

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.

1032

Press

~~Mis.~~

Dated

5th August

1859.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
from 30th July to 5th August 1859.*

No. 7. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 5th July 1859, No. 2633.

Read letter from the Acting Sub-Collector in charge of Masulipatam, dated 21st May 1859, No. 83, submitting information regarding the demand of quit rent against Lieut. Vertue.

(In Con. 25th May 1859, No. 2348.)

In Con. 31st March 1859, No. 1392.

Resolved that the foregoing letter be submitted for the orders of the Honorable the Governor in Council together with Mr. Knox's letter dated 26th March 1859, No. 40.

2. Lieut. Vertue, with the view of trying the effects of irrigation on black alluvial soil, took up for the purpose certain land of that description in the village of Kunkepaud in Masulipatam. The land consisted of both Inam and Government land, and a demand of Rupees 140-2-11 on this account appeared in the books of the Collector of Masulipatam against that officer. Lieut.

To Govt. 20th Aug. 1858.

F. „ 23rd Oct. „, No. 1433, R. D.,
in Con. 26th Oct. 1858, No. 4799.

Vertue seems to have demurred to the demand and the subject was subsequently brought under the consideration of Government in a report on Quit-rent Balances generally, when Lieut. Vertue was called upon, through the Chief Engineer, to pay what was

due or show cause to the contrary.

3. This called forth an explanation from Captain C. A. Orr, who stated that Lieut Vertue had acted under his orders, and that he had himself made the agreement with the Inamdars for the use of their lands during the season, as he found that wet cultivation was not thought of by the people

under a strong persuasion of the unsuitableness of black alluvial lands to irrigation. The experiment succeeded and dispelled most effectually as shewn by the results the popular notion against the application of water to this description of land, but all proceeds were absorbed in an extension of experiments with Sugar-cane and Plantain in Government lands.

4. Mr. T. A. N. Chase's letter, at the head of these Proceedings, shews distinctly the particulars of the demand against Lieut. Vertue. They are as follow;—

	Rs.	A.	P.
Quit rent of Inam land...	82	12	9
Water rate thereon...	57	6	2
	<hr/>		
Bonus to be given to the Inamdars.	140	2	11
	14	1	10
	<hr/>		
Total Inam land.	181	4	9

Government land.

	Rs.	A.	P.
Assessment	11	0	9
Teerwa Jasty	18	9	6
	<hr/>		
	29	10	3
	<hr/>		
Total demand...	210	15	0

5. Thus the entire demand, which Lieut. Vertue was required to discharge, was Rupees 181-4-9 for the Inam land and Rupees 29-10-3 for Government land, total Rupees 210-15. In the report to Government on Quit-rent Balances mentioned in para. 2 of these Proceedings, that portion only of the demand which fell within the scope of that report, viz. Rupees 140-2-11 was noticed. Even of this the sum of Rupees 57-6-2 is for the use of anicut water.

6. The experiment, as justly observed by Capt. Orr, was undertaken for public purposes. It was eminently successful as to the removal of the prejudices of the people, which is also admitted by the Revenue officers. Under these circumstances the Board do not hesitate to recommend that Lieut. Vertue be relieved of the two items, viz. Inam quit rent, Rupees 140-2-11, and assessment of Government land, Rupees 29-10-3. Sanction is now solicited for writing off the former and permission to the Collector to enter the latter in his next list of irrecoverable balances in Government lands.

7. The Revenue officers had no authority to interfere in regard to the remaining item of Rupees 41-1-10 bonus or compensation to the Inamdars, and orders do not therefore appear necessary on this point.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
from 30th July to 5th August 1859.*

8. Through a misconception in this office, the extent of Inam land occupied by Lieut. Vertue was stated to be 10 acres, which with a demand of Rupees 140 gives an average of Rupees 14 per acre. Capt. Orr naturally argued from this that vast sums of money must have been lost to the State in the Godavery and Kistnah Deltas, as the water cess in those lands had made no approach to this standard. The real extent of Inam land however which Lieut. Vertue took up and on which the demand against him was framed, was about 2½ cutties or upwards of 38 acres, each cutty being computed at about 17 acres. The inference drawn by Capt. Orr, is thus no longer tenable.

(A true Extract.)

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

No. 8.

ORDER THEREON, 30th July 1859, No. 1032.

	Rs. A. P.	It appears that Lieutenant Vertue took up some land partly Government and partly Inam, for the purpose of exhibiting the effects of irrigation on black alluvial soil.
Quit rent on Inam	82 12 9	When called on by the Collector to pay the quit rent and assessment, he demurred at the demand, on the ground that his operations were undertaken solely with a public object, and not at all with a view to private gain. The subject came before Government in the report on quit rent balances, and explanation was called for. The entire Government demand against Lieutenant Vertue is Rupees 169-13-2 as marginally explained.
Water rate	57 6 2	
Total Inam land...	140 2 11	
Govt. land Assessment	11 0 9	
Teerwa Jasty	18 9 6	
Total Govt. land...	29 10 3	
Grand total ..	169 13 2	

2. The experiments having been undertaken for a public purpose, the Government approve the Board's recommendation that Lieutenant Vertue be relieved from the Government demand on the land, and grants authority accordingly.

3. There is also a further claim of Rupees 41-1-10 on the part of the owners of the Inam land, being the amount which they allege Lieutenant Vertue or Captain Orr agreed to pay for the use of the land. The terms were not recorded in writing, and their exact nature is disputed. Whatever those terms were, the Inamdars are entitled to claim their fulfilment; and having relieved Lieutenant Vertue from the Government claim, the Governor in Council expects that he will without further delay satisfy that of the Inamdars. This claim should not have remained so long unadjusted, viz. since Fusly 1265, being A. D. 1855-6. The Chief Engineer will report when Lieutenant Vertue shall have adjusted the claim of the Inamdars.

(Signed) W. C. SIM,

Acting Deputy Secretary to Government.

IN CON. 25TH MAY 1859, No. 2348.

From T. A. N. CHASE, Esq., Acting Sub Collector in charge MASULIPATAM,
dated Masulipatam, 21st May 1859, No. 83.

INAM.	Rs. A. P.
Quit Rent.....	82 12 9
Water Rate on the Inams.....	57 6 2
	140 2 11
SARY	
Sist.....	11 0 9
Teerwagasty.....	18 9 6
	29 10 3

In reply to the Board's Proceedings of the 7th instant, No. 1633, I have the honor to explain that the sum of Rupees 140, quoted in their Proceedings of the 20th August 1858, No. 3176, consists only of the *arrears* of Quit-rent proper on the Inams and Teerwa Jasty thereon as specified in the margin, and *does not include* the profits of the Inamdars, represented by the sum of Rupees 41-1-10. The total of these three items amounts to Rupees 181-4-9 as given in Mr. Fraser's report. The remainder of the sum of Rupees 210-15-0 or Rupees 29-10-3 consists of Sary assessment including Teerwa Jasty.

2. With reference to para. 3 of the Board's Proceedings, I beg to say that the arrears of Quit-rent only is Rupees 82-12-9. The water rate due on these Inams has been in the previous report also placed under the head of balance of Quit-rent, which appears erroneous.

In CON. 31st MARCH 1859, No. 1392.

From W. KNOX, Esq., Collector of Masulipatam,
dated Masulipatam, 26th March 1859, No. 40.

In reply to the Board's Proceedings of the 4th ultimo calling for explanation on certain points connected with the demand against the cultivation of Lieutenant Vertue in the Kunkepaud Village, I have the honor to submit herewith copy of a letter from the Sub Collector Mr. Fraser, which I hope, will give all the information required by the Board on the subject.

2. The experiment was, I believe very successful as far as the out-turn of the crop went, but the profits were entirely eaten up by the expenses gone to in hedging the fields, &c., and as it was merely an experiment for the public good, and not for personal advantage, I would beg leave to suggest that the demand be withdrawn and sanction be given me for writing it off in the accounts.

ENC. 1.

From J. FRASER, Esq., Sub Collector of MASULIPATAM,
To W. KNOX, Esq., Collector of Masulipatam,
dated Masulipatam, 17th March 1859, No. 11.

* No. 4 of 19th February 1859.

1. I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter* with its enclosure, and beg to submit the following remarks in reply to Major Orr's explanation of the matter:

2. I am not aware from what source the Board or Major Orr derived the information, that the amount of Inam land taken up for cultivation by the orders of the latter, was only 10 acres, or that the rent demanded on it, was at the excessive rate of Rs. 14 per acre. The only statement ever transmitted by me in the matter, copy of which I now forward,* was sent to Lieut. Vertue, with a letter of demand.* It plainly shows, that the amount of Inam land occupied was 2½ Cutties,† and that the rent demanded was 80 Rs. per Cutty, or about 4 Rs. 12 As. per acre. The land was, according to the

* Dated 11th April 1856.

† Cutty 17 acres.

	Rs.
Dry rent.....	32
Share of profits in wet cultivation.....	23
	55

Jeerooytee tarums on that in its immediate vicinity, worth 32 Rs. a Cutty; and when converted into wet, it was considered worth 80 Rs. a Cutty. It was proposed to allow the Inamdars, as noted marginally, 55 Rs. per Cutty out of the gross sum, which Lieut. Vertue was called on to pay, and to carry the rest to the credit of Government as water rate.

3. In regard to the agreement between Major Orr and the Inamdars, it was a verbal one, (which is much to be regretted), and the terms are matters of dispute to this day. This at least is certain, that the parties most interested, the Inamdars, do not know on what terms they lent their land to Major Orr; and neither he nor Lieut. Vertue, either verbally, or in writing ever informed me, what had been offered or determined on.

4. In conversation with me on the subject, Major Orr never claimed exemption from payment of shist on the plea, that he had undertaken an experiment to prove to the Ryots, that paddy could be successfully cultivated in black soil; and that therefore, on public grounds, he ought to pay nothing. On the contrary, he always spoke of the undertaking as merely a successful speculation in such terms as, (I quote his words), "Vertue ought to make a good thing of his wet cultivation at Kunkepaud, this year." It was Major Orr's part, not mine, to plead the public benefit conferred on the ryots of Kunkepaud, by his visible refutation of their prejudices, as a bar to any payment of rent; and I therefore consider I was justified in demanding it.

5. I deny that, as asserted by Major Orr in para. 5 of his letter, the cultivation of the Inam land yielded no profit. It yielded a very handsome one. The crop was carefully estimated at 20 Cooties per Cutty, which I think Major Orr will allow to be a moderate computation; and calculating the value at 22 Rs. per pooty (the market price at the time), a gross value of produce of Rs. 440 per Cutty is the result, or 5½ times the rent demanded; and the value of the straw has not been taken into account at all. I do not intend to impugn the correctness of Major Orr's assertions, that the expenses of a sugar cane plantation and of a plantain garden, were very heavy; but to say that because they were so, and because 10 acres of Jeerooytee land did not turn out so well as the Inam land, therefore the profits from the last named were nothing is a very novel style of argument, and at variance with facts as I have shown.

6. The Inamdars left it to me to obtain for them fit remuneration for the use of their lands; and had the agreement between the parties been reduced to writing, there could have been no demur about

Printed Copy of
No. 2318.
1859
From the Sub Collector
in charge of Masulipatam
To the Secretary to the
Board of Revenue
George
Dated 21st May 1859.
Recd. 25th May 1859.
A. E. No. 83
Submitting in reply
to the Board's Proceedings
of the 7th instant 1859,
certain explanations, in
regarding the amount of
Rent due on the Inam
and Jeerooytee therein
referred to.

paying rent according to the terms stipulated. It is the absence of such a document, and the misunderstanding as to what terms *were* verbally agreed to, which have led to all this difficulty and correspondence. I admit that it was legally wrong for me to have attempted to enforce payment of rent to the Inamdars from Lieut. Vertue; but I took the course I did, in consideration of the great hardship it would have inflicted on the Inamdars, mere paupers, to drive them to a suit in Court for the recovery of rent, which Major Orr would, I feel sure, have been the last person to refuse, had the terms of agreement been as explicit as he supposes them to have been.

—
ENC. 2.

From J. FRASER, Sub Collector of MASULIPATAM,
To LIEUTENANT J. VERTUE, Assistant Civil Engineer, Kistna Division.
dated Bezoarah, 11th April 1856, No. 40.

With reference to your letter of 8th December 1855, I have the honor to request, that you will transmit to me the sum of Rupees 210-15-0, being the amount of sist on Sary and Inam lands taken up by you for cultivation in Fusly 1265, as per particulars given below:—

	Rs.	As.	P.
Sist on C. 11, V. 3 of Sary land belonging to Conaroo Soobiah, &c., at 18 Rupees per Cutty	27	9	6
Do. on V. 12, P. 7 of Sary land not included in the Amarcum	2	0	9
Do. on Cut. 2, C. 8, P. 4 $\frac{1}{16}$ of Inam land belonging to Akkellah Lutchmee Narainah and others at 80 Rs. per Cutty	181	4	9
Total Rupees	210	15	0

[Faint handwritten text, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page.]

N^o 1032.

Proceedings of the Madras Government

Under date the 30th July 1859

Read the following

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue.

Submitting correspondence from the Collector of Mandlapattam on the subject of the Quit Rent due by Sicut Verdu on certain Mann and Government land in the village of Rinkespaud taken up by him for the purpose of trying the effects of irrigation on black alluvial soil and recommending that Sicut Verdu be relieved of the two idems, viz M. 140. 2. 11 and M. 29. 10. 3 being Quit Rent of the above mentioned land.

(Here enters 5th July 1859)

It appears that Sicut Verdu took up so much land partly Government and partly Mann, for the purpose of exhibiting the effects of irrigation on black alluvial soil. When called on by the Collector to pay the quit rent and assessment, he demurred at the demand, on the ground that his operations were not taken solely with a public

[Handwritten signature]

Printed Copy of

1859 N^o 1392

Debat^{ts}

From the Collector of Mandlapattam

To the Secretary to the

Board of Revenue

For G. George

Dated 26th March 1859

Recd: 31st March 1859.

In Power: 31st March 1859.

N^o 140

Dec^r: 2 N^o 173759

Submitting in reply to the Board's Resolutions of the 4th Meeting. Copy of a letter from the said Collector regarding the demand against the Cult. Division of Sicut Verdu in the Rinkespaud Village and regarding to give sanction for setting it off in the account.

Recd: 12 2633 of 1859

The subject came before
 Government in the report on
 its rent balances, and expla-
 nation was called for.

^{169.13.2}
 demand against
 Lieutenant Vertue is ~~11.1.10~~
 marginally explained.

The experiments having
 been undertaken for a public
 purpose, the Government ap-
 prove the Board's recommenda-
 tion that Lieutenant Vertue
 be relieved from the Government
 demand on the land, and
 grants authority accordingly.

There is also a further
 claim of Rs. 1.1.10 on
 the part of the owners of the
 land, being the amount
 which they allege Lieutenant Vertue
 Captain Orr agreed to pay for
 the use of the land. The terms
 are not recorded in writing,
 and their exact nature is dis-
 tinct. Whatever these terms
 are, the inamholders are entitled

	At Rs. 0
Int. rent on Swamp —	82-12-9
Water rate —	57-6-2
Total Swamp land —	140-2-11
Govt land Aft. —	11-0-9
Seerwa gasky —	18-9-6
Total Govt land —	29-10-3
Gross total —	21.1.10
	169-13-2

from the Government claim,
 the Governor in Council
 expects that he will without
 further delay satisfy that
 of the inamholders. ~~It is not~~
~~creditable, indeed to the~~
~~Officers concerned, that the~~
 claim should ^(not) have remain-
 ed so long unadjusted.
 viz. since July 1265, being
 the Government's demand the
 year 1855/6.
 perfect in point for the year
 in which the operation took
 place, but it was certainly
 in 1855. The Chief
 Engineer will report when
 Lieutenant Vertue shall have
 adjusted the claims of the
 inamholders.

[Signature]

- 5 Copies to Bd. of Rev.
- 1 to Chief Engineer
- 1 to Accts. Officer
- 1 to Civil Auditor

[Signature]

Revenue 1859 Dep't
Pro: of Govt 5th 2 August

24th 1859.

Pro: of the Collator Govt
27th 20th July 1859

From the Chief Secy 27th 18th 1859
1859. C. H. 1920.

Seventeenth Century
received from Government
demand on lands (land)
up by him no collator (land)
for collecting the effects
of irrigation on lands
all lands (land) but he is
to satisfy the claims of the
land (land)