(1)

Revenue Department

Minutes of Consultations

22nd Sept 1855

Back nos 17-19

Order no 955 of 18th Sept 1855

(19)

பாதுகாப்பு பிரிவு-1

செப்பனிடுபவர் பெயர் [illegible]

செப்பனிடுவதற்காக எடுத்துக் கொள்ளப்பட்ட நாள் 11/2006

செப்பனிட்டு முடித்த நாள் 3/2007

சரிபார்க்கும் முதல் மு.நி.பர்.எ. கையொப்பம்

சரிபார்க்கும் உ.நி.பா.எ. கையொப்பம்

ஆய்ச்சி உதவியாளர் கையொப்பம்

Fort Saint George, Revenue Consultation of 22d September 1857.

No. 17. Read the following Extracts from the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue ; dated 4th July 1857, No. 2274.

Read the following letter from ARTHUR HALL, Esq., Collector of South Arcot ; to J. D. SIM, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue ; Fort St. George, dated Cuddalore 19th May 1857, No. 100.

SIR,

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of Extract from the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue dated 15th Instant, No. 1603, renewing the operations of the survey under Captain Priestley, and calling for information on two points touched upon respectively in paras. 10 and 12.

2. In regard to the former, it will be necessary for me to make a reference to Captain Priestley who is now in Madras on leave. This, however, shall be at once done, with a request that he will submit an explanation of the circumstance to which he alludes in para. 29 of his Report, with as much expedition as he can.

3. The second point relates to the means which have been adopted for marking the limits of fields.

4. Nothing that I am aware of has been done in this respect excepting in the Chellumbrum talook, where I have been informed by Captain Hessey, that the limits of the survey fields have been carefully defined by earthen mounds.

5. In the Palliemcottah Jaghire, there was not so much necessity to mark the fields, as no new ones were created and the old ones were for the most part too well known to require being defined by other marks than existing ones.

6. I am fully alive to the great importance of having the survey fields properly and clearly perpetuated by marks, and I will request Captain Hessey, who is now in charge of the survey, to pay particular attention to the matter for the future.

7. I beg leave to remark respectfully that the Board of Revenue have quite mistaken my meaning when I alluded in point of my letter dated 13th March to " undefined portions of enclosed fields."

8. I intended to say that these portions alone should be reserved without being measured by the Ameens, and not that they only should be measured by them. With this explanation the inconsistency, of which the Board consider me guilty, is cleared up.

9. It is only on the score of expense that I would recommend any holding being left unmeasured, but considering the very large additional outlay which Captain Priestley showed to have been incurred by his having caused every little holding, even when it was a minute portion of a defined field, to be measured, I remarked that I did not see that much advantage is gained by having partitions or sub-holdings of fields separately measured.

Para. of my letter dated 24th Feb. last.

10. With reference to the latter part of para. 19 of the Board's Proceedings under acknowledgment, I would also observe that the instructions which I am therein said to have given to Captain Priestley, were merely an expression of my views conveyed in private notes written when absent from the District, at Madras.

The Board resolve to submit the foregoing letter to Government, chiefly with reference to the explanation afforded in paras. 7 to 10, in accordance with Mr. Hall's request to that effect conveyed in a subsequent letter dated 9th June 1857, No. 118.

In Cons. 4th July 1857.

2. The Board see no reason for changing the view they took in their Proceedings dated 15th May 1857, No. 1603, viz. that Captain Priestley measured and mapped the component holdings of a survey field in conformity with what appeared to be the wishes of Mr. Hall.

(A true Extract and Copy.)

(Signed) J. D. SIM, *Acting Secretary.*

In Cons. 4th July - No 676.

From ARTHUR HALL, Esq., Collector of South Arcot ; to J. D. SIM, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, Fort Saint George ; dated Cuddalore 9th June 1857, No. 118.

SIR,

I have the honor to request that the Board of Revenue will be pleased to explain to Government the wrong construction they put upon what I stated in para. 6 of my letter dated 13th March, No. 51, in regard to the measuring of portion or Sub-divisions of fields under survey.

2. I have already done myself the honor to represent, in para. 7 of my letter of the 19th Ultimo, what I did really mean to say.

3. I would respectfully suggest that a copy of my letter of the 19th Ultimo should be laid before Government.

No. 18. Extract from the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue dated 4th July 1857, No. 2278.

Read letter from the Collector of South Arcot dated 25th May 1857* with copies of letters from Lieutenant Hessey, furnishing information on certain points in connection with the survey operations in progress in that District and Trichinopoly.

* *In Cons. 4th July* 1857.

From ARTHUR HALL, Esq., Collector of South Arcot ; to J. D. SIM, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, Fort St. George ; dated Cuddalore 25th May 1857 No. 105.

SIR,

Adverting to my letter of the 19th Instant, No 100, I have the honor to forward copy of one dated 22d idem from Lieutenant W. H. Hessey reporting what has been done towards perpetuating the survey fields by marks.

2. I beg also to submit copy of another letter of the same date from Lieutenant Hessey, explaining the reason why a less amount of work was done by the survey Ameens during March and April than in the previous months.

From Lieut. W. H. HESSEY, Assistant Superintendent Revenue Survey ; to the Collector of South Arcot ; dated Palliemcottah 22d May 1857.

SIR,

In answer to your letter of the 19th May requesting information as to the measures that have been adopted for defining the survey fields by marks and as to how far the survey fields in Chellumbrum and Munnargoody have been perpetuated, and what arrangements are made to have such marks put up by the villagers as the survey goes on.

I have the honor to state the Ameens are in the habit of marking the corners of the fields they measure by pegs, and that the villagers have been ordered to perpetuate these marks by erecting over them conical mounds of earth two feet high faced with the coarse grass called "Vedul."

This grass if cared for a little while after it is planted, is almost indestructible.

The villagers were at first very neglectful of this, but I think I may say that by the assistance of the Serishtadar you attached to the survey, the generality of the fields in Munnargoody and Chellumbrum have been so marked that the assessing officer will not find much difficulty in identifying them.

In Arealore where the assistance of a Serishtadar in compelling the ryots to observe orders on the subject, was not available, very little attention has been paid to keeping up the survey marks.

From Lieutenant W. H. HESSEY, Assistant Supt. Revenue Survey ; to the Collector of South Arcot ; dated Palliemcottah 22d May 1857.

SIR,

In answer to your communication of the 19th and 20th of May enclosing Extract from the Proceedings of the Revenue Board and requesting explanation of so small an amount of work having been done by the survey party during the months of March and April, I, in the absence of Captain Priestley, have the honor to enclose a statement of work done during 9 months of last year and also of the 2 months of this year, the work of which is said to be unsatisfactory.

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Fort Saint George, Revenue Consultation of 22d September 1857.

It is true that as the measuring of Puttahs has been discontinued and the Ameens now act on the permission to measure no field that is less than 1 acre in Nunjah and 2 in Poonjah, the difference in favor of this year's work should have been more marked. But Captain Priestley having ordered that the pymash fields should, where practicable, be attended to, the irregularity of their forms has in many cases caused extra work, as they had to be measured in several "taks."

In many villages it has happened that the Curnums have been unable to point out the Pymash fields until they had gone through and measured them as they appeared in the Cadjan records. This has again been a source of delay as the Ameen had to wait till the process of identifying the fields had been completed before he could set about his work. Another reason that the work of this year appears small is that there is a large quantity of land in the Woodiarpoliem talook, of the extent of which no record is possessed by the Curnums, but which nevertheless having been applied for by ryots, has been measured by Ameens.

The monthly reports are confessedly imperfect ones. The amount of work done by Ameens is taken from the Curnum's accounts ; where the Curnums possess no record of the land the area cannot be shown. The true area of the field is not computed till the recess, and it would cause much waste of valuable time if the Ameens were ordered to compute their fields as they measured them.

The village circuit work may seem small, but for that there is a very satisfactory reason, one of the Head Surveyors, Mr. Starr, has been laid upon the sick list and though able for the greatest part of the time to attend office, has been unfit for any field work.

Another of the Head Surveyors has been engaged for a long time in surveying the villages along the boundary of the Paliemcottah Jaghire. In consequence of the very unsatisfactory and incorrect way in which the stations of the Jaghire villages were formerly marked, a great part of his time was consumed in recovering the correct stations ; all this does not figure in the return. Notwithstanding this drawback, the average of the Head Surveyor's work bears a favorable comparison with that of last year.

The European Assistants may appear by the return to have executed but little work, but I beg to state that at the close of last month two large circuits in addition to the small one mentioned in the return, had been completed with the exception of an angle or two that could not be taken in consequence of village disputes.

The return at the end of the current month will perhaps shew a more favorable amount of work.

Work performed in 1856.

	Village Circuits.	Minor Circuits.	Area in Cawnies.
January	45	9	1,834
February	38	27	20,881
March	25	32	28,524
April	20	20	23,353
May	60	3	32,243
June	30	20	12,736
July	47	2	15,837
August	49	16	20,111
September	17	43	16,336
	9)331	9)172	9)1,71,855
Average per month..	36-6	19-1	19,095

Work performed in 1857.

March	33	36	19,199
April	54	43	23,709
	2)87	2)79	2)42,908
	43-5	39-5	21,454

In the foregoing letters Lieutenant Hessey, in the absence of Captain Priestley on leave, meets the requisition of the Board for information on two points, viz. first as to the means adopted for defining and perpetuating the boundary marks of fields; and secondly, as to the slow progress of the survey during the last few months, as shewn by the monthly returns furnished to this office through the Collector.

2. On the first subject, Lieutenant Hessey explains that the corners of fields are marked by pegs, and that it is left to the villagers to place over these permanent mounds of earth of a conical form, two feet high, covered with the coarse grass called "Vedul," which, if carefully preserved for a short time, is not easily destroyed afterwards. The ryots naturally neglected at first what was required of them, but in later operations with the aid of a servant attached by the Collector of South Arcot to the Survey Department, field marks have been raised, as required, and Lieutenant Hessey is of opinion that the Assessment Officer will not find much difficulty in identifying the survey fields in the generality of cases. In the talook of Arealore in the Trichinopoly District however, where no person on the part of the Collector was present, very little attention it appears has been paid to keeping up the survey marks. The Board regret that such is the case in Arealore, but the arrangements it must be remembered were necessarily defective at first. The local officers are now aware that the ryots cannot be left to themselves in this matter, without some person to enforce what is required, and it is not likely therefore that similar failure will occur again. To prevent disappointment however the subject will be brought to the special notice of the Collectors of both South Arcot and Trichinopoly.

3. In regard to the slow progress of the survey of late, Lieutenant Hessey ascribes it to different causes. These are the irregularity of the old pymash fields, the inability of the Curnums to point out those fields until "they have gone through and measured them as they appeared in the cadjan accounts" and the practice of entering in the monthly returns of work performed, the extent *according to the Curnum's accounts*, whereas much land has been applied for by ryots, and measured, of which the Curnum's accounts do not give the area of all. Though the land is *measured*, and so far is *work done*, the *true* area is not computed till the recess, and it would cause much waste of valuable time, as justly observed by Lieutenant Hessey, if the Ameens were ordered to compute the fields as they measure them. The sickness of one of the Head Surveyors and the employment of another in recovering the stations in the villages along the boundary of the Paliemcottah Jaghire, in consequence of the very unsatisfactory and incorrect way in which they were formerly marked, are also adduced as reasons why a greater amount of work does not appear in the accounts.

4. The small amount of work performed as shewn in the returns is thus accounted for. The extra labor entailed in recovering lost stations and boundaries will be obviated by the precautions now taken for perpetuating marks, as regards the old Pymash numbers, Captain Priestley has directed that these should be observed, where practicable, apparently in deference to the views of Mr. Hall, but the Board have recently pointed out that owing to many of them having been broken up during the last 40 or 50 years, they do not form a suitable basis for survey measurements. They could not for the most part be traced with any certainty of a favorable result, and even if such could be ultimately looked for, it would not be worth the labor and expense that would be necessary for its attainment. These sentiments have been communicated to Mr. Hall, but his attention will be drawn to the subject again in order that attempts at recovering the ancient Pymash numbers may be given up altogether.

Proceedings to Government 15*th May* 1857 *No.* 1603. *para.* 24.

Ordered that copy of these Proceedings be communicated to Government, with reference to the Proceedings of the Board 15th May 1857, No. 1603.

Copy also to the Collectors of South Arcot and Trichinopoly for information and guidance. Both Collectors will give special attention to the remarks of the Board in para. 2 regarding boundary marks, and Mr. Hall will see that no further time is lost in endeavours to trace the old Pymash numbers.

(A true Extract.)

(Signed) J. D. SIM, *Acting Secretary.*

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Fort Saint George, Revenue Consultation of 22d September 1857.

No. 19. ORDER THEREON, No. 955; dated 18th September 1857.

The Government approve of the Proceedings of the Board as above recorded.

2. Ordered that copies of these papers, as well as of the former ones to which they refer, dates noted in the margin, in which are discussed the question of whether each survey field or each separate holding should be surveyed, and in which orders are passed respecting the duties of the Additional Sub-Collector in South Arcot making certain preparations to facilitate the path of the assessing officer, be forwarded to Mr. Newill for his information.

E. M. C. 13*th March* 1855, *No.* 301 *para.* 2 *with para.* 20 *of the Bd.'s letter referred to in it.*
From Bd. of Rev. 21*st Octr.* 1856.
Ex. Mins. Cons. 9*th Feby.* 1857, *No.* 151.
From Bd. 15*th May* 1857.
Ex. Mins. Cons. 4*th July* 1857, *No.* 676.

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

3 The second point relates to the means

Revenue Department.

5/958

No 1274

Extracts from the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue
dated 11th July 1857

Read the following Letter

No 100

From Arthur Wall Esq
Collector of South Arcot

To J. D. Sim Esq
Secretary to the Board of Revenue
Fort St George.

Dated Cuddalore 7th July 1857

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge
receipt of Extract from the Proceedings of the
Board of Revenue, dated 15th Instant, No 1603,
reviewing the operations of the Survey under
Captn Priestley, and calling for information
on two points touched upon respectively in
Paras 10 and 12.

2. In regard to the former, it will be
necessary for me to make a reference to
Captn Priestley who is now in Madras on
leave. This however shall be at once done,
with a request that he will submit an ex-
planation of the circumstance to which
he alludes in Para 29 of his Report, with
as much expedition as he can

3 The second point relates to the

means

at Madras.

South Arcot,
Collectors Kutcherry,
Cuddalore
19th May 1857.

I have &c &c
(Sign'd) A. Hall
Collector

The Board resolve to submit the foregoing letter to Government, chiefly with reference to the explanation afforded in paras 7 @ 10, in accordance with Mr Hall's request to that effect conveyed in a subsequent letter dated 9th June 1857 In forms 4th July 1857 No 118.

2 The Board see no reason for changing the view they took in their Proceedings dated 15th May 1857 No 1603. Viz. that Capts Priestley measured and mapped the component holdings of a survey field in conformity with what appeared to be the wishes of Mr Hall.

(a true Extract &c &c)

(Sign'd) H. Stone

Ag Secretary

F. W. Forbes Esq
Ag Secretary to Government
Revenue Department.

Rec'd 4th July 57 & R'd 15th & 16th.

Revenue 1857 Sept 4
Nos 22 & 23

Extract Proceedings of the Board of Revenue dated 15th May 1857 No 1603

Read the following letter from the Collector of Cuddalore dated 19th May 1857 No 1603 with its enclosures

Ordered that the Collector be informed in reply that the Board see no reason for changing the view they took in their Proceedings dated 15th May 1857 No 1603 that Capt Priestley measured and mapped the component holdings of a survey field in conformity with what appeared to be the wishes of Mr Hall.

(a true Extract &c &c)

(Sign'd) H. Stone

Ag Secretary

F. W. Forbes Esq
Ag Secretary to Government
Revenue Department.

Rec'd 4th July 57 & R'd 15th & 16th.

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8/955 Revenue Department

No 2273

Extract from the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue dated 4th July 1854.

Read letter from the Collector of South Arcot dated 25th May 1854 with copies of letters from Lieut. Hessey furnishing information on certain points in connection with the Survey operations in progress in that District and Trichinopoly

(Here Enter No 105)

In the foregoing letters Lieut. Hessey, in the absence of Captain Priestley on leave, meets the requisitions of the Board for information on two points viz. first as to the means adopted for defining and perpetuating the boundary marks of fields, and secondly as to the slow progress of the Survey during the last few months, as shewn by the monthly returns furnished to this office through the Collector.

2 On the first subject Lieut. Hessey explains

In Con 4th July 1854.

C. Forbes Esq
Actg Secretary to Government
Revenue Department.

explains that the corners of fields are marked by pegs, and that it is left to the villagers to place over these permanent mounds of earth of a conical form, two feet high, covered with the coarse grass called "Vedal" which, if carefully preserved for a short time, is not easily destroyed afterwards. The Ryots naturally neglected at first what was required of them, but in later operations with the aid of a Servant attached by the Collector of South arcot to the Survey Department, field marks have been raised, as required, and Lieut. Hessey is of opinion that the assessment Officer will not find much difficulty in identifying these Survey fields in the generality of cases. In the Taluk of Arcalore in the Trichinopoly District however, where no person on the part of the Collector was present, very little attention it appears has been paid to keeping up the Survey marks. The Board regret that such is the case in Arcalore but the arrangements it must be remembered

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were necessarily defective at first. The local officers are now aware that the Ryots cannot be left to themselves in this matter, without some person to enforce what is required, and it is not likely therefore that similar failure will occur again. To prevent disappointment however the subject will be brought to the special notice of the Collectors of both South Arcot and Trichinopoly.

3. In regard to the slow progress of the Survey of late, Lieut Hessey ascribes it to different causes. These are the irregularity of the old Pymash fields, the inability of the Curnums to point out those fields until they have gone through and measured them as they appeared in the Cadjan accounts and the practice of entering in the monthly returns all work performed, the extent according to the Curnums' accounts, whereas much land has been applied for by ryots, and measured, of which the Curnums accounts do not give the area of all. Though

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the land is measured, and so far is work done, the true area is not computed till the recess and it would cause much waste of valuable time, as justly observed by Lieut Hessey, if the Ameens were ordered to compute the fields as they measure them.

The sickness of one of the Head Surveyors and the employment of another in recovering the Stations in the villages along the boundary of the Palconcottah Jaghire, in consequence of the very unsatisfactory and incorrect way in which they were formerly marked, are also adduced as reasons why a greater amount of work does not appear in the accounts.

4 ..... The small amount of work performed as shewn in the returns is thus accounted for. The extra labor entailed in recovering lost Stations and boundaries will be obviated by the precautions now taken for perpetuating marks. As regards the old Pymash numbers, Captain Priestley has directed that these should be

observed,

10/955

observed, where practicable, apparently in deference to the views of Mr Hall, but the Board have recently pointed out that owing to many of them having been broken up during the last 40 or 50 years, they do not form a suitable basis for Survey measurements. They could not for the most part be traced with any certainty of a favorable result, and even if such could be ultimately looked for, it would not be worth the labor and expence that would be necessary for its attainment. These sentiments have been communicated to Mr Hall, but his attention will be drawn to the subject again in order that attempts at recovering the ancient Pymash numbers may be given up altogether.

Pro Bo Govt 15 May 1857 No 1603. p 24.

Ordered that Copy of these Proceedings be communicated to Government with reference to the Proceedings of the Board 15th May 1857 No 1603.

Copy also to the Collectors of South Arcot and Trichinopoly for information

information and guidance. Both Collectors will give special attention to the remarks of the Board in ¶ 2. regarding Boundary marks, and Mr. Hall will see that no further time is lost in endeavours to trace the old Pymash numbers.

(A true Extract)

J. D. Hall
Ag. Secretary.

To

H. Forbes Esqre.
Ag. Secretary to Government
Revenue Department.

D. Hall.

11
650

Calcutta 18th June 1857. Separate
Dated 22d ditto
No. 1776.

From A. Grote Esqre
Officiating Secretary to the
Board of Revenue
N.W.P.
Agra

Dated 5th July 1857.
Rec'd 8th ditto
No. 2278

Sir,

I have the honor to transmit herewith, a letter from the Collector of Moradabad, forwarding Cashiers Receipts for Rs 1,000 from Nawab Hamid Ali Khan, being registration fees in connection with Pymashes in excess of the Survey Area, and to request that the Board will be pleased to direct in what manner the Collector is to account for the same.

I am, Sir, Your most obedient Servant

A. Grote

Secretary to the Board of Revenue
Agra — 18th July 1857.
No. 4230.

Recd. 20th July 1857.

Copy to Mr. Lindsay 15th July 1857

Signature Executive

12/955

Revenue Dept.

No 955

Extract from the Minutes of Consultation
Under date the 18 Sept. 1857.

Read the following
Extracts from the Pro-
-ceedings of the Boards
of Revenue.

Here enter 4th July 1857
No 2274 & 2278

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16

The Government
approve of the proceedings
of the Board as above
recorded.

2 Ordered that
Copies of these papers,
as well as of the former
ones to which they refer,
as also noted in the
margin in which are given

C. M. C. 18th March 1857 No 301
para 2 with this Bo.
Reference to in the -
From B. of Revr 21st Octr 1856.
Cy Mint Con.g 9 Feby 57 No 151
From B. 15 May 57
Cy Mint Con.g 6 July - No 676.

D. Hills.

the question of whether each survey field or each separate holding should be surveyed, and in which orders are passed respecting the duties of the additional Sub Collector in South Areek making certain preparations to facilitate the proper of the assessing Officer, be forwarded to Mr Newill for his information.—

3 Copies
To the Board of Revenue Circ. 17
with 2 Encls
In Mr H. Newill
with Copies of the papers referred to—

Revenue 1855 Dept.
Extract Cons. 22 Sept.

17-2-20

17-2-20.

Extract Minutes of Consultation

Fort St George 19th

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue

Dated 17th September 1855

Read the following Letter from

Mr Secretary Maltby

Dated 15th September 1855

Copies of Mr Newill's Report

Mr Newill to be informed

Circ 17 Sept