 13 2	1,008 11 10
	7	1 15 0	346 11 0	671 11 4	104 14 1	203 3 9	… … …	… … …	451 9 1	874 15 1
	8	1 8 0	1,048 0 2	1,572 0 7	713 10 0	1,070 6 9	… … …	… … …	1,761 10 2	2,642 7 4
	9	1 0 0	480 2 3	480 2 9	1,491 13 1	1,491 13 3	7 7 1	7 7 3	1,979 7 1	1,979 7 3
	10	0 8 0	…… … …	…… … …	…… … …	…… … …	26 11 3	13 5 10	26 11 3	13 5 10
	Total.	………	2,354 8 0	3,924 1 9	2,345 10 2	2,851 8 11	34 3 0	20 13 1	4,734 5 2	6,796 7 9
Wet.	11	8 7 0	1 [illegible] 2	13 7 3	…… … …	…… … …	… … …	… … …	1 9 2	13 7 3
	12	7 0 0	3 6 2	23 13 6	…… … …	…… … …	… … …	… … …	3 6 2	23 13 6
	13	5 10 0	2 6 2	13 8 7	2 14 0	16 2 9	… … …	… … …	5 4 2	29 11 4
	14	4 4 0	2 8 1	10 11 2	44 8 3	189 5 2	… … …	… … …	47 1 0	200 0 4
	15	2 13 0	0 10 0	1 12 2	20 1 0	56 6 10	… … …	… … …	20 11 0	58 3 0
	Total.	………	1[illegible] 8 3	63 4 8	67 7 3	261 14 9	… … …	… … …	78 0 2	325 3 5
Grand Total.		………	2,36[illegible] 0 3	3,987 6 5	2,413 2 1	3,113 7 8	34 3 0	20 13 1	4,812 6 0	7,121 11 2

No. 42. ORDER THEREON, 5th October 1874, No. 1,267.

Miscellaneous.

THESE papers relate to the introduction of an improved system of settling the land revenue of the villages of Checkady Jaghire, in the Trinomalai Taluq, of the South Arcot District. This Jaghire was resumed in 1829 and incorporated with Government lands, but the system of assessing the revenue has ever since (with occasional changes) been the same that existed during the days of the Jaghiredars. The evils of this system are very lucidly explained by the local Officers, and the Board of Revenue and do not require repetition here.

2. The necessity for completely altering the revenue administration of the villages did not fail to receive the consideration of former Collectors, but their proposals did not meet with the approval of the higher authorities. This tract of country however came under the special notice of Mr. W. Robinson when he was deputed in 1868 to report on the condition and prospects of the district. Mr. Robinson remarked that "it was an ancient Jaghire mismanaged and reduced to a very low condition before it lapsed. The old systems of Settlement have continued, and little improvement in administration seems to have been introduced since the Estate was resumed. As far as I can learn, no public expenditure has been extended to this out-of-the-way corner of the district. There is no road, and the tanks, *etc.*, are in wretched condition." "There are but 235 cawnies of wet land, of which 2 cawnies only were put down to rice crops this year. Not that there is not a good deal of land which once was, or might now be, converted into wet land, but the means of water storage have been neglected, and the miserable native-system of sharing rice crops equally between Government and the cultivator stifles the interest of the people in the wet lands, discourages them from providing by wells on wet lands against such seasons as the present, and forces them to put down inferior dry crops where rich rice crops might be grown." Mr. Robinson promised to address the Collector and Board separately about the introduction of a sound system of Revenue Settlement into the Jaghire, but no such communication appears to have been laid before Government. His remarks already noticed however, induced the Government to desire the Board to apply a speedy remedy to the unsatisfactory state of things, and the reports now submitted are the result of the enquiries thereupon instituted by them.

Paragraph 12 of Memorandum, dated 7th March 1868, recorded in the Proceedings of Government, dated 31st March 1868, No. 834.

G. O., 31st March 1868, No. 834, paragraph 6.

3. The Jaghire consists of forty-four villages, comprizing cawnies 19,242* (excluding hills, jungles, and otherwise uncultivable lands) of which cawnies 14,430† are occupied and cawnies 4,812 left waste. The present revenue under the crude system of taxing ploughs and hoes and sharing the wet crops between the ryot and Government is Rs. 19,000. The sum expected to be realized under the proposed system of money-rates as in other parts of the district is Rs. 24,670, and there is, besides this increase of Rs. 5,668, the cultivable waste to the extent of cawnies 4,812, assessed at Rs. 7,122.

	RS.
*Dry	18,834
Wet	408
Total..	19,242

	RS.
†Dry	14,100
Wet	330
Total..	14,430

4. At first sight it may appear that the proposed rates are high. But the incidence of the tax was hitherto very unequal. The Board remark that "the cess of Rs. 10-8-0 per plough and Rs. 1-12-0 per axe is levied irrespectively of area, so that the rich man tills, say 12 cawnies for precisely the same assessment that his poorer neighbour pays for only 3" and the "working of the cess produces apparently nothing but hardship to the deserving and loss to the State." The Board also remark as regards the "waraputh" or sharing-system that "the delays in measuring the crop, when ready for the sickle, cause such serious loss to the ryots, that they prefer growing dry crops to wet, and thus 85 per cent. of the wet cultivated area is under "Poonjah produce." Besides in consideration of the peculiar circumstances of the people described in paragraph 13 of the Board's Proceedings very moderate rates of assessment are proposed. While the maximum rates in the other parts of the taluq are Rs. 7 for dry and Rs. 11-13-0 for wet, the rates now proposed for the Jaghire do not exceed Rs. 3-3-0 for dry and Rs. 8-7-0 for wet.

5. The Board state that the rates proposed are lower than those advocated by the late Collectors, Messrs. Ashton and Hallett, at a time when prices were lower and roads were fewer, that (as already pointed out) they are less than those now paid in the villages of the rest of the taluq and considerably below those levied during Mr. Ashton's temporary settlement when they are said to have been collected with ease, and request that orders may be given for the introduction of the new rates in the current fasli. The proposed settlement is accordingly sanctioned as a provisional arrangement, pending the re-survey and settlement of the district generally. The Board will issue the necessary instructions.

6. The special attention of the Public Works Department will be requested to the latter part of paragraph 19 of the Board's Proceedings, and early orders will be issued from that department for the restoration and repair of the long neglected irrigation works in the Jaghire.

7. The Government notice with pleasure the testimony borne by the Collector to the ability and care with which Stribaliah, the Deputy-Collector, conducted the special work entrusted to him.

(True Extract.)

C G Master
Acting Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.
,, the Public Works Department.
,, the Director of Revenue Settlement.

Exd. G. A. Turton.

P. W. 1874 Dept.

Govt. of 1874 Madras.
No: 6735

REVENUE.

To

THE BOARD OF REVENUE,
&c., &c., &c.

Dated October 5th.
Recd. — " 28
Encl.

G. O., 5th October 1874, No. 1,267.

OCTOBER.
Nos. 41-42.

Checkady Jaghire, Trinomalai Taluq, South Arcot District.—Sanctioning the proposed settlement of the villages of — as a provisional arrangement pending the general survey and settlement of the district; directing the issue of early orders in the Public Works Department for the restoration and repair of the irrigation works; and noticing, with satisfaction, the testimony borne to the care and ability with which Stribaliah conducted the special work entrusted to him.

No 97
12-11-74.

Docked to Coty 28 Oct/74.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
11th January 1873.

No. 77. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 25th November 1872, No. 2,270:—

Read again Board's Proceedings, 11th July 1871, No. 2,860, and 13th September 1871, No. 3,938.

Read also the following papers:—

From G. BANBURY, Esq., Director of Revenue Settlement, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Coimbatore, 14th September 1872, No. 1,652-A-58.

I HAVE the honour to reply to Mr. Pennington's Official Memorandum of the 12th October last, No. 1,355, asking how long the settlement of the Checkady Jaghire in South Arcot would probably take. I am sorry an answer has not been furnished to this communication long since; but, owing to correspondence which took place between the Collector of South Arcot and the Deputy Director in Salem, I only received the latter's final reply the week before last.

2. As circumstances have changed since the question was first mooted, and as the Board should know all that has passed upon the subject, I will make a brief precis thereof to save time and reference.

3. Upon the receipt of the Board's Proceedings* asking whether the settlement of the Checkady Jaghire could be undertaken by this Department, the Deputy Director of Salem was requested† to state whether he could manage the task, considering that the face of the country had greatly altered since Colonel Priestley's survey in 1854; that there were no boundary marks whereby to recognize the survey fields; and that even the theodolite stations had disappeared in many instances. To this Mr. Goodrich replied‡ that there would be much difficulty in finding the fields formed by the survey seventeen years ago; that what was cultivation then was jungle now; and that irregular patches were tilled one year and relinquished the next, but nevertheless the fields might, he thought, be made out provided the Survey Department could restore the theodolite stations. A copy of this letter was then sent§ to Colonel Hessey,‖ who had taken a personal part in the survey of this tract of country, and the purport of the Colonel's reply¶ was as follows—that, as a rule, the theodolite stations were not marked with stones; that the boundaries of villages ran through jungles for miles; that the fields were not permanent; that no stone marks were erected; that it would be now impossible to recover the greater part of the fields; and that even restoring the theodolite stations would cause great expense to very little purpose. This communication I submitted** to the Board with the suggestion that should it be thought undesirable to defer the task any longer, the field survey should be made *de novo* after the

* Dated 11th July 1871, No. 2,860

† Dated 25th July 1871, No. 1,477.

‡ Dated 5th August 1871, No. 132.

§ Dated 7th August 1871.

‖ Then Acting Superintendent of Revenue Survey.

¶ Dated 11th August 1871, No. 1,799-58.

** Dated 16th August 1871, No. 1,664-48.

original theodolite stations had been restored, and that Mr. Goodrich might depute some hands to demarcate and classify whilst the Survey Amins could measure the fields, and thus all would be done once for all on established data. The Board, in reply,* asked whether the task could be completed within a year, and my answer,† after further consultation with Mr. Goodrich, was that I could not guarantee the work being performed within that period. The Board in the Official Memorandum‡ now under reply then wished to know how long the settlement would probably take, and the matter had accordingly to be again referred§ to Colonel Hessey and Mr. Goodrich. The former stated‖ that he could not undertake to say what time the renewal of missing theodolite stations would occupy without personal inspection of the state of the country; that he deprecated any attempt to recover the survey at all, and thought it better to introduce a provisional settlement which would render cultivation matters to a considerable extent permanent and established by the time of the commencement of the survey in regular course. Mr. Goodrich's answer¶ showed that he was in communication with the Collector of South Arcot, and required further information as to area and other details connected with the Jaghire; but before these were furnished Mr. Goodrich met with an accident which compelled him to take sick leave to England. In answer to a reminder** from this office the Acting Deputy Director reported†† that the details had been received from South Arcot, and a scrutiny of the latter with perusal of the above report furnish the following further information in connexion with this subject.

4. The Checkady Jaghire, which was resumed in 1829, comprises forty-four villages, all situated in the Trinomalay Taluq, and in paragraph 5 of his original letter‡‡ to the Collector, Sri Baliah, when writing about Checkady, goes on to say, "There are fifty-six villages of the *same* Jaghire now attached to the two taluqs of Kullacoorichy and Trikalur;" but the detail accounts show that these form the Sunkarapuram Jaghire, and Sri Baliah may have used the word "same" because the two estates formerly belonged to one proprietor; in fact, from paragraph 12 of Mr. Hallett's letter now forwarded for the Board's perusal it is stated that Checkady formed "a taluq" of Sunkarapuram.

5. Considering that these Sunkarapuram villages have been surveyed; that the present revenue system is, as Sri Baliah says, "conventional" and unsatisfactory; and that it would appear from Board's Proceedings dated 24th August last, No. 1,690, that it is contemplated to settle the two portions simultaneously,

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* Dated 13th September 1871, No. 3,938.

† Dated 5th October 1871.

‡ Dated 12th October 1871, No. 1,355.

§ Dated 17th October 1871, No. 2,009-432.

‖ ,, 20th ,, ,, ,, 2,343-80.

¶ Dated 9th December 1871.

** Dated 26th February 1872, No. 367-63.

†† Dated 23rd August 1872, No. 110.

‡‡ Contained in the Board's Proceedings dated 11th July 1871, No. 2,860.

I have included Sunkarapuram in considering the present question and in answering the Board's query as to the time likely to be spent in carrying out the task now contemplated.

6. The first of the two following statements furnishes agricultural and other statistics and the second gives all necessary details as to area and present assessment of both Jaghires, and it will be seen that, whilst the Checkady villages are all contained in Trinomalay, those of Sunkarapuram are situated both in Kullacoorichy and Trikalur; it will also be noted that, whilst the population per square mile is 313 in Sunkarapuram, it falls to 112 in Checkady :—

No. 1.

Jaghires.	Taluqs.	No. of villages.	Area in square miles.	POPULATION.			CATTLE.			No. of Agriculturists per square mile.	Average number of populationin square mile.	Remarks.
				Agriculturists.	Non-agriculturists.	Total.	Ploughing.	Other kind of cattle.	Total.			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Checkady ...	Trinomalay.	44	126	10,490	3,593	14,083	3,834	...	3,834	83	112	The accounts of Checkady do not show the number of cattle under different heads.
Sunkarapuram.	Kullacoorichy.	58	65	17,594	2,861	20,455	5,688	9,957	15,645	271	315	
	Trikalur ...	4	9	1,963	736	2,699	697	878	1,575	218	300	
	Total...	62	74	19,557	3,597	23,154	6,385	10,835	17,220	264	313	
	Grand Total.	106	200	30,047	7,190	37,237	10,219	10,835	21,054	150	186	

No. 2.

Names of Jaghires.	Names of Taluqs.	Description of land.	TOTAL AYACUT.		CULTIVATION OF FASLI 1280.				AVERAGE CULTIVATION OF FIVE YEARS, FROM FASLI 1276 TO FASLI 1280.			
					Extent.				Extent.			
			Cawnies.	Acres.	Cawnies.	Acres.	Assessment.	Average assessment per Acre.	Cawnies.	Acres.	Assessment.	Average assessment per Acre.
							RS.	RS. A. P.			RS.	RS. A. P.
Checkady.	Trinomalay, 44 villages.	Wet ...	619	818	356	470	1,456	3 1 7	311	411	1,262	3 1 2
		Dry ...	60,254	79,710	12,625	16,701	19,710	1 2 11	11,320	14,975	16,831	1 1 11
		Total...	60,873	80,528	12,981	17,171	21,166	... ...	11,631	15,386	18,093	... ...
Sunkarapuram.	Kullacoorichy, 58 villages.	Wet ...	3,630	4,802	2,755	3,645	26,058	7 2 4	2,462	3,256	22,739	7 0 0
		Dry ...	27,842	36,833	13,418	17,751	43,123	2 6 10	10,293	13,617	33,687	2 7 7
		Total...	31,472	41,635	16,173	21,396	69,181	... ...	12,755	16,873	56,426	... ...
	Trikalur, 4 villages.	Wet ...	586	775	444	587	3,457	5 14 3	426	563	3,345	5 15 1
		Dry ...	3,985	5,271	1,180	1,561	3,795	2 6 11	1,017	1,345	3,304	2 7 4
		Total...	4,571	6,046	1,624	2,148	7,252	... ...	1,443	1,908	6,649	... ...
	Total, 62 villages.	Wet ...	4,216	5,577	3,199	4,232	29,515	6 15 7	2,888	3,819	26,084	6 13 3
		Dry ...	31,827	42,104	14,598	19,312	46,918	2 6 10	11,310	14,962	36,991	2 7 7
		Total...	36,043	47,681	17,797	23,544	76,433	... ...	14,198	18,781	63,075	... ...
Grand Total, 106 villages.		Wet ...	4,835	6,395	3,555	4,702	30,971	6 9 5	3,199	4,230	27,346	6 7 5
		Dry ...	92,081	1,21,814	27,223	36,013	66,628	1 13 7	22,630	29,937	53,822	1 12 9
		Total ..	96,916	1,28,209	30,778	40,715	97,599	... ...	25,829	34,167	81,168	... ...

Sri Baliah has already given the rates prevailing in Checkady, and those existing in Sunkarapuram are shown below. It will be noticed that the dry grains are divided, for assessment purposes, into "kai" and "kader," or those which grow in "pods" and those which come to maturity in "ears;" varying rates are also applied to "Ulkudies," "Parakudies," "Brahmins," and "Mussulmans":—

RATES PER ACRE PREVAILING IN THE 158 KULLACOORICHY VILLAGES.

Kai or Pods.				Kader or Ears.				Remarks.
Ulkudy.	Parakudy.	Brahmin.	Mussulmans.	Ulkudy.	Parakudy.	Brahmin.	Mussulmans.	
RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	
2 3 8	2 0 9	2 2 6	1 1 10	4 7 6	3 5 9	4 5 2	2 3 8	
1 12 9	1 10 9	2 0 5	0 12 9	3 9 7	2 10 4	4 0 1	1 7 9	It would appear from the Tahsildar's Returns that, except in the case of one village "Alagapurum," the rates applied to Brahmins are also applicable to Mussulmans.
1 12 1	1 5 2	1 1 11	... ...	3 8 3	2 4 5	2 3 8	... ...	
1 10 5	1 2 2	1 1 10	... ...	3 4 11	1 15 9	... ...	... ...	
1 5 2	0 15 11	... ...	... ...	2 10 4	1 10 5	... ...	... ...	
0 15 11	0 13 1	... ...	... ...	1 15 9	1 7 9	... ...	... ...	
... ...	0 12 9	... ...	... ...	... ...	1 5 2	... ...	... ...	
... ...	0 11 4	... ...	... ...	... ...	1 3 10	... ...	... ...	
... ...	0 10 7	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	

RATES PER ACRE PREVAILING IN THE FOUR VILLAGES ATTACHED TO THE TRIKALUR TALUQ.

Assessment of "Kai" and "Kader."			Remarks.
Ulkudy.	Parakudy.	Brahmins.	
RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	
	2 10 4	2 3 8	The accounts of the four villages do not give the assessment of Kai and Kader separately.
	1 12 10	1 14 3	
	1 8 4	... ...	

7. The following table shows the wet rates at present levied. Although these are termed in the accounts "Sarasari" or average rates, I gather that this one rate pervades the entire village, the settlement having been fixed in some arbitrary offhand manner "without reference to Board or Government".

AVERAGE WET RATES PREVAILING IN THE SEVERAL VILLAGES OF THE SUNKARAPURAM JAGHIRE.

No.	Rate per Acre.	Remarks.
	RS. A. P.	
1	9 4 0	Average of one village.
2	9 1 0	Do. of ,, do.
3	8 5 0	Do. of two do.
4	7 15 0	Do. of four do.
5	7 9 0	Do. of nine do.
6	7 3 0	Do. of five do.
7	6 13 0	Do. of six do.
8	6 10 0	Do. of thirteen villages.
9	6 7 0	Do. of four villages.
10	6 1 0	Do. of two do.
11	5 15 0	Do. of one do.
12	5 5 0	Do. of four do.
13	4 3 0	Do. of one do.
14	3 13 0	Do. of ,, do.
Average...	6 12 0	

8. As already mentioned, changes have taken place in this Department since the Jaghire settlement question was first mooted. Thus the Deputy Director's party have passed away from the Salem taluqs which bordered upon South Arcot; the revival of demarcation in Salem will occupy Mr. Clogstoun's time longer than was at first anticipated; and finally, settlement work has commenced under Mr. Clogstoun's supervision in Coimbatore. The original idea of carrying out the contemplated settlement under the Deputy Director's own immediate superintendence must be, therefore, abandoned; but, if the Board are of opinion that the task should no longer be delayed, the following arrangement seems to me likely to furnish the best chance of success.

9. When Mr. Mayer, the Assistant Director in Cuddapah, returns from England in November next, Mr. Baber, who is now acting for him, will be available for work elsewhere. Having been for nearly four years in the Survey Department, Mr. Baber would be more at home in restoring the missing theodolite stations and former survey than any one else I could select. He is well acquainted with Tamil, of active habits, understands demarcation, and by November next will have had a year's training in settlement work. Although Colonel Hessey's opinion, to which much weight must be allowed, is against having anything to do with the old survey work, I cannot but think it would be a pity to abandon all that has been done without making some efforts to utilize the existing maps, correct areas and other details now available, more especially as this survey was, if I remember right, carried out under the personal superintendence of Colonels Priestley and Hessey. Mr. Baber might, therefore, with some aid from Colonel Priestley's Department, restore, as far as possible, the old theodolite stations, erecting those not hitherto permanently marked. He might likewise carry on field demarcation

according to the existing village maps, classifying and measuring minor holdings as he goes along. Cultivation made subsequent to the survey on waste, not then dealt with fieldwar, might be demarcated and measured by the Kusrah method, and the areas thus arrived at taken for settlement purposes. This would answer all present needs, and upon the advent of the survey hereafter those new tracts could be taken in hand regularly by that Department. Where the survey fields cannot be traced new measurements must be made by the Amins, as suggested in my letter of the 16th August 1871, No. 1,664-48, already quoted. But from what I can gather, the task of recognizing the fields will not be so hard in Sunkarapuram as in Checkady, the former being less hilly and jungly and containing a large area of permanent* cultivation.

10. A difficulty certainly appears as regards supervision of the settlement operations. I would offer to take up this part of the task myself; but all the time I can spare must be given to the settlement of the Chingleput District. The only course seems to be to arrange that Mr. Clogstoun should visit the Jaghires from time to time, see how work is progressing, and consult with Mr. Baber. When the Salem settlement is completed this much Mr. Clogstoun might certainly manage.

11. Concerning the time that the actual classification and preparation of the settlement details would occupy, it is not easy to give a correct approximate. Thus, if the old paimash fields are not cut up, or if, in other words, the boundaries of the survey fields correspond and are coincident with the natural boundaries of the existing fields, the task of finding the survey numbers will be greatly facilitated; on the other hand, if the old fields are broken up, more time must be allowed. I should say, however, that if the marginally-noted establishment be sanctioned the above task might be accomplished within a year and a half.

One Deputy Director and Office.
,, Supervisor and Office.
Two Head Classifiers.
Sixteen Classifiers.
,, Demarcators with the usual peons.
NOTE.—The above does not include the Survey Amins who would have to measure regularly those villages in which the former survey fields could not be traced, as already explained.

12. A perusal of Sri Baliah's letter, particularly paragraphs 7 and 9, leads me to believe that the main object he has in view is to fix a money assessment upon the wet lands of the Checkady Jaghire, which are now under the Oobbaddy or division of produce system, one that has only to be seen to be condemned. If, then, the Board consider that for the present this partial improvement is sufficient, Sri Baliah might, I apprehend, with a few trained hands, restore, as far as possible, the demarcation of the wet fields as laid down on the maps, making use of the correct survey areas for his subsequent settlement. This would, it is true, be only patch-work, as the theodolite stations would not be revived; but it seems likely to answer present requirements, and, as the wet cultivation is far more permanent and less shifting than the dry, it may be conjectured that the present state of the nunjah tracts will not differ very greatly from what it was when the survey was made and consequently from what is now shown in the maps.

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* Thus the average wet cultivation during the five years given in the statement attached to paragraph 6 comes to 3,819 acres, the locality of which must remain pretty much the same year after year.

From G. BANBURY, Esq., Director of Revenue Settlement, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Madras, 17th October 1872, No. 1,906-64.

IN accordance with the Board's verbal request I have the honour to submit a statement showing the establishment required for endeavouring to complete the field work in the Checkady Jaghire alone in one year. This is much the most difficult and jungly of the two properties, and I should not wish to employ the whole establishment at once until it is found out what and where the main difficulties really are.

2. It may most probably be necessary to obtain the aid of some of the Survey Amins when the old fields cannot be at all traced, as mentioned in paragraph 9 of my letter now before the Board.

	RS.
One Assistant Director	425
Office establishment, as usual	89
One Deputy Inspector	70
Two Office Goomastahs, on Rupees 20 and 15	35
,, Head Classifiers, at Rupees 30 each...	60
Five Classifiers, at Rupees 20 each	100
,, do. at ,, 15 ,, ...	75
,, Goomastahs, at ,, 15 ,, ...	75
,, do. at ,, 12 ,, ...	60
Twenty-eight Peons at Rupees 6 each	168
One Massaljee	6
Total for one month ...	1,163
Total for twelve months ...	13,956

THE Board resolve to request Government to sanction the entertainment of the establishment proposed in the Director's second letter to settle the Checkady Jaghire in South Arcot. The cost will be Rupees 1,163 a month and the work will be finished in about a year.

2. The necessity for settling this tract of land is sufficiently shown in the papers recorded in Board's Proceedings dated 11th July 1871, No. 2,860. It has been a question whether the similar tract of Sunkarapuram should be settled at the same time; but the Board have come to the conclusion that Checkady should be dealt with first as being less conveniently situated and presenting greater inequalities and anomalies to be rectified by a new settlement.

No. 78. ORDER THEREON, 11th January 1873, No. 38.

Land Revenue.

THE Governor in Council is of opinion that the necessities of the case will be sufficiently met by a provisional settlement of this small tract by the Collector. There must be some old *pymash*

Govt. of 1873 Madras.

REVENUE.

To

THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

&c., &c., &c.

Dated January 11th.

Recd.

G. O., 11th January 1873, No. 88.

JANUARY.

Nos. 77-78.

Checkady Jaghire in South Arcot.—Passing orders with reference to its provisional settlement.

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

Read the following :—

No. 565.

MEMORANDUM.

Coast Talooks.

1. South Arcot.—I began my investigation into the condition of the crops and people in the northern talooks of South Arcot in the Tindevanum Talook, having made some inquiry into the condition and prospects of the sea-bord talooks at Cuddalore, and in the neighbourhood of Pondicherry. Mr. Lister has likewise made complete examination in regard to Tindevanum. The result of these inquiries leads me to believe that there is no cause at present for anxiety in respect to the sea-bord talooks of this district.

2. A large proportion of the cultivation in these talooks is on irrigated lands, and, as a rule, the population is well to do, and there must be considerable accumulated agricultural profits to enable them to tide over an occasional unprofitable year, such as the present one. Labor, too, can be more readily obtained in the large coast towns and villages which are sufficiently numerous in these more developed talooks.

3. There is no doubt that in this year these talooks have suffered like the rest of the adjacent country, and much less human food has been produced than is ordinarily the case. The crops were put down late, and the yield suffered proportionately. The out-turn of crops on wet lands will not exceed two-thirds of the yield of an average year. A considerable portion is returned actually withered (Shavi), and a still larger area will produce a very small crop. For a month or two to come it will be impossible to form any definite opinion as to what will be the condition of the people in these parts as the season advances; but there is no cause for immediate anxiety. The dry crops, so far as I can learn, have suffered seriously throughout the coast districts; but the proportion they bear to the whole cultivation, and to the ordinary food of the people, is less than it is in the inland talooks; disaster, therefore, to this class of cultivation is not so serious a matter.

4. Tindevanum Talook.—The old talook of Tindevanum, excluding the Gingee Division, affords probably a fair specimen of the coast talooks of the district. Of the wet lands, 8·8 per cent. is returned as untilled, chiefly from want of water; little actual withered crop (*Shavi*) is shewn in the accounts, so far as they had been prepared up to the time of my visiting the talook; but a good deal more appeared to be in jeopardy. The out-turn (*Kandamudal*) of the whole wet cultivation of the coast district of this talook is estimated by the Curnums and Tahsildar at very little, if anything over half the yield of a bumper season; perhaps two-thirds of the yield of an ordinary year has barely been reached in the rice crops. Under this head of wet cultivation, there is considerable further loss from the comparatively small area of

	Holdings.	Waste.	Cultivation.	Withered.
	Cawnies.	Cawnies.	Cawnies.	Cawnies.
Wet ..	16,214	1,430	14,784	66
Dry ...	60,212	6,400	53,812	149
Total.	76,426	7,830	68,596	215

N.B.—The head "Withered" is not an ascertained fact. The cultivation accounts are in course of preparation, and will present a more correct view of the loss under this head.

N. B.—In this talook the Revenue servants have adhered strictly to the Shavi Rules, and a large quantity of crops, which has returned little more than the seed, has not been shewn as Shavi.

be put under second crop, in consequence of the lateness of the nd the want of water now prevailing.

and which CULTIVATION.—The principal difficulties of a year of this kind arise st harvery general failure of the dry crops, on which, it is almost unnecessary to mention, the poorer classes are in a very great measure dependent. Upwards of sixty per cent. of the dry crops in the Tindevanum Division appear to consist of Varagoo, and about ten per cent. of Cumboo. Both of these have suffered very severely, the yield probably not exceeding thirty-five to forty per cent. of that of an ordinary year. The other grains, such as Raggy, Maize, &c., are small in quantity, but likewise very poor in out-turn. Gingelly-oil seed and Horse-gram are almost failures.

6. CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.—The condition of the agricultural population is indicated by the marginal classification of the payers of revenue. Sixty-three per cent. of the whole pay less than 10 Rupees a year, and are, for all practical purposes, laboring cultivators, who are in a great measure dependent on the out-turn of the crops of the year.

	RS.
Puttahdars paying less than 10 Rupees.	23,502
Do. do. do. 30 ,,	10,327
Do. do. above 30 ,,	3,432
Total...	37,261

N. B.—This statement is for the whole talook, including the Gingee Division. The proportion of small Puttahdars is larger in the Gingee Division than in the Tindevanum Division of the talook.

7. The farm hands in this talook are comparatively well off; they receive subsistence wages throughout the year, and a share (*Kallavasum*) of the crops at the usual rate of 10 in every 120 measures. Wages can probably be obtained more easily in this wealthy part of the district than elsewhere, as before observed. I think, therefore, that we may wait safely for some time, and allow circumstances to develope themselves, with the hope that any measures beyond the fiscal relief already sanctioned, and the ordinary works of the year, may not be urgently required.

8. GINGEE DIVISION.—The inland or Gingee Division of this talook seems to require special notice. It consists of the upper water-sheds of the Kilinjar or Pondicherry river. A large proportion of the cultivation is dry, and the effect of the drought shews itself more as we proceed inland. The rain which fell about the 25th January, seems to have lightened off considerably the further the fall receded from the coast. Here we have a very much larger proportion of the holdings returned as waste (*Bunjer*) and withered (*Shavi*), and the results of my own, and Mr. Lister's examination of the cultivation accounts and inquiries amongst the Curnums and Ryots of a large proportion of all the villages of the division, shew that the yield, under all heads, is estimated considerably below that of the coast division of the same talook. The out-turn of the rice crop is generally stated to be not more than one-half that of an average year; the loss would have been very serious, but for wells which are numerous, and to which no doubt the population is in a great measure indebted for the portion of the wet crop that has been saved. Little or no second crop can be looked for.

	Holdings.	Waste.	Cultivation.	Withered.
	Cawnies.	Cawnies.	Cawnies	Cawnies.
Wet ..	14,749	864	13,885	614
Dry...	42,902	6,413	36,489	1,460
Total...	57,651	7,277	50,374	2,074

N. B.—There is some doubt in my mind as to the accuracy of these returns, but I have not the means of verifying them.

9. DRY CROPS.—Under the head of dry crops, there has been a considerable return of withered Varagoo, Cumboo, and Raggy, and from all I can learn, the general yield of these crops appears to have been less than one-third of the ordinary out-turn. Gingelly-oil seed, which in this division is a considerable article of cultivation, has suffered even more severely; and Gram will yield little or no crop. In both divisions of this talook Indigo is largely cultivated, and the late rains have proved very favorable for the early sowings of this valuable product; the seeds appear to have germinated freely.

10. CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.—The population of this comparatively dry hilly country is decidedly less wealthy, and with fewer means of meeting the difficulties of the season than the inhabitants of the Tindevanum Division. I am satisfied that pressure will arise amongst the poorer classes of this division, which will have to be met by expenditure on Public Works. I learn from the Range Officer that he has already submitted estimates for minor works of agricultural repair within the division, amounting to about Rupees 4,000. These works should be at once sanctioned and put in hand, and I have requested the Head Assistant, Mr. Lister, to place himself in communication with the Tahsildar and Range Officer, and prepare a list of works to be carefully selected with reference to localities where agricultural losses have been most serious, for submission through the Collector for sanction. These, I think, might be undertaken by the villagers under the superintendence of the Revenue Officers. I have ascertained that the Sub-Magistrate of Gingee has very little to do; he might be entirely relieved of the few magisterial cases that fall to his lot, and be required to devote himself to itinerating amongst the people, and watching the execution of works entrusted to the Monigars of villages. Here, as elsewhere, works to be executed by the villagers themselves must be started by a small advance, for an agricultural population, with very deficient crops, cannot have capital on hand to invest in Public Works which may not be measured up and paid for for some weeks. Mr. Lister will likewise consult the Range Officer as to the desirability of opening out any local roads. The water-supply in several parts of this division, for both man and beast, is very bad, and I propose to place 1,000 Rupees in the hands of the Head Assistant for employment in clearing out wells, &c., for drinking purposes.

N. B.—Since writing the above, I find that the Collector has placed Rupees 3,000 at Mr. Lister's disposal for these purposes.

TIAGADROOG,
7th March 1868.

(Signed) W. ROBINSON,
Additional Member of the Board of
Revenue on special duty.

No. 566.

MEMORANDUM.

1. TRINOMALAI TALOOK.—The talook of Trinomalai consists of the upper water-sheds of the Cheyar river, and of the tributaries of the Pennair river; the western extremity lies between the Javadi and Kullacoorchi hills, where it joins on to Uttengherri Talook of the Salem District.

Area, 945 square-miles; population, 101,472, (106 to the square-mile); 487 villages with 135 hamlets.

2. I consider that this high dry talook has been more seriously tried by the recent drought than any part of the country I have visited, except the Palmanair and Polur Talooks of the North Arcot District. The Polur and Trinomalai Talooks are one and the same tract of country, and have been similarly affected in every respect. I have travelled over the whole talook, and carefully examined the cultivation accounts and the Curnums and principal Ryots of every part.

	Holdings.
	Cawnies.
Dry	69,764
Wet	12,095

3. From the marginal statement, it will be seen that dry cultivation largely preponderates in this talook. Nearly six-sevenths of the whole area brought under the plough this year consists of dry lands, while the irrigated area barely exceeds 10,000 acres. The great bulk of the people's food, therefore, is dependent on the falling rain and its seasonable distribution. In both respects the past monsoon was a failure. Rain in sufficient quantity for agricultural purposes did not fall till late in the season. In November, a most important month, there were only a few partial showers, and from early in that month till late in January not a drop fell. The fall of rain on the 24th and 25th January at Trinomalai was less than half of what fell on the coast, and in the west of the talook about Chengum, and at the foot of the Javadi and Kullacoorchi hills (Chekkady), there was showery weather rather than heavy rain. So far as agriculture was concerned, the fall at the end of January seems to have been of very little direct advantage; it supplied water for a fortnight or three weeks to standing crops, but of course could not retrieve the disasters of protracted drought; it relieved the incessant labor at the wells for a time, and left these in a condition, which is enabling the latest sowings to be carried to maturity, and is providing sufficient water for small garden crops, such as Tobacco, Chillies, &c. But the rain was far too late to do good to the dry crops which, in this part of the country, were earlier sown than on the coast. The disaster to crops of all kinds, though varying slightly in degree, has been general and very decided.

4. I have endeavoured to ascertain the opinions of old and experienced Monigars and Curnums as to the conditions of the present season and its agricultural results compared with former seasons of agricultural disaster. They seem to be unanimous in opinion that the season under consideration is very decidedly worse than 1865-66; when, though Cumboo suffered severely from early drought, Varagoo and other dry grains were comparatively much better than in this year, in consequence of the rain that fell in December of that year. This view is borne out by the Comparative Returns of withered crops as shewn in the margin. The aged and more intelligent inhabitants seem to think that since the years *(Taranna)* 1823-24 and *(Nundanna)* 1833-34 agricultural disaster has never been so complete under all heads, nor the crops on the whole so short. These two well known famine years are quoted simply as landmarks. I must not be misunderstood to be drawing the slightest parallel between the calamities of those seasons and the prospects of the present one. All I mean to say is that the well-informed ryots tell me, and I have seen nothing to lead me to doubt their opinion, that since (*Nundanna*) 1833-34 the agricultural prospects of no season have been so unfavorable as those of the present year.

	1865-66.		1867-68.	
	Cawnies.	Assessment.	Cawnies.	Assessment.
Wet ...	632	4,228	2,079	12,484
Dry ...	Not returned.	25,407	24,063	49,775

Tanks containing six months' supply	...	64
Do. ,, 4 ,, ,,	...	126
Do. ,, 3 ,, ,,	...	272
Do. ,, 2 ,, ,,	...	96
Do. ,, 1 month's ,,	...	29
		587
River-channels		90
Spring do.		12
Anicuts		68
Wells		8,843

N. B.—I have examined a large number of tanks, and have not seen one which was in good repair.

5. In the margin are shewn the artificial means of irrigation. The great bulk of the tanks, it will be observed, are small, and of three months' register and under. No tanks received anything like an ordinary supply to keep them effective during the later months of the year, and many failed entirely very early in the season. Even under tanks (and very many of them) the cultivation has been almost entirely dependent upon wells during the past three months. The January rain gave but from ten to twenty days' water to an ordinary rain-fed tank, and now, with few exceptions, even the most capacious are dry. The river-channels and anicuts are taken from the upper parts of rivers and mountain streams which are themselves generally small; the rivers and streams from which they are derived had no freshes, and but a limited and uncertain supply of water at any time.

6. Wet Cultivation.—The whole wet cultivation of this talook is confined, as shewn in the margin, to about 12,000 cawnies; of this, 13·4 per cent. remained waste in consequence of want of water, and the returns of withered crop *(Shavi)* up to date shew 2,079 cawnies, or 19·8 per cent., as entire loss. In respect to the out-turn of the remainder, the testimony of the Monigars and Curnums is but partially reliable. In the eastern part of the talook, and down its centre about Trinomalai, Pachel, &c., the out-turn of rice crops may be taken at a half crop. In the north; on the Polur side, wet crops suffered more seriously. The same may be said of the southern villages lying near the Kullacoorchi and Ellavanasur frontier. In the Chengamah gap, between the Javadi and Kullacoorchi hills, the loss has been very serious, with the exception perhaps of the Kuttikotum and Kariamungalum villages where the artificial supply of water is good.

	Holdings.	Waste.	Cultivation.	Withered crops (Shavi.)	
	Cawnies.	Cawnies.	Cawnies.	Cawnies.	Per cent.
Dry ...	69,764	4,097	65,667	24,063	36·6
Wet ...	12,095	1,626	10,469	2,079	19·8
Total...	81,859	5,723	76,136	26,142	34·3

Per cent. on dry ... 5·8.
Do. on wet ... 13·4.

N. B.—In the Shavi Accounts are included crops so raised that not more than the seed sown has been threshed out of the crop when the straw has been gathered for fodder, &c.

7. Dry Crops.—The dry crops throughout the talook have turned out very badly. Of the whole area, more than one-third (24,063 cawnies, or 36·6 per cent.) is

returned as absolute loss. Herein, too, there is some variety in the extent of the disaster in different localities. In the eastern parts more has been harvested, but as we proceed west we find that the out-turn falls off. Cumboo has been harvested to some extent, perhaps a fourth to a three-eighth crop. Varagoo and Raggy have failed entirely in several parts, and nowhere present any favorable return; average crops are probably under one-fourth. Gram and Gingelly-oil seed will do little or nothing. Castor-oil is likely to give a better return in most places. The area of land under Tobacco has considerably decreased, and while on the whole there seem to be promise of a fair yield; the root of the plant has, in many neighbourhood, been attacked by a disease, which is causing anxiety to the growers, and evidently very considerable loss.

N. B.—A specimen of the diseased root has been sent to the Horticultural Society, as it is a disease which does not frequently appear.

8. CHEYAR GORGE VILLAGES.—Certain localities in the western part of the talook require particular mention, as they have suffered with exceptional severity, and will require expenditure on Public Works. The six villages in the Cheyar gorge between the Tenmallays and Javadi hills appear to have lost a very large portion of all crops; eighty per cent. are returned entire loss. The crops were saved only on low lying land on the bank of the mountain torrents. Fifty per cent. of the demand (Rupees 1,091) has been collected. No works can be devised within this group of villages, but the people will work on the Paramundal tank and the agricultural works at the entrance of the gorge.

Six villages, population 1,206.

Cultivation.	Withered.	Reaped.
Acres. 1,301	1,046	255

N. B.—This acreage is approximate only, as the settlement is still on the ploughs, from 10½ to 13 Rupees per plough, (ninety in number), and hoes, (eight in number), at 2 Rupees each.

9. The group of villages round Chengum have likewise suffered very seriously, and will require employment.

10. RAVANTAVADI, &c., 23 VILLAGES.—The villages in the gap between the Javadi and the Kullacoorchi hills, and adjoining the Salem District, including the so-called forest *(Pattikad)* villages on the bank of the Pennair, have likewise lost very seriously. The marginal statement shews that Artavada, and twenty-three other villages in the direction of Ravantavadi have lost more than one-half of their whole cultivation, and the out-turn of the rest is very poor. Water too is scarce, and on the whole their prospects are gloomy; they will require work.

Twenty-three villages, population 6,150.

	Holdings.	Waste.	Cultivated.	Withered (Shavi.)	
				Area.	Per cent.
	Cawnies.	Cawnies.	Cawnies.	Cawnies.	
Dry ...	5,601	361	5,240	3,148	60·0
Wet ...	455	83	382	104	27·2
Total...	6,056	444	5,622	3,252	57·8

7·3 per cent.

11. FOREST (PATTIKAD) VILLAGES.—The condition of the twenty-four (Pattikad) forest villages further south, which I have carefully examined, is worse. The industrious and quiet population (1,320) have little or no wet cultivation, and depend almost entirely on dry crop. The country is rocky, and somewhat inaccessible under its present condition. From the marginal abstract of the cultivation accounts it appears that twelve (11·9) per cent. of the land remained untilled, and 91·4 per cent. of the whole cultivation came to nothing; the out-turn of the rest did not exceed one-fifth of an ordinary crop. Work must be provided for these parts, and I would recommend that a road be carried from Chengum viâ Ravantavadi right into the (Pattikad) forest group of villages. It would prove a most useful forest road, and might be carried through into the Kottaputty valley of the Salem District, and made to meet a road, which I am about to recommend, to open up the Chekkady lapsed Jaghire.

Twenty-four villages, population 1,320.

	Holdings.	Waste.	Cultivated.	Withered (Shavi.)	
				Area.	Per cent.
	Cawnies.	Cawnies.	Cawnies.	Cawnies.	
Dry ...	2,100	247	1,803	1,701	91·2
Wet ...	28	7	21	21	100
Total...	2,128	254	1,884	1,722	91·4

11·9 per cent.

12. THE CHEKKADY LAPSED JAGHIRE.—No part of this talook has suffered more than the lapsed Jaghire of Chekkady. I have, therefore, carefully examined this part with Mr. Lister, who visited it for a second time. The lapsed Jaghire consists of the tract of country lying between the southern bank of the Pennair river and the slopes of the Kullacoorchi hills. It is naturally a dry and hilly country, but with some fine fertile tracts intervening. It was an ancient Jaghire mismanaged and reduced to a very low condition before it lapsed. The old systems of settlement have continued, and little improvement in administration seems to have been introduced since the estate was resumed. As far as I can learn, no public expenditure has been extended to this out-of-the-way corner of the district. There is no road, and the tanks, &c., are in wretched condition. The marginal abstract of the cultivation accounts of the year shews that nearly the whole cultivation is dry. There are but 235 cawnies of wet land, of which two cawnies only were put down to rice crops this year. Not that there is not a good deal of land which once was, or might now be, converted into wet land, but of the means of water storage have been neglected, and the miserable native system of sharing rice crops equally between Government and the cultivator stifles the interest of the people in their wet lands, discourages them from providing by wells on wet lands against such seasons as the present, and forces them to put down inferior dry crops where rich rice crops might be grown. The above given

	Holdings.	Cultivation.	Withered crops (Shavi.)	
	Cawnies.	Cawnies.	Cawnies.	Per cent.
Dry ...	11,253	11,045	6,850	62·0
Wet ...	235	2	...	...
Total ...	...	11,047	6,850	62·0

N. B.—If rice be cultivated upon any lands, the crop is shared, the Government taking a full half share of the gross produce. The Government share in kind is then thrown on the hands of the ryot, who has to pay not the local value of the paddy, but the ascertained market prices at Trinomalai—a market some twenty to thirty miles off. This commutation entails a further loss to the ryots of five to ten per cent. on the value of the Government share. This system of sharing does not apply only to lands irrigated from Government sources, but also to lands where artificial irrigation is provided at the cultivator's own cost.

marginal statement shews that of 11,045 cawnies of dry cultivation, 62·0 per cent. is entire loss. We have carefully examined the standing crops and stacks together with the cultivation accounts, and have questioned the principal ryots. It appears that the out-turn of crops which were saved has been very small. The best was Cumboo, which yielded one-fifth to one-fourth of the ordinary out-turn. A full half of the Raggy crops was an entire loss (Shavi), and of the rest the out-turn has been very small, not above one-fifth of an ordinary yield. Under Varagoo, the loss and deficient out-turn is much the same as in Raggy. Sami, Tenny, Gingelly-oil seed, and Gram are nearly entire loss. Castor-oil is the only dry crop which gives a fair promise; it is grown with Varagoo, &c., and has survived the drought which killed the more delicate under growth. Entire loss (Shavi) is comparatively small; the crops have a fair appearance for a year of this kind, and the yield will probably be a half crop. Tobacco, a small crop at all times in the Chekkady Jaghire, has been put down over comparatively contracted area under wells, and presents a fairer promise; it has not suffered from disease, so much as in other parts of the talook. The only dry grains which have turned out fairly are those which have been raised on wet lands, which from want of water, or owing to the above noticed fiscal disadvantages, have been substituted for the proper rice crops. The condition of the people in a country of this kind is of course very poor; of the forty-four villages (four uninhabited), thirty-four are what is termed plough and hoe villages, that is from Rupees 8-12 to Rupees 10-8 is charged for each plough, the average area being about ten cawnies per plough, (841 ploughs are registered), and a separate demand is made on 103 hoes at about $1\frac{1}{2}$ cawnies each hoe. The inhabitants of these villages are of course very poor cultivating hill ryots without capital or accumulations. Ten villages lower down the valley are termed *Varaputt* or *Amani* villages with a fixed assessment. In these the assessment on dry cultivation of all kinds is fixed at the exceptionally high rate of Rupees 3-8 per cawny. In these villages there may be some ryots who are fairly well to do, but on the whole the population must be considered as below the average. In a year like this the inhabitants will require not only fiscal relief, but substantial aid in the form of means of earning wages. With this view a road should be carried out right through the valley, and I have provided in the list of projects to be undertaken, for several agricultural works of irrigation which I have inspected, and am satisfied should be at once put in hand.

N. B.—I inspected wet lands where Varagoo crops had been raised, on which probably rice might have been grown, but for the fiscal arrangements above described in a year like this; these of course amount to an absolute prohibition to grow rice.

N. B.—It is obvious that this Jaghire requires permanent relief in the shape of the introduction of a sound system of Revenue Settlement. On this point I will address the Collector and Board separately.

13. CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.—The population of the Trinomalai Talook is entirely agricultural. The marginal statement shews the classification of the *Puttahdars*, 58·8 per cent. of whom pay revenue under 10 Rupees each. The farm laborers are in a fair position; they receive wages throughout the year, and the usual share of the crop *(Kalavasum)*. There are no towns of any magnitude in the talook, Trinomalai itself being rather a place of occasional religious resort than a centre of wealth or manufacture. At present the people are healthy, except in the south-east corner of the talook, where the population of some twelve villages have suffered from fever of a very fatal type. There is no cholera or other epidemic in the talook.

Puttahdars	paying	less than	10	Rupees.	9,501
,,	,,	,,	30	,,	4,998
,,	,,	above	30	,,	1,719
				Total...	16,218

Officer who has visited them reports that their present suffering now more from insufficient nourishment than from actual epidemic.

14. CATTLE AND FARM STOCK.—The cattle are at present on the whole healthy; in no villages has there been considerable loss from *Vekkai* or other forms of virulent disease. They have fodder and pasture, in this respect the rain in January did much good, but there is a good deal of anxiety in several parts with respect to water, the supply of which is small at all times during the hot months. The Head Assistant and Tahsildar are sufficiently alive to the necessity of observing this point carefully as the season advances. Several old wells and water holes will be improved, as necessity arises. The Chekkady Jaghire usually supplies considerable number of cattle for sale at the annual November Fair at Trinomalai; but this season not a single head of cattle was sent for sale from that part of the country; the epidemic of two years back had impoverished their stock, and by so much of course reduced their means of living during the season which is before us.

15. The stocks of grains in the talook, so far as I can learn, are low. The people account for this by stating that although the crops of 1866-67 were good, 1865-66 was a very disastrous year, and the people ran deeply into debt—debts which had to be liquidated from the crops of last year. This accounts for the free disposal of stocks which occurred during the year. The full revenue demand of the four first kists of the current revenue year was realized before the end of January, and fell of course upon the balances of last year, for the harvest of dry crop was almost *nil*, and the wet crop harvest very late. A good deal of rice has passed through this talook *en-route* to Salem and North Arcot, but it is said that it came from the coast and southern parts of the district. However, prices have remained pretty steady, though high, and have been but slightly affected by the small harvest that is now coming in. The prices in the bazaar at Trinomalai, the only market at present in the talook, differ very little from what they were in the same month of 1866, and have an upward tendency.

	Paddy per garce.			Second sort Rice per garce.			Raggy per garce		
	1866.	1867.	1868.	1866.	1867.	1868.	1866.	1867.	1868.
	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
January.	160	161	170	320	427	358	206	234	248
February.	170	120	160	361	...	360	249	222	251

16. EMPLOYMENT FOR LABORING POOR.—I have carefully examined, in company with the Head Assistant, the different parts of the country with reference to its requirements for the employment of the people, and I have inspected a number of works, which, we are satisfied, will give profitable employment to the laboring poor where pressure is most likely to arise. I find that the Range Officer has submitted for sanction a Budget for 11,805 Rupees for twenty-six irrigation works in this

talook. All of which should at once be sanctioned and put in hand. The three largest works included in the list, viz. :—

	RS.
Channel from Eriyoor to Samudrum tank … … …	6,000
Repairing the Chengamah tank with supply channel …	1,605
Repairing Kariamungalum tank … … … … …	800

are important works, and will give labor where very urgently required. The other works are of a minor character, and should be proceeded with at once. In addition I propose (1) a road from Trinomalai right up to the head of the Chekkady valley ; many of the villages between Trinomalai and Chekkady have suffered severely, and within the Chekkady Jaghire work is urgently called for ; (2) a road from Chengum through Ravantavadi into the forest (Pattikad) villages tract. For the commencement of these works, I beg that the Government will provisionally sanction Rupees 5,000, and direct them to be undertaken at once.

17. I am informed that the Range Officer has submitted, for sanction, estimates for two roads :—

(1.) From Trinomalai to Vettavalam.
(2.) Do. do. to Manaloorpet.

The first would be a useful road, and might be commenced, but the second is not in the opinion of Mr. Lister, the Tahsildar, and myself, of any urgent need ; it might be postponed for the present.

18. Mr. Lister and myself have, in communication with the Tahsildar and Monigars, selected a number of irrigation repairs and minor works, which the people are willing to undertake and execute. But as we have not had the advantage of consulting the Range Officer on these works, I have requested the Head Assistant to take the list and go through it with Mr. Graham, and then to submit the list with the amounts for which the Monigars are prepared to contract for the works. I beg that the Government will provisionally allot Rupees (5,000) five thousand to be expended on these works, as need arises. Mr. Lister will put the list into shape, and submit the details, through the Collector, with as little delay as possible.

19. The Collector has assigned the Jummahbundy of this talook to Mr. Lister, whose painstaking investigation of every part of it fits him especially for this important work. His presence will give much confidence to the people as well as to the Revenue servants. I am much indebted to him for his excellent work as my Special Assistant throughout my tour of inspection. The Government may safely entrust any measures that may be required in his hands. The Tahsildar is a young and energetic man, thoroughly acquainted with the wants of his talook, and alive to the interests of his people, and will no doubt acquit himself well should any emergency arise.

20. I am about to meet the Collector, and will carefully discuss with him projects for the permanent development of the talook. For, with the Cheyar river on the north, and the tributaries of the Pennair running through it towards the south, the country has good capabilities for extended irrigation. Both the Polur and Trinomalai Talooks require increased attention to the water-supply.

TIAGADROOG,
7th March 1868.

(Signed) W. ROBINSON,
Acting Member of Board of Revenue.

No. 567.

MEMORANDUM.

1. KULLACOORCHY TALOOK.—Passing from the Trinomalai Talook I collected the Curnums and Monigars of the northern portion of the Kullacoorchi Talook at Manaloor, and carefully examined, with Mr. Gribble and the Tahsildar, the cultivation accounts and those best acquainted with the condition of the crops and the people of that part of the country. The villages of both the Ellavanasur and Kullacoorchi Talooks, which border on the southern portion of the Trinomalai Talook, have suffered very generally, although not perhaps quite in the same degree as the villages in the latter talook. The wet crops are better irrigated, and have produced a better out-turn, but the yield of the dry crops is very poor indeed. Cumboo suffered least, and there may be a half crop ; Varagoo and Raggy are very poor, but I hope better than in the Trinomalai Talook, for, south of the Pennair river, there is a decidedly better soil, and the out-turn of the seed sown is freely admitted to be some fifteen or twenty per cent. larger than the yield which characterizes the Trinomalai Talook. The assessment on dry land is high, and very exceptionally so in the large number of villages interspersed throughout the northern parts of the Kullacoorchi Talook, which were included in the ancient (now lapsed) Jaghire known by the name of the Kassim Khan Jaghire. Here no doubt much consideration will be necessary in fixing the settlement of the year.

2. Further south and about the centre of the talook (Tiagadroog, Kullacoorchi, &c.,) the conditions of the agricultures of the year are decidedly better ; more rain fell under the bed of the Kullacoorchy hills, than fell further north in the Trinomalai Talook, which is situated in the gap between the Kullacoorchi and Javadi hills. Showers seemed to have reached this part of the country, which did not affect the Trinomalai Talook, or the south-western part of the Kullacoorchi Talook, which lies beyond their protection, and in the Ahtur gap (Chinna Salem, &c).

3. On the whole the wet lands of this talook enjoy considerable advantages in respect to irrigation. Nearly one-third of the whole have river or stream supply channels, under which a fair out-turn was everywhere obtained. The dry crops have partially failed everywhere, but under this head, too, better results were obtained than have been realized in many parts of the country. The villages lying under the hills have not been looked up by any European Officer (or by the Tahsildar so recently as I could wish), but the Collector proposes to place the preparation of the Jummahbundy in the hands of Mr. Gribble, who will no doubt thoroughly inspect and ascertain the conditions of these parts, and take measures for finding out what is required should any emergency arise ; he has been with me for some weeks, and I am satisfied that he will do this energetically and well. The part of this talook which has been most affected (so far as we now know) is the south-western corner about Chinna Salem. Here there can be no doubt that dry crops have suffered more than they have generally throughout the talook, and the yield, especially in Varagoo and Raggy, the chief food of the poorer classes, and the cerial crops under which the larger portion of the dry land is put, have yielded a bad out-turn. However, at present no serious pressure has arisen. It is exceedingly difficult to form an opinion of what may be the effect on the poorer classes, a few months hence, of a general and very considerable diminution in the yield of inferior dry grains which are their principal food, for it may perhaps be said that rice enters as little into the daily consumption of the poor laboring

classes of these parts, as wheaten bread did fifty years ago enter into that of the poor laboring classes of Scotland. Rice is in fact consumed locally chiefly by the higher classes, pays the revenue demands, and is exported to Malabar, (where it is the food of all classes,) Mysore, Salem, and other districts for the consumption of the well-to-do. It may be that the prices of rice are not very high, and the markets are fairly supplied, while at the same time the poor can scarcely obtain those inferior grains on which they chiefly depend, and which such as Varagoo and other grains commerce does not supply. The matter will require careful watching.

4. In this talook there is a considerable garden cultivation, consisting of Sugar-cane, Chillies, Tobacco, and such like, the yield of all of which has of course been affected, but less so perhaps than other cerial projects. These matters, however, do not enter so directly in the inquiries of the nature which I have been holding, for these garden and highly productive lands are in the hands of wealthy persons who are in a condition to surmount any pressure that could possibly arise under the circumstances of this season. The advantage which the poor derive from this class of cultivation is that it gives employment to a good many laboring hands in watering, &c. This employment is, however, gradually ceasing; the Sugar Mills are now in full operation, Chillies have for the most part been gathered in, and Tobacco will shortly be cut, when there will be little for the laboring hands to do throughout the talook for the next few months.

5. In Chinna Salem and the surrounding neighbourhood there is an increasing want of water for drinking purposes, and I regret to say that cholera of a virulent type prevails at this moment in the village. Medical aid has been given, and a store of the necessary medicines left in the hands of the local officers. The water in the village is very scarce and very foul. I have directed Mr. Gribble to make any small expenditure which may be necessary for cleansing and improving the sanitary condition of the town, and as I think that it is by no means improbable, as asserted by the Monigars and Curnums and the Tahsildar, that works will be required to relieve the laboring poor during the months that are before us in Chinna Salem, and village in the south-west part of the talook. I have requested Mr. Gribble and the Tahsildar at once carefully to examine a local project for supplying the town of Chinna Salem with water, and to select a sufficient number of useful works in this as well as in the northern parts of the country for execution, as necessity arises. This will be done without delay and effectively, for Mr. Gribble's experience in Trinomalai will be useful to him here.

6. I have taken an opportunity of joining the Collector's Jummahbundy camp in the Cuddalore Talook, and have carefully discussed with him the different matters affecting the condition of the people of this district. I have also examined all the reports of the Sub-Collector in respect of his division. We are agreed that no emergencies, except perhaps in Trinomalai, have as yet arisen. The settlement of the year is progressing with much consideration and with that careful examination into individual circumstances and the condition of localities which is certain to bring to light any need of especial intervention. The district is well in hand, and local works are being selected by experienced Officers to be undertaken should necessity arise. I therefore think, with the Collector, that there is no further need of my personal inspection of the other parts of this district for the present, and I propose leaving it at once for the Salem District.

7. Referring to my Memorandum, dated 7th March 1868, on the Trinomalai Talook, I see grounds, after consultation with the Collector, to modify my views in respect to road from Trinomalai to Manaloor; it has already been sanctioned, and will be a useful work in continuation of the fine local road from Tiagar to Trinomalai, which is now under course of construction. As it may also be made to form a part of the Chekkady valley road scheme, it should be proceeded with at once.

(Signed) W. ROBINSON,
Additional Member of the Board of Revenue, on Special Duty.

CHINNA SALEM,
9th March 1868.

No. 568. ORDER THEREON, 31st March 1868, No. 834.

Miscellaneous.

1. The Government are glad to learn that although pressure is likely to be felt, and special aid to be necessary in the Gingee Division of the Tindevanum Talook, in the Trinomalai Talook, and in parts of the Kullacoorchi Talook of South Arcot, the state of things in the greater part of the district is more hopeful and encouraging, and that in fact only in the Trinomalai Talook can any emergency be said to have arisen as yet.

2. The Government approve and sanction Mr. Robinson's proposals for affording relief, and direct the Collector to take steps for immediately carrying them out.

3. The grant of Rupees 10,000, requested by Mr. Robinson, is sanctioned, and orders will be issued in the Department Public Works for setting in hand at once the works specified out of the Budget for 1868-69, the expenditure (if any) incurred before 1st April, on which date the official year commences, being adjusted later on.

4. The Government await the detailed lists of works which are promised. They are glad to note the favorable terms in which Mr. Robinson speaks of the assistance he has received from Messrs. Lister and Gribble, and rely confidently on those gentlemen's best exertions to give the utmost effect to the remedial measures which it is proposed to adopt in the district.

5. Mr. Robinson's remarks on the state of the irrigation works in the Trinomalai Talook will be communicated to the Superintending Engineer, through the Department Public Works.

6. The Government trust that the Board will be able to apply a speedy remedy to the unsatisfactory state of things in the Chekadi lapsed Jaghire which Mr. Robinson sketches, and on which he proposes to write separately.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
Secretary to Government.

To W. Robinson, Esq.
,, the Board of Revenue.
,, the Public Works Department.
,, the Collector of South Arcot.
,, the Accountant General.
,, the Relief Committee.
,, the Editors' Table.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department, 8th January 1875.

Read the following:—

No. 1,043.

No. 77. MEMORANDUM.

In G. O., No. 97, of the 12th November 1874, the District Engineer, South Arcot, and the Chief Engineer for Irrigation are directed to attend specially to the improvement of the irrigation works in the Chekady Jaghire, and to report at the end of the current official year what it is possible and what it is proposed to do for their benefit.

2. As the South Arcot District has suffered this year from a series of floods, and as the District Engineer's time and attention are already very much more than fully occupied, it would seem to be desirable to postpone taking up the Chekady Jaghire until at any rate next year, however great the need of improvement. Even were the Government able to appoint a special Upper Subordinate for employment on the Jaghire irrigation works, it is very improbable that Mr. Sage could make that personal examination of their general condition and capacity for improvement which are essential to obviate risk of waste of time and money.

Camp at Authur,
14th December 1874.

(Signed) JOHN MULLINS, Lieut.-Colonel, R.E.,
Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

No. 78. Order thereon, 8th January 1875, No. 40.

IRRIGATION, No. 14.

Under the circumstances brought to notice in the foregoing Memorandum the improvement of the irrigation works of the Chekady Jaghire will be postponed until the emergent work rendered necessary by recent floods in South Arcot shall have been attended to, and until the District Engineer may be able to make an inspection of the Jaghire and to issue the necessary instructions. The early importance of the matter will not be lost sight of.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) G. W. WALKER, Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the Chief Engineer for Irrigation.
,, District Engineer, South Arcot.

Exd. S. T. Austin.
Spare Copies

12/12/85

Govt. of Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To

THE CHIEF ENGINEER FOR IRRIGATION,

&c., &c., &c.

Dated January 8th.

Recd. Encl.

G., O., 8th January 1875, No. 40.

JANUARY.

Nos. 77-78

Irrigation Works of the Chekady Jaghire, South Arcot District.—The improvement of the works ordered to be postponed.

12/12/85

188*6*

P. W. DEPARTMENT.

Current No. 576.

From E. E.

Enclos.—8

No. 8835

Dated 22-1-86.

Received

Subject.

Temy Estabt reqd
for [illegible] works
in Chikmagalur Engineer
South West Divn.

Disposal.

No. 353 Dated 27-1-86.

To C.

For favour of
Check as regards present
scale & minimum.

[illegible]
D. W.
27-1-86.

28 JAN 86

Statement of Proposition for revision of Establishment.

Order Sanctioning present Establishment. Government of Department.		Office to which the proposition refers.	Nature of Change.												Proposition.						Remarks by Local Government.
			Present Scale.						Proposed Scale.						Permanent.		Temporary.				
					Pay.						Pay.				Increase per month.	Decrease per month.	Increase per month.		Decrease per month.		
No.	Date.		No.	Designation.	Minimum.	Increment.	Maximum.	Average or Fixed.	No.	Designation.	Minimum.	Increment.	Maximum.	Average or Fixed.	Amount.	Amount.	Period.	Amount.	Period.	Amount.	
G.O. No. 1079 W.	8th May 1885	South Arcot Chidambaram Division Sub Division Office Office	1	Draftsman III Class	.	.	.	30	1	Draftsman III Class	.	.	.	30							
2763 W	19th Nov 1885		1	do II. Class	.	.	.	35	1	Do II Class	.	.	.	35							
									1	Draftsman	.	"	.	50							
				x There is provision to the end of the year for the Drafts. III C x There is provision only for 3 months for the Drafts. II C				65						115	.	.	7	50	.	.	In 1885-86 For 2 Months Rs100 In 1886-87 For 6 Months 250 350

19 January 1886.

[illegible] for Col. R.E.
Supdg Engineer 5th Circle

CHIEF ENGINEER
20 JAN 1886
FOR IRRIGATION

12/a
1

No. 3805

Superintending Engineer's Office,
V Circle, Madras,
~~Chepak~~, Bangalore, 5 Decr 1885.

From

The SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER,
V Circle,

To

The Chief Engineer
for Irrigation.

Sir,

Enclosures.
1 Estimate
1 Report.
1 Book of Sketch Plans.
1 Statement of Rev: Particulars.
4

I have the honor to submit for Sanction an estimate of Rs 350 for temporary Establishment required for the preparation of Estimates for Irrigation works in the Chetkady Jaghire in the South Arcot Division.

The improvements of the Irrigation works in the Jaghire was ordered in G. O. No (Misc) 97 dated 12th November 1874, but the subject was postponed in G. O. No (Misc) 40 of 8th January 1875, owing to the urgent works then on hand, & since then, to famine

famine & changes in the Department. the matter has remained in abeyance.

The Executive Engineer estimates to complete the Survey operations in 7 months, for which he has submitted two estimates, 1 for Surveyor & lascars for Rs 800 and the other for a Draftsman for Rs 350, the former will be sanctioned locally from the grant of Minor Irrigation works in the Division, & for the latter the sanction of Govt. is now asked for from the grant for temporary Establishment.

The enclosed report with Statement of Rev: Particulars of Irrigation works & a book of Sketch plans of Anicuts shows the nature of the Improvements required.

I have the honor to be
Sir,
Your Most Obedt. Servant.

W H Hutton Coll R.E.
Offg Supg Engineer
5th Circle

P.W.G.O. No 40. 5-1-75
Mis No 97 - 12-11-74
Rev G.O. No 38. 11-1-73
Do Do. " 834 " 31-3-68

R-106 E.W.

Enclos 4

From

CHIEF ENGINEER
7 DEC
1885
IRRIGATION

THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER,

V CIRCLE,

To

CHIEF ENGINEER
28 DEC
1885

EXAMINER
28 JAN 1886
ENCLOSURES
ACCOUNTS

THE Chief Engr for Irrigation

R46 E.W.

Dated 5 } December 1885.
Recd. 11 }

[illegible] 14-12-85

ENCLOSURES. 4. [illegible]

No. 3805.

Checkady jaghire in the South Arcot Dt

Submits for sanction an estimate of Rs 350 for temporary Establishment required for the preparation of Estimates for Irrigation Works in the —

Forwarded to the Chief Engineer, P.W.D. with a recommendation that the estimate be sanctioned

Captain R.E.

For Actg Ch Engr for Irrgn.

Chepauk 10th Decr 1885.

No 2204 C. d/ 21/12/85.

Returned to the Chief Engr for Irrigation with remarks that if, in his opinion, the Estimate should be sanctioned as a charge against Provincial Establishment, Temporary, the Exe. Engineer should be asked to alter his Classification of the Estimate and to submit a Comparative Statement in Form No 184 M.

(By Order)

G. S. Campbell Captn R.E.
Dy Ch: Engr P.W.D.
19/12/85

No 154 Encl: 4

CHIEF ENGINEER 20 JAN 188 FOR IRRIGATION

28 JAN ENCLOSURE W. ACCOUNTS

Returned to the Supg Engineer, Fifth Circle, who is requested to resubmit the estimate the, classification being altered and to resubmit a Comparative statement in form No 184 M.

(By order)

Capt. R.E.

Asstt Chief Engineer for Irrigation

Chepauk
6 January 1886 } Enclosures 5.

No 4308.

Retransmitted with a comparative statement in Form No 184 M and the classification altered.

Col. R.E.

Supg Engineer
5th Circle.

19th January 1886.

No 818. of 3rd Februar

Encl: 6.

To
W.

3 FEB

The entries in Colum "Present Scale" of the Pro- position Statement have been Checked and found correct.

C
3.2.

3/2

2204 C 21/12/85

No 8 E.W. Encls

Encl 5

NET
28 JAN 1886
W. ACCOUNTS

Forwarded to the Chief Engineer, P. W. Depart. with reference to his endorsement No 2204. C. dated 21st December 1885.

The establishment applied for, may be sanctioned from the provision for temporary establishment in the Provincial budget Estimate

Captain R.E.
For Chief Engineer for Irrign.

Chepauk
22d January 1886

No: 353 C d/27th Jany/86.

E o C

R. No ~~806~~ 805
28. 1. 86 Encl: 6

For favour of Check as regards present scale, & return.

25/1/86 D.W.

P.T.O.

No 335 W.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

UNDER date the February 8th 1886.

READ the following

From the S.E. V Circle, N.E. No 3805, d/ 5th December 1885.
Endt. by the Chief Engr. for Irrigation No 106 E.W. d/ 10-10-85.
From the S.E. V Circle, N.E. No 4308, d/ 19 January 1886.
Endt. by the Chief Engineer for Irrign. No 8 E.W. d/ 22 Jany 86.
Office Note from the Examr. P.W. Acct. No 818 d/ 3-2-86.

Sanction is accorded to the entertainment of a temporary draftsman on R. 50 per mensem for the South Arcot Division for seven months.

2 This sanction has been registered as Provincial No 60 W of 1885-86, & classified as Establishment Temporary.

4/2/86

5.2.

To the S.E. V with Enclosures

Examr. P.W. Accts.

Chief Engineer for Irrigation

№ 35 Westfelings 8 [illegible]

W.
0.2

B5

A4