1

Revenue Department

Minutes of Consultations

25th August 1857

Back Numbers 17 - 20

Order Nos 844-845 dated 22nd Aug 1857

(32 Sheets)

1

2. Mr. Ricketts' opinion respecting the necessity for retaining the office of Sheristadar is to some extent dependent on the adoption of the whole of his plan for the reorganization of the several departments, and it appears to me, that it is not possible to give a satisfactory opinion on certain portions of the details, until the whole scope of the measure in all its bearings can be taken into consideration.

3. Had the political circumstances of this country remained the same, as they were, when this reference was made to Mr. Ricketts, I should have been in favor of the course proposed by the Board of Revenue, viz. that of making an essay of abolishing the office of Sheristadar in one district; but I think that looking to the events, which are now occurring, and the excited state of the public mind, and the facility with which any change proposed by Government may be misrepresented, and the credit given by the native population to such misrepresentations, I am disposed to deprecate any attempt at change at the present time.

4. I would propose, therefore, that the facts as they are now before this Government should be communicated to the Government of India, and that they should be requested to withdraw the condition laid down by them, that the abolition of the office of Sheristadar should at once be adopted, but that permission to nominate 16 Uncovenanted Assistants should at once be sanctioned.

5. I have avoided touching upon many points in the consideration of the general question on which I am prepared to give an opinion, but which I think should be deferred until the whole reorganization of the staff of Government comes to be discussed. I will only add now, that the assistance which was asked for is and has been urgently required quite independently of the abolition or retention of Sheristadars.

6. One remark only I will add, that I think it would be most injudicious to endeavour to effect any reduction of emoluments by a change in the designation of offices, while the services required would be the same in labour and in responsibility.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,
August 9th 1857.

(Signed) HARRIS.

No. 19.

ORDER THEREON, No. 844; dated 22d August 1857.

In the Proceedings above recorded the Board of Revenue reply to Extract Minutes Consultation dated 8th December 1856, No. 1287, in which their opinion was required as to whether the condition attached to the sanction of the Government of India for the appointment of 18 Deputy Collectors, viz. the "adoption of early steps towards the alteration and revision of the status and salaries of Serishtadars and Naib Serishtadars," can for the present be complied with. They state that the suggestions made in their letter of the 22d January 1855, No. 192, for the reduction of the status and salaries of the Serishtadars, and for the abolition of the offices of Naib and Assistant Serishtadars, were based on the supposition, that the full number of Uncovenanted Assistants applied for, viz. 60, would be granted, but that as only 18 have been sanctioned, the measures which were thought practicable when each Collector was to have three Uncovenanted Deputies, cease to be so when only one is allowed. They also add that in making the suggestions alluded to, it was understood by them that the Covenanted staff of each District would ordinarily be maintained on the usual footing, viz. a Collector, Head Assistant, and Junior Assistant for the smaller, and the same number, with a Sub-Collector, for the larger Districts, besides the three proposed Uncovenanted officers, whereas the 18 Deputy Collectors now granted, if attached to as many Districts, will little more than suffice to supply deficiencies already existing in the number of Covenanted servants, and the Collectors will consequently obtain no new additional aid in the conduct of their duties, the want of which has been so long felt and admitted.

2. The Government in their letter to the Government of India dated 13th August 1855, admitted that hereafter, when the three Deputy Collectors in each District had obtained experience, and increased simplicity had been introduced in revenue management and accounts, some reduction in the expenditure incurred on account of the Serishtadars might be effected, though at the same time it was urged that any such reductions should be applied to the augmentation of the salaries of Tahsildars, who are now universally allowed to be inadequately remunerated for the duties they are called on to perform. That Government, without apparent regard to the

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circumstances attending the propositions of this Government, have coupled their sanction for the entertainment of 18 Deputy Collectors on a reduced scale of salary, with the condition that alteration and revision be made in the status and salaries of Serishtadars and Naib Serishtadars. The result of these measures would be, either that one young and inexperienced Deputy Collector would take the place of two or three old, experienced, and distinguished Revenue officers, or that the highly paid Serishtadar would be called on to undertake new duties on a greatly reduced salary. In either case the Collector would be worse off than he now is. The existing organization of his Cutcherry would be disarranged, and he would be embarrassed instead of assisted at the very moment when he most requires aid, and the experience of the most efficient native functionaries in his District, to assist him in carrying out the revision of assessment and intricate investigations into the tenure of Enam land.

3. The Government referred the whole question to the Commissioner for the revision of Civil salaries for his opinion, First, as to whether he considers that the number of sixty Uncovenanted Assistants originally asked for by this Government on the salaries* stated, was excessive as compared with the assistance of a similar kind allowed in other parts of India, the nature of the duties of a Collector in this Presidency being considered; and Secondly, as to whether he has found that there are officers under the name of Dufterdars, or under any other name, in other parts of India similar in position to the Serishtadars in Madras, and in the event of his reply being in the negative, whether from the fact of there being no such officers under a Zemindary or village rented system, he would infer that they were needless in Provinces where the settlement is Ryotwar. Mr. Ricketts in his reply, also above recorded, informs this Government that, far from thinking the demand for sixty Deputy Collectors excessive, he recommends in his report that instead of 79 Covenanted Officers only, 93 Covenanted and 61 Uncovenanted Officers, (exclusive of Police) should be employed in the management of the Madras Districts,† and that he found a class of Officers in Bombay called Dufterdars resembling the Serishtadars of Madras. He adds that he proposes that Dufterdars and Serishtadars should be established; the employment of Native Officers in such a position appearing to be entirely indefensible; that when no more work shall be demanded of a Madras Collector than is demanded from a Collector in other parts of India, he will not want a Serishtadar, that there can be no more difficulties in Madras than elsewhere; and that the Collectors will easily cope with those that may exist, when they shall have time to attend to them. Mr. Ricketts' scheme however provides that the places of the present Serishtadars shall be filled by officers of a similar denomination on the reduced salaries specified in the margin.

* 10 *at* 600 *each.*
15 ,, 500 ,,
15 ,, 350 ,,
20 ,, 250 ,,

† 2 *at* 800 *each*
2 *at* 650 ,,
6 *at* 500 ,,
13 *at* 400 ,,
16 *at* 300 ,,
22 *at* 250 ,,

17 *Serishtadars at* 175 *each.*
8 *do. at* 150 ,,
20 *do. at* 80 ,,
15 *Sub do. at* 100 ,,
4 *Asst do. at* 75 ,,

4. The Commissioner's answer satisfactorily shews that the requirement of this Government for 60 Uncovenanted Deputy Collectors was by no means exorbitant, and that its sanction would only place Madras on a par with the other Presidencies, as regards a Revenue Establishment. Mr. Ricketts' opinion regarding the reduction of the status and salaries of the Serishtadars is dependent on the adoption of the whole of his plan for the re-organization of the Revenue Department, for it is evident that till then the Collectors will not have that time which he admits is necessary to make them independent of the assistance of the present Serishtadars. With the sentiments of Mr. Ricketts as above explained before them, the Government would have reiterated their original application for 60 Uncovenanted Assistants, with the promise of endeavoring, after a short experience of their utility, to reduce the salaries of the Serishtadars, had the present unfortunate necessity for restricting expenditure not existed. They therefore reserve this part of the subject for future consideration.

5. It is however clear from the circumstances fully explained above, that no reduction of the description required by the Supreme Government is possible with the limited aid of 18 Deputy Collectors for the entire Presidency, or one for each of 18 out of the 21 Districts which it comprises, and the Right Honorable the Governor in Council resolves therefore to point out

to that Government that the limited assistance asked for is, and has been, urgently required, quite independently of any interference with the position and salaries of the present Serishtadars and to request them to withdraw the condition laid down by them in granting sanction for the 18 Deputy Collectors viz., that early measures should be adopted for the reduction of the status and salaries of the present Serishtadars.

6. The Board suggest that of the 18 Deputy Collectors authorized, 10 had better be allotted to the Districts noted in the margin, and the remaining eight posted to Guntoor, Nellore and Chingleput, 3 each for the two former Districts and 2 for the latter. Their object in this proposal is to bring into operation in the last named Districts the original measure (as they call it) of superseding the present Serishtadars by the proposed Deputy Collectors and supplying their places by Office managers on 200 Rupees each, thereby to test the practicable value of the scheme. The Government however consider that it is inexpedient at the present time to make any change in the position of the chief Native servants of the Presidency, and they are also of opinion that every Collector requires the assistance that has been asked for, and that the proposed plan of Uncovenanted Agency should have a general trial in all Districts. They will therefore, when the Supreme Government have withdrawn the condition alluded to, adopt measures to give a Deputy Collector to each of the Collectorates except the three named in the margin.

Bellary. *Madura.*
Canara. *Rajahmundry.*
Cuddapah. *Salem.*
Tinnevelly. *Tanjore.*
Ganjam. *Trichinopoly.*

Vizagapatam.
Kurnool.
Madras.

7. With reference to para. 21 of the Board's Proceedings the Government have only to remark that their Notification of the 22d May last must have given them full information about the Examination tests prescribed for the new class of Officers. Candidates for the proposed appointments will have to pass in the test laid down for the "First Division" of the Revenue Department, and it has been already pointed out to the Board in para. 2 of Extract Minutes Consultation dated 1st June 1857 No. 525, that the examination will be competitive.

It is observed that the original Enclosures received with Mr. Ricketts' letter were* returned to him with an intimation that this Government propose to reserve any remarks they may have to make upon the matter discussed in them until his report to the Government of India shall be before them in full.

* *With letter dated 10th August 1857, No. 801.*

(Signed) H. FORBES,
Acting Secretary to Government.

Ordered in consequence that the following letter be despatched.

No. 20. From H. FORBES, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Government of Fort St. George; to the Secretary to the Government of India; dated 22d August 1857, No. 845.

SIR,

1. I am directed by the Right Honorable the Governor in Council to report for the information of the Government of India that he has not been able to appoint the 18 Deputy Collectors so urgently required for this Presidency, and sanctioned on the 24th October 1856, No. 1664, in consequence of the condition attached to the sanction, viz. that early steps should be adopted towards the alteration and revision of the status and salaries of the Serishtadars.

2. The Board of Revenue, whose opinion was required as to whether the condition alluded to could be complied with, state that the suggestions made in their letter of the 22d January 1855, No. 192, for the reduction of the status and salaries of the Serishtadars, and for the abolition of the office of Naib and Assistant Serishtadars, were based on the supposition that the full number of Uncovenanted Assistants applied for, viz. 60, would be granted, but that as only 18 have been sanctioned, the measures which were thought practicable when each Collector was to have three Uncovenanted Deputies, cease to be so when only one is allowed. They also add that, in making the suggestions alluded to, it was understood by them that the Covenanted staff of each District would ordinarily be maintained on the usual footing, viz. a Collector, Head Assistant, and Junior Assistant for the smaller, and the same number with a Sub-Collector for

the larger Districts, besides the three proposed Uncovenanted officers; whereas the 18 Deputy Collectors now granted, if attached to as many districts, will little more than suffice to supply deficiencies already existing in the number of Covenanted servants, and the Collectors will consequently obtain no new additional aid in the conduct of their duties, the want of which has been so long felt and admitted.

3. In Mr. Secretary Bourdillon's letter to you dated 13th August 1855, this Government admitted that hereafter, when the three Deputy Collectors in each District had obtained experience, and increased simplicity had been introduced in revenue management and accounts, some reduction in the expenditure incurred on account of the Serishtadars might be effected, though at the same time it was urged that any such reductions should be applied to the augmentation of the salaries of Tahsildars, who are now universally allowed to be inadequately remunerated for the duties they are called on to perform. The Supreme Government, without apparent regard to the circumstances attending the propositions of this Government, have coupled the sanction for the entertainment of 18 Deputy Collectors, on a reduced scale of salary, with the condition that alteration and revision shall be made in the status and salaries of Serishtadars and Naib Serishtadars, and these measures, if carried out, will have the sole effect of either putting upon one young and inexperienced Deputy Collector the duties hitherto performed by two or three old, experienced, and distinguished Revenue officers, or of requiring from the Serishtadar new and unaccustomed duties, while at the same time his salary is very greatly reduced. In either case, the Collector would be worse off than he now is. The existing organization of his Cutcherry would be disarranged, and he would be embarrassed instead of assisted at the very moment when he most requires aid, and the experience of the most efficient native functionaries in his District, to carry out the revision of assessment, and intricate investigations into the tenure of Enam lands.

4. Before coming to any conclusion, this Government referred the whole question to the Commissioner for the revision of Civil Salaries and Establishments, for his opinion; First, as to whether he considered that the number of sixty Uncovenanted Assistants originally asked for by this Government on the salaries* stated, was excessive, as compared with the assistance of a similar kind allowed in other parts of India, the nature of the duties of a Collector in this Presidency being considered; and Secondly, as to whether he had found that there are officers under the name of Dufterdars, or under any other name, in other parts of India, similar in position to the Serishtadars in Madras, and in the event of his reply being in the negative, whether from the fact of there being no such officers under a Zemindary or village rented system, he would infer that they were needless in Provinces where the settlement is Ryotwar. Mr. Ricketts in his reply informed this Government that far from thinking the demand for sixty Deputy Collectors excessive, he recommends in his report that instead of 79 Covenanted Officers only, 93 Covenanted and 61 Uncovenanted Officers (exclusive of Police) should be employed in the management of the Madras Districts,† and that he found a class of officers in Bombay called Dufterdars, resembling the Serishtadars of Madras. He adds that he proposes that Dufterdars and Serishtadars should be abolished; the employment of Native officers in such a position appearing to be entirely indefensible, that when no more work shall be demanded of a Madras Collector than is demanded from a Collector in other parts of India, he will not want a Serishtadar; that there can be no more difficulties in Madras than elsewhere, and that the Collectors will easily cope with those which may still exist, when they shall have time to attend to them. Mr. Ricketts' scheme however provides that the places of the present Serishtadars will be filled by officers of a similar denomination, on the reduced salaries specified in the margin.‡

Rupees		
*10	*at*	600 *each.*
15	,,	500 ,,
15	,,	350 ,,
20	,,	250 ,,

Rupees		
†2	*at*	800 *each.*
2	,,	650 ,,
6	,,	500 ,,
13	,,	400 ,,
16	,,	300 ,,
22	,,	250 ,,

Rs.			
‡ 17	*Serishtadars at*	175	*each.*
8	*do.* ,,	150	,,
20	*Naib do.* ,,	80	,,
15	*Sub-Collrs'. do.* ,,	100	,,
4	*Assistant do.* ,,	75	,,

5. The Commissioner's answer satisfactorily shews that the demand of this Government in asking for 60 Uncovenanted Deputy Collectors was by no means exorbitant, and that its sanction would only place Madras on a par with the other Presidencies as regards a Revenue Establishment. Mr. Ricketts' opinion regarding the reduction of the status and salaries of the Serishtadars is dependent on the adoption of the whole of his plan for the reorganization of the Revenue Department, for it is evident that, till then, the Collectors will not have that time which he admits is necessary, to enable them to dispense with their Serishtadars. With the sentiments of Mr. Ricketts as above explained before them, this Government would have reiterated their original application for 60 Uncovenanted Assistants, with the promise of endeavoring, after a short experience of their utility, to reduce the salaries of the Serishtadars, had the present unfortunate necessity for restricting expenditure not existed. They reserve this part of the subject for future consideration.

6. It is however clear from the circumstances fully explained above, that no reduction of the description required by the Government of India is possible with the limited aid of 18 Deputy Collectors for the entire Presidency, or one for each of 18 out of the 21 Districts which it comprises, and I am directed to point out to the Right Honorable the Governor General in Council, that the limited assistance asked for is, and has been, urgently required, quite independently of any interference with the position and salaries of the present Serishtadars, and to request His Lordship to withdraw the condition that early measures should be adopted for the reduction of the status and salaries of the present Serishtadars on the 18 Deputy Collectors already sanctioned being appointed.

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644-45

No 1090

To,

A. Forbes, Esqre
Acting Secretary to the
Government of Madras.

Dated Ootacamund 3d July, 1857.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 14th July last, No 1450

The Right Honorable the Governor in Council desires an expression of my opinion on two points. First, whether from the information before me, I consider the number of sixty Uncovenanted Assistants asked for was necessary, as compared with the assistance of a similar kind allowed in other parts of India, the nature of a Collectors duties in the Madras Presidency being considered; and secondly, whether I have found Officers under the name of "Duftedars", or under any other name, in other parts of India, similar in position to the Serishtadars of Madras, and, if I have not, whether I would infer from the fact of there being no such Officers under a Zemindarree, or village rentals system, that they were useless in Provinces where the settlement is Ryotwar-

&c

In answer, I have the honor to submit portions of my report relating to —

1. The Board of Revenue
2. Collectors and Magistrates with one Enclosure.
3. Subordinate Officers in the Revenue Department.
4. Sheristadars
5. Police.

From these papers his Lordship in Council will learn that far from thinking the demand for sixty Deputy Collectors exorbitant, I recommend that instead of 79 Covenanted officers only, 93 Covenanted, and 61 Uncovenanted officers* should be employed in the management of the Madras Districts.

I found a class of officers in Bombay called Duftahdars, resembling the Sheristadars of Madras. I propose that Duftahdars and Sheristadars should be abolished. The employment of native officers in such a position appears to be entirely indefensible. When no more work shall be demanded of a Madras Collector than is demanded from a Collector in other parts of India, he will not want a Sheristadar. There are no more difficulties in Madras than elsewhere, what there are, the Collectors will easily cope with when they shall have time to attend to them.

* Exclusive of Uncovenanted Deputy Collectors

As connected with the papers now submitted for the consideration of his Lordship in Council, I send copies of my papers on the Boards of Revenue at Calcutta and Agra, Duftahdars of Bombay, and Magistrates and Collectors of Bengal.

I take this opportunity of requesting the Right Honorable the Governor in Council to accept my respectful thanks for the assistance I have received from officers of all departments to whom application for information has been made in the prosecution of my enquiries.

I shall be obliged by the return of these papers (not copies) when no longer required, or should they be printed in your Office, I beg that 50 copies may be struck off for my use, the cost of which shall be remitted to you when I shall be informed of the amount.

I have the honor to be
Sir,
Your most obdt. Servant.

Henry Pottinger

Commissioner for the revision of Civil Salaries and Establishments throughout India.

844-45

Copies to Navy Dept. 11th Aug. 1844

Copies to U.S. Exchanges 20th Aug. 1857

Received

Copies to Navy Dept. 11th Aug. 1844

Copies to U.S. Exchanges 25th Aug. 1857

Received

Copies to the Commissioner for the Revision of the Statutes & Solicitor of the Treasury

Letter 3rd July 1857

Rec'd 10th July 1857

Copies to Navy Dept. 11th Aug. 1857

Copies to U.S. Exchanges 20th Aug. 1857

Received

Establishment.

... Mr Ricketts opinion respecting the
Capacity for steaming of the Port of Trinidad
to be made subject to the opinion of the
Lords of the whole of his plan for
the improvement of the Canal de
Sandwich - and it appears to me that
this cannot be done - before a Calculation
should be made of the Quantity of the
Water - under the whole scope of
the measure to make its bearings can

8
844-45

Datum site considered.

Had the circumstances of this
Country remained the same - as they
were - when this Entrance was made
by Mr Ricketts - I should have been
in favour of the course proposed by
the Board of Revenue - viz. that of making
an Opening of 40 Chains the effect of which
Cutting in one direction but I think
that Cooling by the Canals - which are
now accumulating - in the Coasts of

[illegible] mind - [illegible] frankly with
which any change proposed by Govt. may
be misrepresented - & the credit given
by the native population
which their representatives - have
disposed to depreciate any attempt
at change at the present time -

I would propose - therefore -
that the facts as they are now before
this Govt. should be communicated
to the Govt of India - & that they should be
invited to take the subject into
consideration at their

by them - that the abolition of the
Office of Resident should at once
be adopted - but that provision
be made to maintain the Agencies
& Residents should above be
sanctioned -

Kansas

Distance -

I have avoided touching
upon many points in this consid

Endorsement

bation of the general position in which I am prepared to express no opinion - but which I think should be defended until the whole re-organisation of the staff of Genl. Lowe's Div disappeared - I will only add now - that the assistance which was asked for is what has recently required quite independently of the abolition

or retention of Brandenburg -

One remark only. I will add that I think it would be most injudicious to oppose Endeavours to effect any reduction of Establishments by a change in the designation of offices - which the reasons assigned would be the same in future as in responsibility

Genl Hamilton -

Horse.

Aug 9/57 -

Copy in a y. L. t. E.
dy 20th November 1857 No 41
Para 16.

11/844-45

Revenue 1857 Depart.
Dft to Copn 25th Augt.

No 965.

Minute by the Right Hon.
the President.
Dy 3d August 1857.

Observing that had the
political circumstances of this
Country remained the same
as they were, when the reference
for asking for the Concurrence of
Mr Sherristadar was made
Mr Ricketts the President
would have been in favor
of the course proposed by the
Bd of Rev:; but for several
reasons stated, deprecating
any attempt at change
at the present time.-

No 18

Steamer
Dispatch
12 Sept.

12
844-45 11

Revenue Dept.
Fort St George
19 August 1845

No. 845.

To H Foker Esqr

The Secretary to the
Government of India

Sir,

I am directed by
the Right Honorable the
Governor in Council to
report for the information
of the Government of
India that he has not
been able to appoint
the 18 Deputy Collectors
so urgently required
for this Presidency,
and sanctioned on
the [illegible]
24th October 1836 No 1664,
in consequence of the
condition

condition attached to the sanction-viz: that early steps should be adopted towards the alteration and revision of the status and salaries of the Serishtadars.

2. The Board of Revenue, whose opinion was required as to whether the condition alluded to could be complied with, state that the suggestions made in their letter of the 22d January 1855 No 192, for the reduction of the status and salaries of the Serishtadars, and for

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844-45 2127

for the abolition of the office of Naib and Assistant Serishtadars, were based on the supposition that the full number of Uncovenanted Appointments applied for, viz: 60, would be granted but that we only 8 have been sanctioned the measures which were thought practicable when each Collector was to have three Uncovenanted Deputies, cease to be so when only one is allowed. They also add that, in making the suggestions alluded to, it was understood by

by them that the Cove-
-nanted Staff of each
District would ordina-
-rily be maintained
on the usual footing
viz a Collector, Head
Assistant, and Junior
Assistant for the
smaller, and the
same number with
a Sub Collector for
the larger Districts,
besides the three pro-
-posed Uncovenanted
Officers; whereas the
18 Deputy Collectors
now granted, if
attached to as many
Districts, will little
more than suffice
to supply deficiencies
already existing in
the

the number of Cove-
-nanted Servants, and
the Collectors will
consequently obtain
no new additional
aid in the conduct
of their duties, the
want of which has
been so long felt
and admitted.

3. In Mr.
Secretary Bour-
-dillon's letter
to you dated
13 August
1855, the Gover-
-ment admits
that hereafter,
when the three
Deputy

Deputy Collectors
in each District.
had obtained ex-
perience, and
increased simpli-
city had been
introduced in
revenue ma-
agement and
accounts, some
reduction in
the expendi-
ture manned
on account
of the Servi-
tators might
be

be effected, though at the
same time it was urged that
that any such reductions
should be applied to the re-
augmentation of the salaries
of Tehsildars, who are now
universally allowed to be
inadequately remunerated
for the duties they are called
on to perform. The Supreme
Government, without a shared
regard to the circumstances
attending the proprietors of
this Government, have sanc-
tioned the sanction for the enter-
tainment of 18 Deputy Co-
llectors, on a reduced
scale of salary, with the
condition that alteration
and revision shall
be made in the status
and

and Salaries of Serishtadars and Naib Serishtadars, and these measures, if carried out, will have the sole effect of either putting upon one young and inexperienced Deputy Collector the duties hitherto performed by two or three old, experienced and distinguished revenue officers, or of requiring the Serishtadar here & mise: customed duties, while at the same time his salary is very greatly reduced. In either case the Collector would be worse off than he now is. The existing organization of his Cutcherry would be

disarranged

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644-16

disarranged, and he would be embarrassed instead of assisted at the very moment when he most required aid, and the experience of the most efficient native functionaries in his District, to carry out the revision of assessment, and intricate investigations into the tenure of rent lands.

4. Before coming to any conclusion this Govt referred the whole question to the Commissioner for the revision of Civil Salaries and Establishments for his opinion, First as to whether he considered that the number of Sixty Uncovenanted Assistants originally asked for by this Govt

Government on the Salaries stated, was excessive, when compared with the existence of a similar Kind allowed in other parts of India, the nature of the duties of a Collector in this Presidency being considered; and secondly, as to whether he had found that there are Officers under the name of Dufterdars, or under any other name in others parts of India, similar in position to the Serishtedars in Madras, and in the event of his reply being in the negative, whether from the fact of there being no such officers under a Zemindary or village rented system, he would be

infer

× 10 @ 800 Rs each
15 @ 500 — do
15 @ 350 — do
20 @ 250 — do

Rs
2 @ 800 each
2 @ 650 — do
6 @ 500 — do
13 @ 400 — do
16 @ 300 — do
32 @ 250 — do

infer that they were unnecessary in Provinces where the settlements is Ryotwar. Mr Pickett in his reply informed this Government that far from thinking the demand for Sixty Dufterdary Collectors excessive he recommends six reports that instead of 79 Covenanted Officers only, 93 Covenanted and 61 Uncovenanted Officers, (exclusive of Police) should be employed in the management of the Madras Districts and that he found a Class of Officers in Bombay called Dufterdars resembling

resembling the Serishtadars of Madras. He adds that he proposes that Duffedars and Serishtadars should be abolished; the employment of Native Officers in such a position appearing to be entirely indefensible, that when no more work shall be demanded of a Madras Collector than is demanded from a Collector in other parts of India, he will not want a Serishtadar; & that there can be no more difficulties in Madras than elsewhere, and that the Collectors will easily

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17 Serishtadars @ 175 Rs
8 — do — @ 150 — Do
20 Naiks do — @ 80 — Do
18 Sub Mrs do — @ 100 — Do
1 Apsth do — @ 75 — Do

cope with those which may still exist, when they shall have time to attend to them. Mr Ricketts's scheme however provides that the vacancies in places of the present Serishtadars will be filled by Officers of a similar denomination on the reduced salaries specified in the margin.

5. — The Commissioners answer satisfactorily shew that the demand of the Government in settling for the Recommended Deputy Collectors was by no means exhorbitant and that its correction would

Madras

would only place, on a par
with the other Presidencies
as regards Revenue Esta-
blishments, Mr Bellett's
opinion regarding
the reduction of the
Salaries and Salaries of
the Peishcardars is de-
pendent on the adoption
of the whole of his plan
for the reorganization
of the Revenue Department,
for it is evident that,
till then, the Collectors
will not know that time
which he admits is ne-
cessary, to enable them
to dispense with
their
Peishcardars.

With

19 / 1844-45

With the sentiments of Mr
Ricketts as above explained
before them, this Government
would have reiterated their
original application for
the Uncovenanted services to,
with the promise of endea-
vouring, after a short experi-
ence of their ability to reduce
the salaries of the Peishcardars
had the present unfortunate
necessity for restricting
expenditure not existed.
They reserve this part of the
subject for future conside-
ration.

6. It is however clear
from the circumstances
fully explained above, that
no reduction of the description
required

required by the Government of India is practicable with the limited aid of 18 Deputy Collectors for the entire Presidency, or one for each of 18, out of the 21 Districts which it comprises, and I am directed to point out to the Right Honorable the Governor General in Council, that the limited assistance asked for is, and has been, urgently required, quite independently of any interference with the position and salaries of the present Sheristadars, and to request his Lordship to withdraw the condition that early measures should be adopted for the reduction of

the

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1844-45.

the salaries and salaries of the present Sheristadars on the 18 Deputy Collectors already sanctioned being appointed.

Fort St. Geo:
22d Augt 1843

Copy received Genl L. to E.
of 20th November 1857, No 41
Para 16.

305/57

Revenue 1857 Dept.
Dated 25th August
No 845

To the Secretary to the
Govt of India.
Dated 22d August 57.

On the Subject of the appointment of Revenue Assistant & Deputy Collectors and the reduction of the Salaries and Stations of the Junior Traders

No 20.

Rec'd 11th Aug 7th R14 R14 R17

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Revenue Dept

No 844.

Extract from the Minutes of Consultation
Under date the 22d August 1857

Read again Proceedings of the Board of Revenue of 19 January 57 No 221 and Minutes by the Worlle H. C. Montgomery Bart and Hon. Walter Elliot Esqrs of 4th March and 17 April 57 transmitted to Mr Ricketts, Commissioner for the Revision of Civil Salaries and Establishments with letter of 14th May 1857 No 1800.

Read also the following Letters from the Commissioner for the revision of Civil Salaries and Establishments throughout India.

Rec'd 3 July 57 No 1090
Minute by the H. M. the Pres.
Rec'd 3d Aug 57

In the Proceedings above recorded the Board of Revenue reply to a letter

-duct Mun: Com: dated
8 December 1856 No 1287,
in which their opinion
was required as to
whether the conditions
attached to the sanc-
-tion of the Govt of
India for the appoint-
-ment of 18 Deputy
Collectors viz. the adoption
of early steps towards
the alteration and
revision of the salaries
and salaries of Sheris-
-tadars and Nail Se-
-rishtadars, can for
the present be com-
-plied with. They
state that the sug-
-gestions made in their
letter of the 22 Jany 56
No 193, for the reduction
of

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of the status and salaries
of the Serishtadars,
and for the abolition
of the offices of Nail
and Huzoor Nail Serish-
tadars, were based on
the supposition, that
the full number of
Uncovenanted Assist-
ants applied for, viz
60, would be granted,
but that as only 18
have been sanctioned,
the measures which
were thought prac-
-ticable in their early
Collector was to have
three Uncovenanted
Deputies, cease to be
so when only one is
allowed. They also
add that in making
the

the suggestions alludes to, it was understood by them, that the Co-venanted staff of each District would ordinarily be maintained on the usual footing, viz a Collector, Head Assistant, and Junior Assistant for the smaller, and the same number, with a 2nd Collector, for the larger Districts, besides the three proposed Uncovenanted Officers, whereas the 18 Deputy Collectors now granted, if attached to so many Districts, will little more than suffice to

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to supply deficiencies already existing in the number of Co-venanted servants, and the Collectors will consequently obtain no new additional aid in the conduct of their duties; the want of which has been so long felt and admitted.

2- The Government in their letter to the Government of

of India dated 13th
August 1855, admitted
that hereafter,
when the three
Deputy Collectors
in each District
had obtained expe-
-rience, and increase
simplicity had been
introduced in revenue
management and
accounts, some pe-
-diction in the ex-
-penditure incurred
on account of the Sic.
-pichtadars might
be

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be effected, though at
the same time it was
urged that any such
reductions should be appli-
-ed to the augmentation
of the Salaries of Zahsil-
-dars, who are now inade-
-quately allowed to be in-
-adequately remunerated
for the duties they are
called on to perform.
That Government, with-
-out apparent regard to
the circumstances attend-
-ing the proposition of
this Government, have
complied their Sanction
for the entertainment
of 18 Deputy Collectors
on

on a reduced Scale of Salary with the condition that alteration and revision be made in the Status and Salaries of the Serishtadars and Naib Serishta=dars. The result of these measures would be, either that one young and inexperienced Deputy Collector would take the place of two or three old, experienced, and distinguished Revenue officers, or that the highly paid Serishtadar would be called on to undertake new duties on a greatly reduced Salary.

Either

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Either either case the Collector would be worse off than he now is. The existing organization of his Cutcherry would be disarranged, and he would be embarrassed instead of assisted at the very moment when he most required aid, and the experience of the most efficient native functionaries in his District, to assist him in carrying out the revision of assessment and intricate investigations into the tenure of Enam land.

3. The Government referred the whole question to the Commissioner for the revision of Civil Salaries for his opinion, First as to whether he considers that the number

of

of Sixty Uncovenanted Assistants originally destined for by this Government on the Salaries stated, were excessive as compared with the assistance of a similar Kind allowed in other parts of India, the nature of the duties of a Collector in this Presidency being considered; and Secondly, as to whether he has found that there are Officers under the name of Dufterdars, or under any other name, in other parts of India similar in position to the Serishtadars in Madras, and in the event of his reply being in the negative, whether from the fact of there being no such Officers under a Zemindary or village rentest System, he would infer

× 10 @ 800 Rs each
15 @ 500 -- Do
15 @ 350 -- Do
20 @ 250 -- Do

73 @ 800 Rs each
3 @ 650 Do
4 @ 500 Do
13 @ 400 Do
14 @ 300 Do
23 @ 250 Do

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that they were necessary in Provinces where the settlement is Ryotwar. Mr Ricketts in his reply, also above recorded, informs this Government that, for transmitting the demand for Sixty Deputy Collectors excepting, he recommends in his report that instead of 79 Covenanted Officers only, 93 Covenanted and 61 Uncovenanted Officers, (exclusive of Police) should be employed in the management of the Madras District, and that he found a class of Officers in Bombay called Dufterdars resembling the Serishtadars of Madras.

He

He adds that he proposes that Registerdars and Serishtadars should be abolished, the employment of Native Officers in such a position appearing to be entirely indefensible: that when no income worth that name shall be demanded from a Collector, his other parts of Justice, he will not want a Serishtadar, and that there can be no more difficulties in attending than elsewhere; and that the Collectors will easily copy into the books when they shall have time to attend to

17 Serishtadars @ 175 each Rs
8 do — @ — 150 — do
20 do — @ — 80 — do
15 Sub do — @ — 100 — do
11 Apitt do — @ — 75 — do

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attend to them. Mr Rocketts scheme however provides, that the places of the present Serishtadars shall be filled by Officers of a similar denomination on the reduced Salaries specified in the Margin.

4. The Commissioners answer satisfactorily shews that the requirement of this Government for so unconscionable a body Collectors was by no means exorbitant, and that its sanction would only place Madras on a par with the other Presidencies, as regards a Revenue

a

Revenue Establishment.

Mr Ricketts' opinion regarding the reduction of the status and salaries of the Serishtadars is dependent on the adoption of the article of his plan for the reorganization of the Revenue Department, for it is evident that till then the Collectors will not have that time which he admits is necessary to make their conclusions dependent of the assistance of the present Serishtadars.

With

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With the sentiments of Mr Ricketts as above explained by him the Government would have reiterated their original application for to be Annexated Assistants with the promise of endeavouring, after a short experience of their ability, to reduce the salaries of the Serishtadars, had the present unfortunate necessity for retrenching expenditure not existed. They therefore reserve this

their part of the subject
for future consideration

5 It is however
clear from the circumstances
fully explained above, that
no reduction of the description
required by the Supreme
Government is possible with
the limited aid of 18 Deputy
Collectors for the entire
Presidency, or one for each
of 15 out of the 21 Districts
which it comprises, and
the Right Honorable the
Governor in Council resolves
therefore to point out to that
Government

Government that the
limited assistance
asked for is, and has
been, urgently required
quite independently
of any interference
with the position
and salaries of the
present Serishtadars,
and to request them
to withdraw the con-
dition laid down
by them in granting
sanction for
the 18 Deputy Collectors
viz that early mea-
-sures should be
adopted for the reduc-
-tion of the status
and salaries of the
present Serishtadars.

6. The Board
suggest that of the

10 Deputy Collectors au-
thorized to had better
be allotted to the Dis-
tricts noted in the
margin, and ~~to put~~
the remaining eight
to Guntoor, Nellore
and Chingleput, 3 each
for the two former
Districts and 2 for
the latter. Their object
in this proposal is to
bring into operation
in the said mentioned
Districts the original
measure (as they
call it) of superseding
the present Servants
dare by the proposed
Deputy Collectors, and
supplying their places
by Office managers

Bellary — Madura
Canara — Rajahmundry
Cuddapah — Salem
Tinnevelly — Tanjore
Ganjam — Trichinopoly

on 200 Rupees each,
thereby to test the
practicable value of
the Scheme. The
Government however
consider that it
is inexpedient at the pre-
sent time to make
any change in the
position of the chief
Native Servants of
the Presidency, and
they are also of opinion
that every Collector
requires the assistance
that has been
asked for, and
that the proposed
plan of measure-
mentcd agency
should have a

general

general trial in all Districts. They will therefore, when the Supreme Government have withdrawn the constitution alluded to, adopt measures to give a Deputy Collector to each of the Collectorates except the three named in the margin.

7. With reference to para 21 of the Boards' Proceedings the Government have only to remark that their Notification of the 22d May last must have given them full information about the Examination tests prescribed

[x] Vizagapatam
Guntoor
Madras.

[x] In Page 6 line 11

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prescribed for the new Class of Officers. Candidates for the proposed appointments will have to pass in the test which is known as the "First Division" of the Revenue Department and it has been already pointed out to the Board in para 2 of Extract Minutes Con.d dated 1st June 1857 (No 525) that the examination will be competitive. If it is observed that the Original Enclosures received with Mr. Ricketts letter were returned to

[x] With letter dy 10 Aug 57. No. 801.

to him with an intimation that the Government proposed to reserve any remarks they may have to make upon the matter discussed in them until his report to the Government of India shall be before them in full.

Ordered that the following Letters be despatched—

To the Secy to the Govt of Madras

To the Commissioner for the Revision of Civil Salaries &c.

To Capt Jervis the Astl Surveyor Genl

Here enter 22d Augt 57 — No 845

Here enter

C/7 in G. Lr to E. d/20th November 1857 No 41

Para 16

305/67

2/68

Revenue 1857 Departt.
Dft to Govt: 25th Augt.

No 844.

Extract Mins: of Govt:
Dft 22d August 57.

From the Asst Surv Genl the Supt Gen
& /30 Oct 57 by Capt Boys Mutiny.

On the subject of the appointment of Uncovenanted Deputy Collectors

No 17 at 19. 20

Cll 4 Aug 58 R 14