Secrt. I (1)-R—10,006—7-10-70.

(1) Number of pages (70)

(2) Date of repair 10.2.72.

(3) Initials of the Referencer

TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. 426 Press
~~B.P. No.~~ ~~Mis.~~

Dated 18. 6. 1888. ~~197~~

to be folded or roughly handled

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Land Revenue), dated 17th March 1888, Mis. No. 1797 :—

THE FULL BOARD.

Resolution—dated 17th March 1888, Mis. No. 1797.

The Board resolve to request the Governor in Council to sanction the publication of the appended notification in order to legalize—

(1) The disposal of urgent papers by the Commissioner of Land Revenue who remains at head-quarters when such papers belong to subjects assigned to the other Commissioner and such other Commissioner is on tour.

(2) The disposal of urgent Full Board papers by the Members at head-quarters when one or more of the Members are absent on tour.

(A true Extract.)

(Signed) R. S. BENSON,
Acting Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department,
with notification.

READ—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Land Revenue), dated 17th March 1888, No. 273 :—

H. S. THOMAS, ESQ., F.L.S., F.Z.S.

J. H. GARSTIN, ESQ., C.S.I.

Read—the following paper :—

No. 23.

OFFICIAL MEMORANDUM.

Revenue Department.

In inviting attention to the marginally-noted correspondence, the undersigned is directed to state that the Government consider that the Commissioners of Land Revenue and of Revenue Settlement and Director of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture performed very little touring during the period from 1st April to 31st December 1887.

Paragraph 8 of Mr. Stokes' D.O., dated 26th July 1884.
Paragraph 11 of Board's Proceedings, 4th September 1884, No. 3102.
Paragraph 9 of S.O., 15th October 1884, No. 1135.

2. Adverting to paragraph 6 of Board's Proceedings, dated 8th November last, No. 720 (Land Revenue), the Government are of opinion that most of the difficulties therein pointed out could be met by a redistribution of the work so as to allow of the Commissioner remaining at head-quarters taking some portion of the work of the

touring Commissioners. This, of course, requires the previous sanction of Government on each occasion, but it could be easily obtained, and it is believed that no such redistribution of work will be necessary when a tour is to last for but short period.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
27th February 1888.

(Signed) J. F. PRICE,
Secretary to Government.

To the Commissioners of Land Revenue.

Read—the following G.O., dated 3rd February 1888, No. 115, Revenue :—

ABSTRACT.—Considering it sufficient if the inspection of record rooms of the Presidency is made when the Land Revenue Commissioners are on tour; and requesting the Board to report if additional establishment is required to enable them to tour with greater facility than at present.

Read—the following G.O., dated 10th November 1887, Mis. No. 6821, Revenue :—

Read—Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Land Revenue), dated 12th September 1887, Mis. No. 3067.

Order—dated 10th November 1887, Mis. No. 6821, Revenue.

The charges on account of carriage of a horse incurred by Mr. Thomas are sanctioned.

2. With reference to the remark in paragraph 3 that "a Board Member has not an office accompanying him as a Collector has," the Government observe that a travelling clerk on Rs. 100 per mensem is provided for in the Land Revenue Department (*vide* statement in G.O., No. 184, dated 12th March 1886), and there appears to be no reason why a muchi and peons should not also accompany a Member of the Board on tour whenever it is necessary for the despatch of public business that they should do so. Indeed from a comparison of the statement above referred to with paragraph 18 of Board's Proceedings, dated 7th May 1885, No. 1361, it appears that in revising the Board's establishment provision was made for one muchi on Rs. 15 and for four peons on Rs. 7 each for the express purpose of accompanying Members when on tour.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. F. PRICE,
Secretary to Government.

To the Commissioners of Land Revenue.
„ the Accountant-General.

Resolution—dated 17th March 1888, No. 273.

In the first of the papers read above Government "consider that the Commissioners of Land Revenue and of Revenue Settlement and Director of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture performed very little touring during the period from 1st April to 31st December 1887," and record an opinion that most of the difficulties pointed out in Board's Proceedings, No. 720 (Land Revenue), dated 8th November 1887, could be obviated by a redistribution of work so as to enable the Commissioners remaining at head-quarters to take so much of the work of the Commissioner on tour as the latter could not conveniently dispose of while on tour.

2. In the second of the papers, the Government withdrew their previous order that one of the Land Revenue Commissioners should make a special inspection of, and report upon, the record-rooms of the whole Presidency and upon the condition, &c., of the records, with suggestions for placing them on a proper footing. They, however, desire that the Land Revenue Commissioners when on tour should visit the Collectors' offices and see if the records are in proper order, and they call for a report as to what additional establishment is required to enable the Land Revenue Commissioners to tour with greater facility.

3. The Board desire *imprimis* to assure the Government of their readiness to loyally forward their views and give effect to their orders, and they would endeavour

to do so forthwith, without further correspondence, did they not regard it as their duty to explain again, as clearly as possible, the practical difficulties in the way of making extended tours for long periods, and the disadvantages inseparable therefrom—disadvantages which, in the Board's opinion, more than counterbalance the benefits which may properly be placed in the opposite scale. The Members of the Board, as at present constituted, have moreover no personal disinclination to travel—quite the contrary. They would regard it as a welcome relief from the monotony and mental strain of the sedentary work which now presses upon them with ever-increasing weight. The Second Member has long desired to inform himself more fully of the working of the Forest Department throughout the country by visiting the valuable forests of Madura, Coimbatore, Malabar, Godávari and Ganjam and by personal consultation with District Forest-officers on the spot, but he has found it absolutely incompatible with the due despatch of business in connection with the other not less important subjects committed to his care. Nothing could be more agreeable to the First Member than to make frequent and extended tours with a view to investigating on the spot the many questions in connection with pisciculture which still remain to be solved, but both officers have nevertheless found it practically impossible to leave head-quarters for these purposes, except for very brief periods.

4. The Board fear that Government are under an erroneous impression as to the amount of work which devolves on the Land Revenue Commissioners under the altered constitution of the Board since 1st April 1887. Complete figures for the whole of the present official year cannot, of course, be had until the end of the current month, but it is easy to compare the figures for the official year 1886-87, omitting the month of March, with the figures for the corresponding period of the official year 1887-88. In the former period of eleven months, the Board, which then consisted of three Members, and was assisted by two Secretaries and a highly-paid Sheristadar, received for disposal 23,693 papers, *including* those connected with Salt, Abkári, Opium and Customs, which are now dealt [illegible] by the Commissioner of Separate Revenue, and *including* also the papers connected with Land Trade, Agriculture, Revenue Settlement and the other subjects now disposed of by the Commissioner of Revenue Settlement and Director of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture. During the eleven months of the current year the two Land Revenue Commissioners alone received no less than 20,481 papers for disposal, and were assisted by only one Secretary (on the pay of the former Sub-Secretary), while the office establishment under their control was reduced by more than one-third. These figures do not include 1,014 papers received by the Second Member as Inam Commissioner in the current year, as compared with the 788 papers received by him in the corresponding period of the previous year. Adding these figures, it will be seen that the Board of 1886-87 received 24,481 papers against 21,495 received by the Land Revenue Commissioners in 1887-88. In other words, the Land Revenue Commissioners have received only 12·2 per cent. less papers in 1887-88 than the whole Board received in 1886-87, when they had three Members and a Secretariat and office establishment half as strong again as that now allowed. There are also some 2,000 statements received each year which are not registered or shown in the above figures. Many of these, such as the Demand, Collection and Balance Statements of Land Revenue and the progress reports of minor irrigation works require most careful review and necessitate many references to the Collectors.

5. If the Government will consider these figures, the Board have no doubt they will be satisfied that whatever may have been practicable and desirable when the subject was discussed in 1884, it is now simply impossible for one Member at head-quarters to take the whole, or nearly the whole, work of the Land Revenue Commissioners while the other is on tour, except for very brief periods, during which the less urgent papers can be allowed to lie over and await his return. If this process is prolonged for any length of time, the flood of arrears becomes overwhelming. To suggest, as was originally done, that one or other of the two Members should be always on tour and to suppose that the other could take the bulk of his work during such time, is simply to ignore the conditions of the problem.

6. The only alternative solution is that the Commissioner on tour should take the bulk of his work with him, leaving only the more urgent part of it to be disposed of by his colleague at head-quarters. There are very grave difficulties involved in this proposal. The number of papers of an urgent nature, especially in connection with

the litigation in which the Court of Wards is constantly involved on behalf of the 51 estates under its management, is very great. Important interests may be imperilled and serious liabilities incurred by a single day's delay in some of these cases. The same remarks apply to suits to which the Government or its officers are parties. These are numerous and important and have nearly always to be disposed of as "very emergent" matters, owing to the time that usually elapses between the filing of the suit and the submission of the pleadings by Collectors to the Board. The disposal of all these urgent papers will inevitably cause delay in the disposal of the ordinary work of the Member remaining at head-quarters.

7. Again, the work of the Board is such as requires a great deal of reference to previous files of correspondence and Acts or other books of reference. To do satisfactory work without these is impossible; to carry them over rapid and extended tours is almost equally difficult, and would involve much additional expense. It has been already pointed out in Board's Proceedings, No. 720, dated 8th November 1887, that if the bulk of a Member's work could be taken with him and disposed of, it would practically occupy his whole time and render attention to the special object of the journey extremely difficult.

8. There is one other point which has not been hitherto dealt with. The Board entertain a very decided opinion that there is little or no practical advantage to be gained from *indefinite* touring by a Member of the Board. A special subject may well require local investigation and discussion, and a visit by one of the Members of the Board may often lead to a more rapid and satisfactory conclusion than could be attained by a protracted correspondence. The vast majority, however, of business matters can be dealt with more precisely and satisfactorily on paper than by word of mouth. The returns furnished to the Board enable them to judge how the work of each officer is performed, and if there is reason to suppose that a special subject could be more satisfactorily investigated and settled by a personal visit, or if there is reason to think that the administration of a particular officer should be locally inquired into, then the advantage of one of the Land Revenue Commissioners going on tour for the purpose would be apparent, and should be undertaken, even though the despatch of other work might suffer in consequence. Touring, however, without a definite object would, in the Board's opinion, rarely lead to any practical benefit, and would invariably and necessarily be accompanied by very grave disadvantages.

9. If, instead of the Board being constituted as at present, the Presidency was divided into four or six divisions, each having a Commissioner to reside in it and supervise its administration on the system suggested in 1878 by Sir A. J. Arbuthnot, it would be as easy for the Commissioners to tour about in their divisions as for Collectors to do so in their districts. They could travel with their whole office establishments and all necessary records for reference; but such an arrangement is out of the question for a single Land Revenue Commissioner who has the whole Presidency to visit. That it really never was contemplated by Government is to some extent shown by the provision of only a single clerk to accompany the Commissioner on his tours; while the idea of his carrying about the current records relating to all the manifold important matters of administration of twenty-two districts, wherever he goes, has only to be stated to be rejected. If a Collector requires the cart-loads he does for a single district, what would the Land Revenue Commissioner require for twenty-two districts. It follows, therefore, and such experience as the Commissioners have had proves it, that a Commissioner on tour can only dispose of such Board matters as can be dealt with on a perusal of a file forwarded through the post, and in the disposal of which a little delay is not of much moment. As a necessary consequence, the non-touring Commissioner has his work doubled, with the result that both officers fall into arrears, and if the tour of the touring Commissioner lasts for two or three months, as it well may, the result would certainly be most serious.

10. It is only necessary to imagine one Member starting on a tour to examine into the working of the rules regarding grazing fees in the forests of Ganjam, Vizagapatam, Godávari, Kistna, Nellore, Cuddapah and Kurnool (preparatory to the other Member's going on tour as soon as he returned), and taking advantage of his being in each district to look carefully into the working of such important matters as the management of Wards' estates, the enfranchisement of inams and the state of records in the various public offices. It would be impossible for him, the Board feel sure, to deal at all satisfactorily with such matters in any one district under a month or six weeks; so that after dealing with two or three districts he would return to the Presidency at the end of perhaps three months to face an utterly overwhelming mass of office arrears.

11. There is another difficulty arising out of the present state of the law, which the Board deem it right to notice as tending to prevent a Land Revenue Commissioner touring. The law practically makes it illegal for one Commissioner to dispose of any matter connected with any subject or department of which the other Commissioner has been gazetted as holding the portfolio; consequently when one Land Revenue Commissioner goes on tour, the other cannot dispose of all or any of the touring Commissioner's subjects unless he is gazetted to do so; and if he is so gazetted, it follows that the touring Commissioner is extinguished as regards all the gazetted subjects, and he is made legally incompetent to deal with them, even though they should come under his personal observation on tour.

12. The only way which the Board see out of the difficulty is to issue a notification in the general terms appended; but they doubt the legality of such a notification as the law seems to require a specific apportionment of business by the Board and an apportionment also by the Full Board with the previous sanction of Government, whereas the effect of such a general notification would be to leave the Secretary and one Member without any concurrence of the Full Board or previous sanction of Government to decide, from time to time, what were urgent subjects to be dealt with by the Home Commissioner. The Full Board have in a separate Resolution of this date asked the Government to sanction such a notification.

13. But even if this arrangement commends itself as legal, there will still remain the practical difficulty that in a tour of any length the arrears of non-urgent work which will have accumulated during the touring Member's absence will be so enormous that a serious block of work is inevitable.

14. As regards the extra establishment that will be required, the Land Revenue Commissioners consider that for the more limited touring which alone they consider to be practicable in present circumstances, one clerk on Rs. 50 per month will be sufficient in addition to the clerk on Rs. 100 already sanctioned. The menial establishment of one muchi and four peons provided for travelling, as noticed by Government in their Order, No. 6821, dated 10th November 1887, has been absorbed in the Board's office to cover the deficiency resulting from the transfer of the *whole* of the menial * establishment of the Cutcherry Department to the Commissioner of Revenue Settlement and Director of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture under the authority of G.O., No. 184, dated 12th March 1886, notwithstanding that two-thirds of the Cutcherry clerks remained under the Land Revenue Commissioners. In these circumstances, none of the menials provided for touring are really available for that purpose, and it will be necessary to sanction—

	Per mensem. Rs.
*1 Muchi on	15
1 Attender on	12
3 Peons, each on	8
2 Do. each on	7
1 Masalchi on	6
Total ...	71

	Per mensem. Rs.
1 Muchi on	15
1 Attender on	12
2 Peons, each on	8
1 Peon on	7
Total ...	50

(True Copies and Extract.)

(Signed) R. S. BENSON,
Acting Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

ORDER—dated 18th June 1888, No. 426, Revenue.

Miscellaneous.

The foregoing papers relate to the question of inspection tours by the Land Revenue Commissioners and aim at showing that it is impossible for them to comply with the wishes of Government on this matter.

2. The Commissioners disclaim any personal disinclination to travel, but assert that the work of the Land Revenue Department of the Board is so heavy as to preclude either Member from doing more than the urgent work of his absent colleague. They proceed to remark that a Commissioner cannot take about with him the records relating to the whole of the Presidency, and can therefore, while on tour, dispose of only such papers as can be dealt with on perusal of a file forwarded through the post. Thus the Commissioners remark in illustration: "if the tour lasts for two or three months, as it well may," the Commissioner would find on his return "an utterly overwhelming mass of office arrears" and "the result would be most serious." The legal objection that is thought to exist to one Commissioner doing any of the work assigned under the Act to his absent colleague is next noticed, but it is added that even if this is overcome "there will still remain the practical difficulty that in a tour of any length the arrears of non-urgent work, which will have accumulated during the touring Member's absence, will be so enormous that a serious block of work is inevitable."

3. His Excellency the Governor in Council regrets that he is unable to admit the conclusiveness of any of these objections which seem to be largely founded upon a misconception of the nature of the touring required and upon erroneous conclusions, based upon the number of papers received, regarding the relative amount of work of the Land Revenue Department of the Board. It was never the intention of Government that a Land Revenue Commissioner should be absent from head-quarters for so long a period as two or three months, or that he should make the detailed examination of the work of district officers which appears to be contemplated by Messrs. Thomas and Garstin. In the opinion of Government any such minute inspection, save in very exceptional circumstances, is neither necessary nor desirable, for it would certainly tend to lessen that feeling of responsibility which now exists among district officers and which it is eminently advisable to maintain. The principal advantage which His Excellency the Governor in Council considers will be derived from the tours of the Land Revenue Commissioners is that they will thereby be brought into more direct personal contact with district officers, who would thus have an opportunity of expressing and discussing schemes and opinions which, for many reasons, would not be advanced in ordinary official communications. The Commissioners would also be able, by a brief examination of offices and records, to learn whether there were any novel points either in the amount or the nature of the work of their subordinates, and to see that no delay is permitted to occur in the despatch of official business. All this could be effected by a short visit to the head-quarters of a district and perhaps on rarer occasions to those of a division. Even three or four districts on the line of railway might thus be inspected on the same tour within a period of ten days and the absence of a Commissioner need rarely exceed that period.

4. In the 4th paragraph of their Proceedings of the 17th March the Land Revenue Commissioners state that they fear that Government are under an erroneous impression as to the amount of work which devolves upon them under the present constitution of the Board, and they imply that this is to that of the old Board consisting of three members in the ratio of 21,495 to 24,481. The Government cannot, however, admit that the number of papers received is a sufficient index of the amount of work done, and it would perhaps be sufficient to mention the subjects which are now disposed of by the other two Members of the Board to show that the contention of the Land Revenue Commissioners is altogether untenable. The Board's monthly volumes for the first nine months of the years 1886 and 1887 have been examined with the following results.

	Papers disposed of by the Old Board, April to December 1886.	Papers disposed of by the Land Revenue Commissioners, April to December 1887.
Press Series	1,980	892
Miscellaneous Series	7,070	5,401
Routine Series	4,302	3,431

Forest papers are excluded from both sets of figures as they do not affect the question of the relief afforded to the Land Revenue Commissioners. The papers included in the Press Series form the most important part of the work of both bodies and it will be seen that the difference in this class is more than 50 per cent. The Government are of opinion that this figure much more nearly represents the actual ratio which the work of the Land Revenue Commissioners bears to that of the old Board than the figure deduced from the total number of papers received. In any case, His Excellency the Governor in Council feels confident that the Land Revenue Commissioners are not more hardly worked than their colleagues in the other Departments of the Board.

5. Next as regards the alleged legal difficulty, the Government admit that the point is not altogether free from doubt, but they observe that it has never been raised by the Commissioner of Separate Revenue or the Commissioner of Revenue Settlement, who are, moreover, apparently able to make extended tours without any of the disastrous results to work which the Land Revenue Commissioners anticipate would occur if one of them were absent for anything more than a very brief period. The draft notification submitted by the Board will be forwarded to the Advocate-General for his opinion as to its legality, as well as to the propriety of declaring in any specific notification regarding the arrangement of business that during the absence of a particular Member such and such of his subjects may be disposed of either at Madras by some other particular Member or by himself during his tour. It appears to Government that a selection from the subjects assigned to either of the Land Revenue Commissioners might thus be transferred to the Settlement Commissioner for a time, and if such a selection is made at once, a notification could be prepared at a few hours' notice whenever one of the Land Revenue Commissioners is to start on a tour. This would give material assistance to the remaining Land Revenue Commissioner.

6. The last point requiring orders is the establishment which the Land Revenue Commissioners state that they require to enable them to make their tours without inconvenience. The Government have already sanctioned the staff noted on the margin, and they see no sufficient reason for making any additions to this. They would not object, however, to a redistribution of the amount allotted, by substituting, for example, one clerk on Rs. 60 and one on Rs. 40, or any other modification, within the amount allotted, which may suggest itself to the Commissioners, for the single clerk on Rs. 100. The registering, indexing, referencing, &c., of all papers forwarded to a Commissioner for disposal while on tour will of course be done in the office at Madras, and he will only need a clerk to look after the papers received and return them to head-quarters when disposed of. Each Commissioner has four peons and if those specially sanctioned for tours cannot be spared, he must take as many of these four as he requires.

	Rs.
1 Clerk	100
1 Muchi	15
4 Peons	28
Total ...	143

7. In conclusion, His Excellency the Governor in Council is constrained to express his regret that the Land Revenue Commissioners did not make an attempt to comply with the wishes of Government before raising objections which seem to a great extent unreasonable. It is the desire of His Excellency in Council that once a year, or at all events once in two years, a visit should be made to every district in the Presidency by one of the Land Revenue Commissioners, but advantage may be taken of the tours of the Commissioner of Separate Revenue or the Commissioner of Revenue Settlement to such distant districts as Ganjam and Canara and those officers may be asked to

make brief inquiries regarding such matters as record-rooms, disposal of business, &c., and to let the Land Revenue Commissioners know the result. In directing such periodical tours, His Excellency in Council is of course not to be understood as discouraging special visits either to the head-quarters of a district or any other place whenever circumstances may show that the personal presence or inspection of a Commissioner would prove benefical.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. F. PRICE,
Secretary to Government.

To the Commissioners of Land Revenue.
" the Commissioner of Salt, Abkári and Separate Revenue.
" the Commissioner of Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture.
" the Honorable the Advocate-General, with notification.

Exd. P. L. Pereira.

90 Copies.

Original

Govt. of 1888 Madras.

REVENUE.

P. C. 2 4962/88.

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G.O., 18th June 1888, No. 426.

JUNE.

Tours by the Land Revenue Commissioners.

Passing orders on the question of—

Board of Revenue (Land Revenue), 17th March 1888, No. 273.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE
(Land Revenue).

H. S. Thomas, Esq., F.L.S., F.Z.S.
J. H. Garstin, Esq., C.S.I.

Read—the following paper:—

No. 23.

OFFICIAL MEMORANDUM.

Revenue Department.

In inviting attention to the marginally-noted correspondence, the undersigned is directed to state that the Government consider that the Commissioners of Land Revenue and of Revenue Settlement and Director of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture performed very little touring during the period from 1st April to 31st December 1887.

Paragraph 8 of Mr. Stokes' D.O., dated 26th July 1884.
Paragraph 11 of Board's Proceedings, 4th September 1884, No. 3102.
Paragraph 9 of S.O., 15th October 1884, No. 1135.

2. Adverting to paragraph 6 of Board's Proceedings, dated 8th November last, No. 720 (Land Revenue), the Government are of opinion that most of the difficulties therein pointed out could be met by a redistribution of the work so as to allow of the Commissioner remaining at head-quarters taking some portion of the work of the touring Commissioners. This, of course, requires the previous sanction of Government on each occasion, but it could be easily obtained, and it is believed that no such redistribution of work will be necessary when a tour is to last for but short period.

Fort St. George,
27th February 1888.

(Signed) J. F. PRICE,
Secretary to Government.

To the Commissioners of Land Revenue.

Read—the following G.O., dated 3rd February 1888, No. 115, Revenue:—

Read—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Land Revenue), dated 8th November 1887, No. 720:—

H. S. Thomas, Esq., F.L.S., F.Z.S.

Read—the following G.O., dated 4th October 1887, No. 963, Revenue:—

Read—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Land Revenue), dated 30th June 1887, No. 289.

H. S. Thomas, Esq., F.L.S., F.Z.S.

Abstract.—Passing remarks on report on the state of records in the Collector's office Kistna district, and requesting sanction of Government for the entertainment of an assistant record-keeper on Rs. 50 a-month for six months.

READ—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Land Revenue), dated 16th August 1887, Mis. No. 2554 :—

THE HON. W. S. WHITESIDE.

ABSTRACT.—Withdrawing the recommendation made in Board's Proceedings, No. 289, dated 30th June 1887, as regards the entertainment of extra clerks to be paid for by the Treasury Deputy Collector, Kistna district, in connection with the arrangement of records.

Order—dated 4th October 1887, No. 963, Revenue.

Miscellaneous.

The only point on which the orders of Government are called for is with regard to the entertainment of an assistant record-keeper. The Government are of opinion that it is perfectly possible for the existing establishment to sort and put the records in order, but that if any extra assistance is really required, the record-keeper, whom the Collector does not acquit of blame in the matter for the condition of his charge, should be called upon to pay for it. They consider it highly desirable that one of the Land Revenue Commissioners should make a thorough inspection of the record-rooms of the whole of the Presidency, report upon the condition, &c., of the records, and suggest such measures for placing them in proper order as may appear necessary.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. F. PRICE,
Ag. Secretary to Government.

To the Commissioners of Land Revenue,
with five enclosures, returned.

Resolution—dated 8th November 1887, No. 720.

Communicated to the Collector of Kistna.

2. With reference to the concluding paragraph of the Government Order, the Board would invite the attention of Government to their Proceedings, Nos. 718 and 719, dated 8th November 1887, in which the whole subject has been carefully considered.

3. The subject is one of some difficulty, open to more than one opinion, and worthy of thorough ventilation before it is decided what action should be taken. To inspect all record-rooms and insist on strict enforcement of existing rules would be to stereotype Board's Standing Order 219, and stifle all efforts at improvement of that system to which the Board believe that certain Collectors are giving their best attention. The Board submit that it will be better to await replies to the questions now put when the whole matter can be reconsidered in the light of the practical working experiences of all Collectors and one uniform system decided on.

4. Furthermore, the Board would submit that, even if it were decided that Board's Standing Order 219 was to be rigidly insisted on, the orders are clear, and after that the duty of insistence rests with the officers on the spot. The Treasury Deputy Collectors are the officers primarily responsible, and to transfer their responsibilities to a Board Member would seem to be a loss of power.

5. An inspection of records, to serve any useful purpose, must extend to details the examination of which could not occupy an officer less than a week for each record-room, and a special establishment would be necessary. For such inspection to bear any fruit notes must be taken and a detailed report made of every advantageous and disadvantageous deviation from or neglect of rule. Some offices would take much more than a week to dispose of. Considering that there are twenty-two districts with twenty-two head-quarter record-rooms, besides the numerous divisional and taluk record-rooms, and considering also the distances to be travelled, no one office could ever inspect the Presidency in a twelve-month, even though he gave his whole time

to the work. For a Board Member to do so in addition to his current work and without any special establishment is, the Board submit with all respect, simply out of the question.

6. The Board would take this opportunity of inviting the attention of Government to the fact that the altered constitution of the Board since the passing of Act II of 1882 has been found very materially to hamper the travelling of members. Under the former constitution a travelling member could give his whole attention to the subject in connection with which he travelled, leaving his current work to be divided amongst his colleagues remaining at head-quarters, and they used to dispose of it. This, under the present Act, they cannot do, and the travelling member's work must travel with him, the current work itself being delayed by being forwarded after him, and the member himself being hampered with such an amount of current work as to render attention to the special object of the journey extremely difficult. Furthermore, a member's journeying would ordinarily be over longer distances than a Collector's, involving more serious loss of time. If, in these circumstances, the current work is, as it has to be in large measure, postponed to the special objects aimed at in travelling the flood of arrears becomes overwhelming. The Board's establishment, as at present constituted, does not admit of hands being detailed to accompany a travelling member, and without such clerical aid the same amount of work cannot be disposed of in a day. At best it is only for a short time that a member can afford to be absent from Madras without throwing the work of his office out of gear, and even during that period the Secretary would need to take the responsibility of passing orders, in his name, and with doubtful legality, on not a few urgent matters that should legally have the member's sanction but could not abide the delay of forwarding.

7. In these circumstances, the Board trust that the Government will be satisfied with the measures taken for the due care of the records.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) M. HAMMICK,
Acting Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
„ Collector of Kistna.

Order—dated 3rd February 1888, No. 115, Revenue.

Miscellaneous.

In consideration of the arguments advanced by the Board of Revenue, the Government will not insist upon the deputation of one of the Land Revenue Commissioners to make a special inspection of, and report upon, the record-rooms of the Presidency. It will be sufficient if, when tours are made, the Land Revenue Commissioners should take the opportunity of visiting the Collectors' offices and seeing if the records are in proper order. The recent report * on the state of the records in the office of the Collector of Cuddapah shows the necessity for such inspection.

* *Vide* Board's Proceedings, 8th November 1887, No. 718.

2. With reference to the Board's remark that their establishment, as at present constituted, does not admit of clerks being detailed to accompany a member upon tours, their attention is drawn to the proposition statement submitted by them and sanctioned in G.O., dated 28th October 1885, No. 1194, wherein a clerk on Rs. 100 is provided for the purpose. If this provision be inadequate they will report what modification of it will enable them to tour with greater facility.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) H. A. STUART,
Under Secy. to Government.

To the Commissioners of Land Revenue.

READ—the following G.O., dated 10th November 1887, Mis. No. 6821, Revenue :—

Read—Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Land Revenue), dated 12th September 1887, Mis. No. 3067.

Order—dated 10th November 1887. Mis. No. 6821, Revenue.

The charges on account of carriage of a horse incurred by Mrs. Thomas are sanctioned.

2. With reference to the remark in paragraph 3 that "a Board Member has not an office accompanying him as a Collector has" the Government observe that a travelling clerk on Rs. 100 per mensem is provided for in the Land Revenue Department (*vide* statement in G.O., No. 184, dated 12th March 1886), and there appears to be no reason why a muchi and peons should not also accompany a Member of the Board on tour whenever it is necessary for the despatch of public business that they should do so. Indeed from a comparison of the statement above referred to with paragraph 18 of Board's Proceedings, dated 7th May 1885, No. 1361, it appears that in revising the Board's establishment provision was made for one muchi on Rs. 15 and for four peons on Rs. 7 each for the express purpose of accompanying Members when on tour.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. F. PRICE,
Secretary to Government.

To the Commissioners of Land Revenue.
" Accountant-General.

RESOLUTION—dated 17th March 1888, No. 273.

In the first of the papers read above Government "consider that the Commissioners of Land Revenue and of Revenue Settlement and Director of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture performed very little touring during the period from 1st April to 31st December 1887," and record an opinion that most of the difficulties pointed out in Board's Proceedings, No. 720 (Land Revenue), dated 8th November 1887, could be obviated by a redistribution of work so as to enable the Commissioners remaining at head-quarters to take so much of the work of the Commissioner on tour as the latter could not conveniently dispose of while on tour.

2. In the second of the papers, the Government withdrew their previous order that one of the Land Revenue Commissioners should make a special inspection of, and report upon, the record-rooms of the whole presidency and upon the condition, &c., of the records, with suggestions for placing them on a proper footing. They, however, desire that the Land Revenue Commissioners when on tour should visit the Collectors' offices and see if the records are in proper order, and they call for a report as to what additional establishment is required to enable the Land Revenue Commissioners to tour with greater facility.

3. The Board desire *imprimis* to assure the Government of their readiness to loyally forward their views and give effect to their orders, and they would endeavour to do so forthwith, without further correspondence, did they not regard it as their duty to explain again, as clearly as possible, the practical difficulties in the way of making extended tours for long periods, and the disadvantages inseparable therefrom—which may properly be placed in the opposite scale. The Members of the Board, as at present constituted, have moreover no personal disinclination to travel—quite the contrary. They would regard it as a welcome relief from the monotony and mental strain of the sedentary work which now presses upon them with ever-increasing weight. The Second Member has long desired to inform himself more fully of the working of the Forest Department throughout the country by visiting the valuable forests of Madura, Coimbatore, Malabar, Godávari and Ganjam and by personal consultation with District Forest-officers on the spot, but he has found it absolutely incompatible with the due despatch of business in connection with the other not less important subjects committed to his care. Nothing could be more agreeable to the First Member than to make frequent and extended tours with a view to investigating on the spot the many questions in connection with pisciculture which still remain to be solved, but both officers have nevertheless found it practically impossible to remain at head-quarters for these purposes, except for very brief periods, to leave

4. The Board fear that Government are under an erroneous impression as to the amount of work which devolves on the Land Revenue Commissioners under the altered constitution of the Board since 1st April 1887. Complete figures for the whole of the present official year cannot, of course, be had until the end of the current month, but it is easy to compare the figures for the official year 1886-87, omitting the month of March, with the figures for the corresponding period of the official year 1887-88. In the former period of eleven months, the Board, which then consisted of three Members and was assisted by two Secretaries and a highly-paid Sheristadar, received for disposal 23,693 papers, *including* those connected with Salt, Abkári, Opium and Customs, which are now dealt with by the Commissioner of Separate Revenue, and *including* also the papers connected with Land Trade, Agriculture, Revenue Settlement and the other subjects now disposed of by the Commissioner of Revenue Settlement and Director of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture. During the eleven months of the current year the two Land Revenue Commissioners alone received no less than 20,481 papers for disposal, and were assisted by only one Secretary (on the pay of the former Sub-Secretary), while the office establishment under their control was reduced by more than one-third. These figures do not include 1,014 papers received by the Second Member as Inam Commissioner in the current year, as compared with the 788 papers received by him in the corrresponding period of the previous year. Adding these figures, it will be seen that the Board of 1886-87 received 24,481 papers against 21,495 received by the Land Revenue Commissioners in 1887-88. In other words, the Land Revenue Commissioners have received only 12·2 per cent. less papers in 1887-88 than the whole Board received in 1886-87, when they had three Members and a Secretariat and office establishment half as strong again as that now allowed. There are also some 2,000 statements received each year which are not registered or shown in the above figures. Many of these, such as the Demand, Collection and Balance Statements of Land Revenue and the progress reports of minor irrigation works require most careful review and necessitate many references to the Collectors.

5. If the Government will consider these figures, the Board have no doubt they will be satisfied that whatever may have been practicable and desirable when the subject was discussed in 1884, it is now simply impossible for one Member at head-quarters to take the whole, or nearly the whole, work of the Land Revenue Commissioners while the other is on tour, except for very brief periods, during which the less urgent papers can be allowed to lie over and await his return. If this process is prolonged for any length of time, the flood of arrears becomes overwhelming. To suggest, as was originally done, that one or other of the two Members should be always on tour and to suppose that the other could take the bulk of his work during such time, is simply to ignore the conditions of the problem.

6. The only alternative solution is that the Commissioner on tour should take the bulk of his work with him, leaving only the more urgent part of it to be disposed of by his colleague at head-quarters. There are very grave difficulties involved in this proposal. The number of papers of an urgent nature, especially in connection with the litigation in which the Court of Wards is constantly involved on behalf of the 51 estates under its management, is very great. Important interests may be imperilled and serious liabilities incurred by a single day's delay in some of these cases. The same remarks apply to suits to which the Government or its officers are parties. These are numerous and important and have nearly always to be disposed of as "very emergent" matters, owing to the time that usually elapses between the filing of the suit and the submission of the pleadings by Collectors to the Board. The disposal of all these urgent papers will inevitably cause delay in the disposal of the ordinary work of the Member remaining at head-quarters.

7. Again, the work of the Board is such as requires a great deal of reference to previous files of correspondence and Acts or other books of reference. To do satisfactory work without these is impossible; to carry them over rapid and extended tours is almost equally difficult, and would involve much additional expense. It has been already pointed out in Board's Proceedings, No. 720, dated 8th November 1887, that if the bulk of a Member's work could be taken with him and disposed of, it would

practically occupy his whole time and render attention to the special object of the journey extremely difficult.

8. There is one other point which has not been hitherto dealt with. The Board entertain a very decided opinion that there is little or no practical advantage to be gained from *indefinite* touring by a Member of the Board. A special subject may well require local investigation and discussion, and a visit by one of the Members of the Board may often lead to a more rapid and satisfactory conclusion than could be attained by a protracted correspondence. The vast majority, however, of business matters can be dealt with more precisely and satisfactorily on paper than by word of mouth. The returns furnished to the Board enable them to judge how the work of each officer is performed, and if there is reason to suppose that a special subject could be more satisfactorily investigated and settled by a personal visit, or if there is reason to think that the administration of a particular officer should be locally inquired into, then the advantage of one of the Land Revenue Commissioners going on tour for the purpose would be apparent, and should be undertaken, even though the despatch of other work might suffer in consequence. Touring, however, without a definite object would, in the Board's opinion, rarely lead to any practical benefit, and would invariably and necessarily be accompanied by very grave disadvantages.

9. If, instead of the Board being constituted as at present, the Presidency was divided into four or six divisions, each having a Commissioner to reside in it and supervise its administration on the system suggested in 1878 by Sir A. J. Arbuthnot, it would be as easy for the Commissioners to tour about in their divisions as for Collectors to do so in their districts. They could travel with their whole office establishments and all necessary records for reference; but such an arrangement is out of the question for a single Land Revenue Commissioner who has the whole Presidency to visit. That it really never was contemplated by Government is to some extent shown by the provision of only a single clerk to accompany the Commissioner on his tours; while the idea of his carrying about the current records relating to all the manifold important matters of administration of twenty-two districts, wherever he goes, has only to be stated to be rejected. If a Collector requires the cart-loads he does for a single district, what would the Land Revenue Commissioner require for twenty-two districts. It follows, therefore, and such experience as the Commissioners have had proves it, that a Commissioner on tour can only dispose of such Board matters as can be dealt with on a perusal of a file forwarded through the post, and in the disposal of which a little delay is not of much moment. As a necessary consequence, the non-touring Commissioner has his work doubled, with the result that both officers fall into arrears, and if the tour of the touring Commissioner lasts for two or three months, as it well may, the result would certainly be most serious.

10. It is only necessary to imagine one Member starting on a tour to examine into the working of the rules regarding grazing fees in the forests of Ganjam, Vizagapatam, Godavári, Kistna, Nellore, Cuddapah and Kurnool (preparatory to the other Member's going on tour as soon as he returned), and taking advantage of his being in each district to look carefully into the working of such important matters as the management of Wards' estates, the enfranchisement of inams and the state of records in the various public offices. It would be impossible for him, the Board feel sure, to deal at all satisfactorily with such matters in any one district under a month or six weeks; so that after dealing with two or three districts he would return to the Presidency at the end of perhaps three months to face an utterly overwhelming mass of office arrears.

11. There is another difficulty arising out of the present state of the law, which the Board deem it right to notice as tending to prevent a Land Revenue Commissioner touring. The law practically makes it illegal for one Commissioner to dispose of any matter connected with any subject or department of which the other Commissioner has been gazetted as holding the portfolio; consequently when one Land Revenue Commissioner goes on tour, the other cannot dispose of all or any of the touring Commissioner's subjects unless he is gazetted to do so; and if he is so gazetted, it follows that the touring Commissioner is extinguished as regards all the gazetted subjects, and he is made legally incompetent to deal with them, even though they should come under his personal observation on tour.

12. The only way which the Board see out of the difficulty is to issue a notification in the general terms appended; but they doubt the legality of such a notification as the law seems to require a specific apportionment of business by the Board and an apportionment also by the Full Board with the previous sanction of Government, whereas the effect of such a general notification would be to leave the Secretary and one Member without any concurrence of the Full Board or previous sanction of Government to decide, from time to time, what were urgent subjects to be dealt with by the Home Commissioner. The Full Board have in a separate Resolution of this date asked the Government to sanction such a notification:—

REVENUE NOTIFICATION.

CONDUCT of business by the Board of Revenue.

Under the proviso of section 1 of Madras Act II of 1883, it is hereby notified that the Board of Revenue, with the previous sanction of the Governor in Council, have made the following rules with regard to the distribution and reservation of their business:—

(1) When either of the Commissioners of Land Revenue is on tour, the other Commissioner of Land Revenue may dispose of any urgent business falling under any subject assigned to the Commissioner on tour, and may also by himself dispose of any urgent business ordinarily reserved for disposal by the two Commissioners of Land Revenue jointly.

(2) When any Member of the Board is on tour, the Members not on tour may by themselves, dispose of any business ordinarily reserved for disposal by the Full Board.

13. But even if this arrangement commends itself as legal, there will still remain the practical difficulty that in a tour of any length the arrears of non-urgent work which will have accumulated during the touring Member's absence will be so enormous that a serious block of work is inevitable.

14. As regards the extra establishment that will be required, the Land Revenue Commissioners consider that for the more limited touring which alone they consider to be practicable in present circumstances, one clerk on Rs. 50 per month will be sufficient in addition to the clerk on Rs. 100 already sanctioned. The menial establishment of one muchi and four peons provided for travelling, as noticed by Government in their Order, No. 6821, dated 10th November 1887, has been absorbed in the Board's office to cover the deficiency resulting from the transfer of the *whole* of the menial* establishment of the Cutcherry Department to the Commissioner of Revenue Settlement and Director of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture under the authority of G.O., No. 184, dated 19th March 1886, notwithstanding that two-thirds of the Cutcherry clerks remained under the Land Revenue Commissioners. In these circumstances, none of the menials provided for touring are ready available for that purpose, and it will be necessary to sanction—

	Per mensem. Rs.
* 1 Muchi on	15
1 Attender on	12
3 Peons each on	8
2 Do. each on	7
1 Masalchi on	6
Total ...	71

	Per mensem. Rs.
1 Muchi on	15
1 Attender on	12
2 Peons each on	8
1 Peon on	7
Total ...	50

(True Copies and Extract.)

Acting Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

Exd. W. J. Lewis.

C 5921-1-88
Co 52 9 17-1-88

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

1888.

Board of Revenue

(Land Revenue),

MADRAS.

C. no. 2082

No. 2573

SECY. GOVT. MADRAS
13 APL 88
REV. DEPT.

Printed April 13th.

Proceedings, 17th March 1888, No. 273.

Explaining the practical difficulties in the way of the Commissioners of Land Revenue making extended *tours* for long periods; and applying for additional establishment required for touring purposes.

REVENUE BOARD OFFICE
MADRAS

9

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue

(Land Revenue).

Dated 17th March 1888.

No. 1797 Miscellaneous.

1.

The Full Board

5

Read ....

Resolution

The Board resolve to request the Governor in Council to sanction the publication of the appended notification in order to legalize

(1) the disposal of urgent papers by the Commissioner of Land Revenue who remains at head quarters when such papers belong to subjects assigned to the other Commissioner and such other Commissioner is on tour.

(2) the disposal of urgent Full Board papers by the Members at head quarters when one or more of the members are absent on tour.

True Extract

R. Benson
Acting Secretary.

To The Secretary to Government R.D.
with notification.

Revenue 1888. Sept.

Board of Revenue

(Land Revenue),

MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT MAIL. 19 MAR 88

No. 203

To

The Secretary to
Government
Revenue Department

Rd. 19 Mar.

Proceedings, dated 17th March 1888.

No. 1797 Mis. ~~Routine~~. Enclosures. 7

Subject.

Requesting Government to sanction the publication of the notification regarding conduct of business when Board's Members are on tour.

REVENUE BOARD OFFICE MADRAS

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue

(Land Revenue).

Dated 17th March 1888.

No. 273.

H. S. Thomas, Esquire, I.C.S. I.Z.S.
J. H. Garstin, Esquire, C.S.I.

READ the following papers:—

(1) Official Memorandum from Government, dated 27th February 1888, No. 23.

(2) Government Order, dated 3rd February 1888, No. 115, Revenue.

(3) Government Order, dated 10th November 1887, No. 6821, Miscellaneous.

—

Resolution:—

In the first of the papers read above, Government "consider that the Commissioners of Land Revenue and of Revenue Settlement and Director of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture performed very little touring during the period from 1st April to 31st December 1887, and record as of opinion that most of the difficulties pointed out in Board's Proceedings No. 720 (Land Revenue) dated 8th December 1887, could

could be obviated by a redistribution of work so as to enable the Commissioner remaining at Head Quarters to take so much of the work of the Commissioner on tour as the latter could not conveniently dispose of while on tour.

In the second of the papers, the Government withdraw their previous order that one of the Land Revenue Commissioners should make a special inspection of, and report upon, the record rooms of the whole Presidency, and upon the condition &c of the records, with suggestions for placing them on a proper footing. They, however, desire that the Land Revenue Commissioner when on tour should visit the Collectors' offices and see if the records are in proper order and they call for a report as to what additional establishment is required to enable the Land Revenue Commissioners to tour with greater facility.

2. The Board desire in primis to express the Government of their readiness to loyally forward their views and give effect to their orders, and they would endeavour to do so forthwith, without further correspondence, did they not regard it as their duty to explain again, as clearly as possible, the practical difficulties in the way of making extended tours for long periods, and the disadvantages inseparable therefrom - disadvantages which, in the Board's opinion, more than counterbalance the benefits which may properly be placed in the opposite scale. The Members of the Board, as at present constituted, have moreover no personal disinclination to travel - quite the contrary. They would regard it as a welcome relief from the monotony and mental strain, of the sedentary work which now presses upon them with ever increasing weight. The Second Member has long desired to inform himself more fully of the working of the Forest Department throughout the country by visiting the valuable forests of Madras, Coimbatore, Malabar, Godavari and Ganjam and by personal consultation with District Forest Officers on the spot, but he has found it absolutely incompatible with the due despatch of business in connection with the other not less important subjects committed to his care. Nothing could be more agreeable to the Forest Member than to make frequent and

extended tours with a view to investigating on the spot the many questions in connection with pisciculture which still remain to be solved but both officers found nevertheless found it practically impossible to leave Head Quarters for these purposes except for very brief periods.

3. The Board fear that Government and under an erroneous impression as to the amount of work which devolves on the Land Revenue Commissioners under the altered Constitution of the Board dated 1st April 1887. Complete figures for the whole of the present official year cannot, of course, be had until the end of the current months, but it is easy to compare the figures for the official year 1886-87, omitting the months of March, with the figures for the corresponding period of the official year 1887-88. In the former period of eleven months, the Board which then consisted of three Members and was assisted by two Secretaries and a highly paid Sheristadar received for disposal 23,693 papers, including those connected with Salt, Abkari, opium and Customs, which are now dealt with by the

the Commissioner of Separate Revenue, and including also the papers connected with Land trade, Pisciculture, Revenue Settlement and other subjects now dealt with by the Commissioner of Revenue Settlement and Director of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture. During the eleven months of the current year, the two Land Revenue Commissioners alone received no less than 20,481 papers for disposal, and were assisted by only one Secretary on the pay of the former Sub Secretary, while the establishment under their control was reduced by more than one-third. These figures do not include 1014 papers received by the Second Member as Land Commissioner in the current year as compared with the 788 papers received by him in the corresponding period of the previous year. Adding these figures, it will be seen that the Board of 1886-87 received 24,481 papers against 21,495 received by the Land Revenue Commissioners in 1887-88. In other words, the Land Revenue Commissioners have received only 12.72 per cent less papers in 1887-88 than the whole Board received in 1886-87 when they had three Members and

and a Secretariat and office establishment half as strong again as that now allowed. There are also some 2000 statements received each year which are not registered or shown in the above figures. Many of these, such as the D.C.B statements of Land Revenue and the Progress reports of Minor Irrigation works require most careful review and necessitate many references to the Collectors.

4. If the Government will consider these figures, the Board have no doubt they will be satisfied that whatever may have been practicable and desirable when the subject was discussed in 1884, it is now simply impossible for one Member at Head Quarters to take the whole, or nearly the whole, work of the Land Revenue Commissioners while the other is on tour, except for very brief periods during which the less urgent papers can be allowed to lie over and await his return. If this process is prolonged for any length of time, the flood of arrears becomes overwhelming. To suggest, as was originally done, that one or other of the two Members should be always on tour and to suppose that the other could take the bulk of his work during such time, is simply to ignore the conditions of the problem.

5. The only alternative solution is that the Commissioner on tour should take the bulk of his work with him leaving only the more urgent part of it to be disposed of by his Colleague at Head Quarters.

There are very grave difficulties involved in this proposal. The number of papers of an urgent nature especially in connection with the litigation in which the Court of Wards is constantly involved on behalf of the 57 Estates under its management is very great. Important interests may be imperilled and serious liabilities incurred by a single day's delay in some of these cases. So also remarks apply to suits to which the Government or its officers are parties. These are numerous and important and have nearly always to be disposed of as 'very emergent' matters, owing to the time that usually elapses between the filing of the suit and the submission of the pleadings by Collectors to the Board. The disposal of

of all these urgent papers will inevitably cause delay in the disposal of the ordinary work of the Member remaining at Head Quarters.

6. Again the work of the Board is such as requires a great deal of reference to previous files of correspondence and Acts or other books of reference. To do satisfactory work without these is impossible; to carry them over rapid and extended tours is almost equally difficult, and would involve much additional expense. It has been already pointed out in Board's Proceedings No. 720 dated 8th November 1877 that if the bulk of a Member's work could be taken with him and disposed of, it would practically occupy his whole time and render attention to the special object of the journey extremely difficult.

7. There is one other point which has not been hitherto dealt with. The Board entertain a very decided opinion that there is little or no practical advantage to be gained from indefinite touring by a Member of the Board. A special subject may well require local investigation and discussion, and a visit by one of the Members of the Board may often lead to a more rapid and satisfactory conclusion than could be attained by a protracted correspondence. The vast majority, however, of business matters can be dealt with more precisely and satisfactorily on paper than by word of mouth. The returns furnished to the Board enable them to judge how the work of each office is performed, and if there is reason to suppose that a special subject could be more satisfactorily investigated and settled by a personal visit, or if there is reason to think that the administration of a particular office should be locally enquired into, then the advantage of one of the Land Revenue Commissioners going on tour for the purpose, would be apparent, and should be undertaken, even though the despatch of other work might suffer in consequence. Touring, however, without a definite object would, in the Board's opinion, rarely lead to any practical benefit and would invariably and necessarily be accompanied by very grave disadvantages.

If

8. If, instead of the Board being constituted as at present, the Presidency was divided into 4 or 6 Divisions, each having a Commissioner to reside in it and supervise its administration on the system suggested in 1878 by Sir A. J. Arbuthnot, it would be as easy for the Commissioners to tour about in their divisions as for Collectors to do so in their districts. They could travel with their whole office establishment with all necessary records for reference. But such an arrangement is out of the question for a single Land Revenue Commissioner who has the whole Presidency to visit. That it really never was contemplated by Government is to some extent shown by the provision of only a single clerk to accompany the Commissioner on his tours; while the idea of his carrying about the current records relating to all the manifold important matters of administration of 22 districts, wherever he goes, has only to be stated to be rejected. If a Collector requires

16

he does for a single district, what the Land Revenue Commissioner has to do for 22 districts? If therefore, and such experience as the Commissioners have had proves it, that a Commissioner on tour can only dispose of such Board matters as can be dealt with on a perusal of a file forwarded through the post and in the disposal of which a little delay is not of much moment. As a necessary consequence the now touring Commissioner has his work doubled, with the result that both officers fall into arrears and if the tour of the touring Commissioner lasts for 2 or 3 months, as it will may, the result would certainly be most serious.

9. It is only necessary to imagine one Member starting on a tour to examine into the working of the rules regarding grazing fees in the forests of Ganjam, Vizagapatam, Godavari, Kistna, Nellore, Cuddapah and Kurnool (preparatory to the other Members joining on tour as soon as he returned) and taking advantage of his being in each district to look carefully into the working of such important matters

matters as the ma[illegible]t of Wards Estate, the enfranchisement of [illegible]ns, and the state of records in the various public offices. It would be impossible for him, the Board feel sure, to deal at all satisfactorily with such matters in any one district under a month or six weeks, so that after dealing with 2 or 3 districts he would return to the Presidency at the end of perhaps 3 months to face an utterly overwhelming mass of office arrears.

10. There is another difficulty arising out of the present state of the law, which the Board deem it right to notice as tending to prevent a Land Revenue Commissioner touring. The law practically makes it illegal for one Commissioner to dispose of any matter connected with any subject or department of which the other Commissioner has been Gazetted as holding the portfolio. Consequently when one Land Revenue Commissioner goes on tour, the other cannot dispose of all or any of the touring Commissioner's subjects unless he is gazetted to do so, and if he is so gazetted, it follows that the touring Commissioner is extinguished

20

as regards all the gazetted subjects, and he is made legally incompetent to deal with them, even though they should come under his personal observation on tour. The only way which the Board can see out of the difficulty is to issue a notification in the general terms appended; but they doubt the legality of such a notification, as the law seems to require a specific apportionment of business by the Board and an apportionment also by the full Board, into the two spheres of Government, whereas the effect of such a general notification would be to leave the Secretary and one Member without any concurrence of the full Board or previous sanction of Government to decide, from time to time, what were urgent subjects to be dealt with by the home Commissioner. The full Board have in a separate Resolution of this date asked the Govt to sanction such a notification:—

Revenue Notification

Conduct of business by the Board of Revenue

Under the proviso of Section 1 of the Act

Act II of 1913, it is hereby notified that the Bd of Revenue, with the previous sanction of the Governor in Council, have made the following rules with regard to the distribution and reservation of their business:-

(1) When either of the Land Revenue Commissioners is on tour, the other Comm: of Land Revenue may dispose of any urgent business falling under any subject subject to the Commissioner on tour, and may also by himself dispose of any urgent business ordinarily reserved for disposal by the two Comm:s of Land Revenue jointly.

(2) When any Member of the Board is on tour, the members not on tour may by themselves dispose of any business ordinarily reserved for disposal by the Full Board.

But even if this arrangement could itself as legal, there will still remain the practical difficulty that during the tour of any one urgent work which will have accumulated during the touring members absence will be so enormous that a serious block of work is inevitable.

11. As regards the extra establishment that will be required, the Land Revenue Commissioners (consider) that for the more limited touring which alone they consider to be practicable in present circumstances, one Clerk on Rs 50 per month will be sufficient in addition to the Clerk on Rs 100 already sanctioned. The menial establishment of one munshi and 4 peons provided for travelling, as noticed by Government in their order No 6821 dated 10th November 1917, has been absorbed in the Board's office to cover the deficiency resulting from the transfer of the shale of the menial Establishment of the Cutcherry department to the Commissioner of Revenue Settlement and Director of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture under the authority of G.O. No 184 dated 12th March 1886, notwithstanding that two-thirds of the Cutcherry Clerk remained under the Land Revenue Commissioners. In these circumstances none of the menials provided for touring are really available for that purpose and it will be necessary to sanction

munshi on Rs 15
Attenders on Rs 12
Peons on Rs 8 each
" on Rs 7 "
Mundalshi on Rs 6.
Total per mensem 71 Rs

1 Muchi on Rs 15
1 Attendr on Rs 12
2 Peons on Rs 8 each
1 Peon on Rs 7

Total per mensem Rs 50

(True Extract)

N D Kenson
Acting Secretary.

To,

The Secretary to Government
Revenue Department.

No 2075 of 1888

Revenue 1887. Dep.t A

Board of Revenue

(Land Revenue),

MADRAS. No 208

SECRETARIAT
20 MAR 28
REVENUE DEPARTMENT

To

W

2075

The Secretary to Gov

Revenue Departme

20 Mar.

Proceedings, dated 17 March 188

No. 273 ~~Mis.~~ ~~Routine.~~ Enclosures.

Subject.

Submitting remarks as to the short-coming of the Land Revenue Commissioners during the period from 1st April to December 1887.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Current Nos 2037, 2049 & 2082

From The Board of Revenue

Dated 188 .

FOR ORDERS.

Cho 2049 may it is submitted be recorded.

In Cho. 2037 the Board propose the issue of a general notification under the Board of Rev. Act (II of 1883) directing that when one Land Revenue Commissioner is on tour the other Commr may dispose of any ~~of the~~ urgent business of his absent colleague and may also by himself dispose of any urgent business ordinarily reserved for both Commrs; and that when any member of the Board is on tour the members not on tour may dispose of business reserved for a full Board

In this connection attention is invited to the note for orders and the minute of the Hon. Mr Hutchins attached to the original of O.M. No. 23 of 27 Feb 88.

It is submitted that this general notification goes too far and that the object aimed at can only be obtained by legislation. There can be no doubt that the absence of a member may frequently cause grave inconvenience or lead to orders being issued without due legal authority. It is suggested therefore that the Act shd be amended at an early date.

In C No. 2082 the Board deal with the whole question of touring. They state at the commencement that both the Land Rev. members (Messrs Thomas & Carstin) are personally fond of touring, and that they would like nothing better than to examine forests and investigate disputed points of pisciculture. But they then go on to say, that the work is so heavy that the absence of one of the members would involve the accumulation of a huge mass of arrears at head quarters. The papers received by the Board, before its reorganization, in the first 11 months of the year 1886-87 numbered 24,481 while the number received by the two Land Revenue Commissioners alone in the first 11 months of 1887-88 was 21,495. It is therefore utterly impossible for one member to do the work of his absent colleague in

Why is legislation necessary? What the law requires apparently is a special order in each case, tho' I am by no means sure that some general rule may not be laid down, if necessary, & each distribution be made subject thereto.

But supposing the 1st member ~~[illegible]~~ contemplates a tour to last a fortnight in Madura & Tinnevelly. What is there to hinder his doing the greater part of the work of those Districts (excluding inner routine) during such tour on the spot? The remainder of his subjects might be temporarily assigned to his colleague or colleagues for it wd help considerably if the Salt & Settlt Commrs, who are also members of the Board cd. each take one or two important subjects temporarily in addn to their own.

I see no objn to the remg member deciding what are urgent papers, nor do I see that the touring member wd be opposed for there wd be a provision reserving power to him to do any of his own subjects.

Before new legislation is attempted let it clearly ascertain that it is indispensable & exactly where the present law fails after consulting the Advocate Genl.

In this connec
tention is invited to
for orders and the n
of the Hon. Mr. Hu
attached to the or
of O.M. No. 23 of
It is submitted th
general notification
far and that the
aimed at can onl
obtained by legislat
can be no doubt t
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convenience or bad
being issued without
authority. It is
therefor that the
be amended at an
date.

In Cho. 2082
deal with the wh
of touring. They
at the commencem

addition to his own, and on the other hand if the touring member tried to do his work while travelling it would practically occupy his whole time and render attention to the speci object of the journey extremely difficult. The Board next dwell on the uselessness of ~~of~~ indefinite touring and say that the vast majority of business matters can be dealt with more precisely and satisfactorily on paper than by word of mouth; but if there is reason to suppose that a special subject could be ~~dealt with~~ more satisfactorily investigated by a personal visit, or if there is reason to think that the administration of a particular officer should be locally inquired into

FOR ORD

then the advantage of one of the L.R. Commrs going on tour for the purpose would be apparent and should be undertaken (sic) even though the despatch of other work might suffer in consequence.

A reference is then made to the possibility of touring if there were 4 or 6 territorial Commissioners instead of the present system, but a Land Revenue Commr cannot take about with him the records relating to the whole Presidency, and can only dispose of such papers as can be dealt with on perusal of a file forwarded thro' the post. If the tour "lasts for 2 or 3 months as it well may the result would certainly be most serious."

The Board also doubt whether

the Not[e] forwarded with
Cho. 2034 is legal as its
effect would be to leave
the Secretary and one Member
without any concurrence
of the Full Board or pro-
vide a quorum of Court
to decide from time to
time what were urgent
subjects to be dealt with by
the home Commissioner.
But even if this arrange-
ment is legal the accumula-
tion of non-urgent work
would be enormous.

It is submitted that it
was never the intention of
Govt. that ~~one~~ a Com-
shd. be absent from head-
quarters for so long a
period as 2 or 3 months.
The great advantage of
tours is that the members
of the Board are thereby
kept in touch with the

certainly not
that

district officers who would
thus have an opportunity
of giving expression to their
views and opinions which for many
reasons could not be ad-
vanced in ordinary official
communications. This
object could be effected by
a short visit to the head
quarters of a district, and
in the case of all districts
which are on the line of
railway such a tour would
~~take~~ need never extend be-
yond 10 days, and in many
cases would occupy a much
shorter period. The Board
appear to contemplate a
detailed examination of the
work of district officers
but save in very exceptional
circumstances any such minute
inspection is neither ne-
cessary nor desirable.
If a Collector is to dance
attendance on each Comm[r]

April

for a month or six weeks — the period indicated by the Board as that required for the inspection of a district — his legitimate work must seriously suffer. Moreover it is not advisable that a Collector should be inspected in this way, for it could not but result in lessening that feeling of responsibility which now exists and which it is eminently desirable to maintain. But in a visit to the head quarters of a district and occasionally to those of a division the Commr. could discuss many important matters with the Collector and could satisfy himself that the records were properly arranged and that no delay was permitted to occur in the despatch of official business. To show how much

can be effected in a short time the recent tour of the Hon. Mr. Hutchins in the Godávari & Kistna may be instanced. Although there is no railway communication it is believed that in a fortnight the Hon'ble Member travelled from Madras to Coconada, then to Rajahmundry and back to Madras through the Godavari & Kistna districts and in that short time inspected nine courts and visited a number of important Public Works. Then again the Commissioner of Salt Abkari & Separate Revenue whose work is certainly much heavier than that assigned to Mr. Thomas can without difficulty visit all parts of his charge which includes Orissa. Govt.

at all events he does so — whether without difficulty or not I cannot say — & I suppose the Land R. Crs could adopt the same course as regards routine papers, records &c

have not received complaints from him that his tours cause an accumulation of papers "so enormous that a serious "block of work is inevitable" and if it is possible for him to travel and still keep his work up to date the Commr of Land Revenue should be able to make at least a few short tours. But the answer of the Land Revenue Commrs ~~to this~~ argument is apparently that they are much harder worked than the other members of the Board and they imply that their present work is to the work of the old Board as 21,495 is to 24,481 i.e. as 43 : 49. But this cannot be the case for the

(? I feel sure they are not

old Board dealt with Abkari Salt, Opium, Customs, Settlements, and Agriculture – none of which subjects go to the Land Rev. Commrs. A very large number of the 21,495 papers disposed of by the L.R. Commrs must be routine papers and the fact that this number approximates so closely to the number dealt with by the old Board must be due to the small number of routine papers in the excluded subjects. Such papers indeed would have been disposed of under the former system by the Commissioner of Salt and the Director of Rev. Settlement as Heads of their respective Departments.

That relief has been given in important papers is clear from the fact that the monthly volumes of the Procgs. of the

L.R. Commrs are less than half as bulky as the monthly volumes of the Board prior to reorganization. for the bulk of these volumes depends upon the quantity of matter printed and speaking roughly ~~depends and~~ only important papers are printed. The last volume of the L.R. Commrs Procgs. which is in the office is that for Dec. 1887. The number of ~~L.R.~~ papers printed in full (excluding Forests & Ct. of Wards wh. do not enter into the comparison) in that volume is 90: in the Board's volume for Dec. 1886 the number of papers printed in full (excluding Forests & Ct. of Wards) is 190 or more than double.

The no. of papers in the "miscellaneous" series was

Dec 1886	Dec 1887
698	541

The view advanced above is further borne out by the figures from the 1st April to 31st Dec. in each year:

	Apr to Dec 1886	Apr. to Dec. 1887
Press series	1980	892
Inis "	7070	5401
Routine "	4302	3431

It will be seen that the proportion of relief is very much greater in the case of the Press series than in any other.

It is submitted then that the L.R. Commrs shd be informed that the Govt. adhere to their opinion that the Commrs shd. visit the districts under their charge more than they have done hitherto, but that it is not intended that their tours should be ~~excessively~~ frequent

and Madura or shooting
expeditions in the forests
of Ganjam or Coimbatore.

Secondly it is submitted
that Act II of 1883 shd. at
once be amended.

There is one other question
requiring orders ~~and that~~ viz
the special establishment
required to accompany a
Commr on tour. A
clerk on Rs100, a mucki
and four peons were provided
for this purpose when the
Board's establishment was
reorganized (vide the places
marked with tape & red pencil
in the accompanying file)
~~But~~ The Commrs now ask
for a second clerk on ~~Rs60~~
Rs50 a month but they

Should he not be empd in anything like
two or three months or that.
Their inspections should be
such as those which a Coll.
or Dt. Officer should make of a
Taluq or Division.

I suppose the aim & idea for
one or other of the members
to visit most districts for
a short time once a year
if possible.

It does not seem to have occurred
to them that the Salt &
Sett. Commrs might take
advantage of their visits to
distant Dts such as Ganjam
Vizag. or Canara to make
enquiries or inspections as to the
~~work~~ state of record rooms &
other subjects for the D Commrs
letting them know the result.
They would be quite as competent
as a D. Rev. Commr.

advance no reasons for this
addition. With regard to
the menial establishment
they say that it has been
absorbed into the general
office and they therefore
ask for sanction for the
entertainment of

1	Muchi on	Rs 15
1	Attender on	" 12
2	peons "	8 each
1	peon "	7
	Total	50

It is submitted that no
extra establishment whatever
should be sanctioned. All
the office work connected
with a travelling Commr
papers will be done at
Madras and he can re-
quire nothing more than a
clerk to keep his papers
in order and see to their
despatch and a few peons
to guard his office boxes

seal his covers and uphold his dignity. Each Commr. has 4 peons and he can take all of them with him if he chooses, without disturbing any of the 4 ~~spec~~ peons specially sanctioned for travelling but who have naturally been absorbed by the office. If anything more is required it is submitted that the Commr. must find it from the staff already sanctioned. The entertainment of addl. establishment would require the sanction of the Finl. Dept.

HWS
17 [illegible]

~~[illegible]~~
One of the main grounds for the reorganization of the Bd. was that this would enable the members of the newly constructed Bd. to travel about.
The Ld. Revl. Commn. now make a stand against being called upon to travel. I submit that Govt. must either yield or put their foot down and

For orders

certainly
PAH

Cuos 2037, 2049 & 21[illegible]

Re: Touring of the Land Revenue Commission[illegible]

~~Hon.~~ Mr. Master
Hon. Mr. Hutchins

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Current No.

From

188 .

Dated

FOR ORDERS.

I concur in the suggestions made in this note. If the Commissioners are made to understand what it is that the Govt. expect of them in the way of touring there shd. be no real difficulty.

The sanction for the travelling establishment can be modified so as to allow of a revised establishment without increase of cost.

The proposal to amend Act II of 1883 shd. be put into shape.

ECll
11 May

The question whether legislation is really required can first be settled. If may

insist upon their wishes being complied with without any further argument.

It is quite possible for the Commrs. to tour: when I worked under the same roof as the Bd. none of the members were overworked or anything like it. They can now without [illegible] manage to take 5 days when they wish to see a race or catch fish and if they can do this there is no reason why they could not go on a business tour for a fortnight or three weeks. A salary of Rs 100 for a travelling clerk is much more than is really required: a man on Rs. 60 would do as well and the other Rs. 40 might be spent on a second clerk, if wanted, and a munshi.
PAH

I agree generally subject to the remarks I have noted in the margin. Of course indefinite travelling is not required. Where there is a will there is a way & the demand for extra travelling peons shows what preposterous objections are put forward. I took one peon to the Delta districts but found him so useless that I often wished I had left him behind.
PAH 12 May

I doubt whether it wd. be convenient or possible for the Salt Dept. – for instance – to take up enquiries relating to other depts. – I expect they have more than enough work of their own.
ECll
14 May

1

Re: Touring of the Land Revenue Commission

We had better talk this over after Council ... I don't think ... any difference of ...

PH
17 May

RC 12/5 RC 16/5

12/5 R 14/5 R 17/5

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read

Chos. 2087, & 2082

7

Order. of 18 June

The foregoing papers relate to the question of ~~the~~ inspection tours by the Land Revenue Commrs ~~who endeavour to show~~ and assert that it is ~~quite~~ impossible for them to comply with the wishes of Govt. on this matter.

2. The Commrs ~~state that they have no~~ disclaim any personal disinclination to travel ~~and that nothing could be more agreeable to them than to examine visit the forests of the Presy, and make frequent and extended tours for the purpose of investigating unsolved questions of pisciculture~~ ~~But they go on to explain~~ but assert that the work of the Land Revenue Dept. of the Board is so heavy that ~~it is now simply~~

[practicable as to preclude either member] ~~possible for one Member at head quarters to take the whole~~ ~~[illegible]~~ ~~to~~ [from doing] more than the urgent work of his absent colleague. [He proceeds to remark] ~~On the other hand~~ ~~the~~ a Commr. cannot take about with him the records relating to the whole of the Presy., and ~~he~~ can therefore, while on tour, dispose of only such papers as can be dealt with on perusal of a file forwarded thro' the post. Thus [Hyd. Commr. remark in illustration] "if the tour lasts for two or three months," as it well may" the Commrs. would ~~return~~ find on his return "an utterly overwhelming mass of office arrears" and "the result would be most serious". The legal [objection] ~~difficulty~~ that is thought to exist to one Commr. doing any of the work assigned under the Act to his absent colleague is next noticed, but it is added that even if this is overcome "there will still remain the practical difficulty that

in a tour of any length the arrears of non-urgent work [which] ~~that~~ will have accumulated during the touring Member's absence will be so enormous that a serious block of work is inevitable"

3. H.E. the G. in C. regrets that he is unable to admit the [conclusiveness] ~~force~~ of any of these objections which seem to be largely founded upon a misconception of the nature of the touring required and upon erroneous conclusions, based upon the number of papers received, regarding the relative amount of work of the Land Rev. Dept. of the Board. It was never the intention of Govt. that a Land Rev. Commr. shd. be absent from head-quarters for so long a period as two or three months or that he should make the detailed examination of the work of district officers which appears to be contemplated by Messrs

Thomas K

Gaster and Thomas. In the opinion of Govt. any such save in very exceptional circumstances inspection is neither necessary nor desirable, for it would certainly tend to lessen that feeling of responsibility which now exists among district officers and which it is eminently advisable to maintain. The principal advantage which the C. in C. considers will be derived from the tours of the L. R. Commrs is that they will thereby be brought into more direct personal contact with district officers, who would thus have an opportunity of expressing & discussing their views and opinions which, for many reasons could not be advanced in ordinary official communications. The Commrs wd. also be able by a brief examination of officers to ascertain whether there were and records any novel points either in the amount or the nature of the work of their

The recent journey of the Hon'ble Minister to the Godavari & Kistna Dts. & the which was completed in a fortnight shows how much inspection can be done in a short time.

subordinates, to see and that no delay is permitted to occur in the despatch of official business. All this could be effected by a short visit to the head-quarters of a district & occasionally to those of a division - even 3 or 4 districts on the line of railway might be inspected on the same tour within a period of days and in many cases it need rarely exceed that period. The Govt. do not desire that the tours of the Commrs should be limited in this manner for it may occasionally be desirable to visit (to Head quarters of dts. Divisions) for special reasons some particular place should be inspected by them. Such a visit would, however, ordinarily be of but short duration

4. In the 4th para of their Procgs of the 17th March the Land Rev. Commrs state

that they * fear that Govt. are under an erroneous impression * as to the amount of work which devolves upon them under the altered constitution of the Board, and they imply that this work is to that of the old Board consisting of three members in the ratio of 21,495 to 24,481. The Govt. cannot admit, however, for a moment that the number of papers received is a sufficient index of the amount of work done, and it would perhaps be sufficient to mention the subjects which are now disposed of by the other two members of the Board to show that the contention of the L.R. Comm^rs is altogether untenable. The Board's monthly volumes for the first nine months of the years 1886 and 1887 have, moreover, been examined with the following results:

	Papers disposed of by the old Board Apr. to Dec. 1886	Papers disposed of by the L.R. Comm^rs Apr. to Dec. 1887
Press Series	1980	892
Mis. "	7070	5401
Routine "	4302	3431

Forest papers are excluded from both sets of figures as they do not affect the question of the comparative relief afforded to the L.R. Comm^rs. The papers included in the Press series form the most important part of the work of both bodies and it will be seen that the difference in this class is more than 50 per cent. in the Govt. are of opinion that this figure much more nearly represents the actual proportion which the work of the L.R. Comm^rs bears to that of the old Board than the figure deduced from the total number of papers received. In any case H.E. the G in C. feels confident that the L.R. Comm^rs are not more hardly worked than their colleagues in the other Depts.

of the Board.

5. Next as regards the alleged legal difficulty, the Govt. admit that the point is not altogether free from doubt, but they observe that it has never been raised by the Commr of Sep. Rev. or the Commr of Rev. Settlement, who are moreover, apparently able to make extended tours without any of the disastrous results to work which the Land Rev. Commr anticipate would occur if one of them were absent for anything more than a very brief period. The draft Notn now submitted by the Board will be forwarded to the Advocate Genl for his opinion as to its legality. The Govt. are disposed to think that there is nothing in the Act inconsistent with the issue of such a general rule and making all subsequent notns regarding detailed distribution of work subject to it. In any case the action of the Board in disposing of its work in the manner suggested is never likely to be impugned in a Court of law any more than that the disposal of many routine papers by the various Secretaries to the Commr is objected to as not being in strict accordance with the Act.

6. The last point requiring orders is the establishment which the Land Rev. Commr state that they require to enable them to make their tours without inconvenience. The Govt. have already sanctioned the staff noted on the margin and they see no sufficient reason for making any additions to this. They would not object however to a redistribution of the amount allotted, by substituting for example, one clerk on Rs 60 or any other notification within the amount allotted which may suggest itself to the Commr and one on Rs 40 for the single clerk on Rs. 100. registering, indexing, referencing etc. of all papers forwarded for disposal to a Commr while on tour

		Rs
1 clerk	on	100
1 muchi	"	15
4 peons	"	28
		143

material assistance to the remaining 2 Rs Commissioner.

to the propriety of declaring in any specific notification regarding the arrangement of business that during the absence of a particular member such of his subjects may be disposed of either at Madras by some other part. member or by himself during his tour. It appears to Govt. that a selection from the subjects assigned to either of the 2 Rev. Commrs might thus be transferred to the Settl. Commr for a time & if such a selection is made at once a notifn could be prepared at a few hours notice whenever one of the 2 R. Commrs is to start on a tour. This would give

~~will~~ be done in the office at Madras; and ~~all that~~ he will only need ~~will be~~ a clerk to look after the papers received and return them to ~~Madras~~ Hd. Qrs. when ~~the~~ ~~they have been~~ disposed of. Each Commr. has four peons and if those specially sanctioned for tours cannot be spared ~~he must~~ take as many of these four as he requires.

7. In conclusion H.E. the G. in C. is constrained to express his regret that the L.R. Commrs. did not make an attempt to comply with the wishes of Govt. before raising objections which seem ~~for the most part to be greatly exaggerated~~ to a great extent to be unreasonable. It is the desire of H.E. in C. that ~~a visit of inspection of the nature explained above shd.~~ ~~twice~~ ~~if possible an annual~~ once a year or at all events once in two years a visit sd. be made to every dt. in the Presy. by one of the L.R. Commrs. ~~If it is found~~

manner / ~~sugg~~

~~inconvenient~~ ~~impossible~~, ~~however, for one of the L.R. Commrs. to visit such distant districts as Ganjam and Canara for example,~~ but advantage may be taken of the ~~presence~~ ~~visits~~ tours of the Commr. of Sep. Rev. to such distant dts. as Ganjam and Canara or the Commr. of ~~Rev.~~ Settlmt. and those officers may be asked to make brief inquiries regarding such matters as record rooms, disposal of business etc. ~~reporting the result to the~~ and to let the L.R. Commrs. know the result. In ~~addn.~~ ~~to these annual visits of inspection the L.R.~~ ~~shd. also not hesitate to make~~ directing such periodical tours, H.E. in C. is of course not to be understood as discouraging special visits either to the head quarters of a dt. or any other place whenever circumstances may show that the personal presence or inspection of a Commr. would prove beneficial.

~~The Board will understand that these orders are final and that the Govt. ...~~

~~permit no further argu-
ment in the matter, ~~until~~
at least not until to and
unless experience has shown
that effect cannot be given
to their wishes, without serious in-
jury to the ~~ma~~ dispatch of
the Board's business.~~

HC &

14/June

1Q

to
16 the Comm^rs of L Rev:
16 - Comm^r of S. & Sep: Rev.
25 The Comm^r of W. S. & Kangra
1 - Hon. the advocate
General with not^n

Desp. 10 July
C Dep. 12/7

15

Towring of the Land
Revenue Comm^rs

(draft from orders)

Print

18/6

Hon. Mr Hatchi

15/6