

Revenue Department

N^o 231

Enter 21—2—1859

1-5

Fort Saint George, Revenue Consultation of 25th February 1859.

No. 38. Read the following letter from J. W. B. DYKES, Esq., on Special Duty; to J. D. BOURDILLON, Esq., Secretary to Government in the Revenue Department, dated Rajahmundry, 4th February 1859.

SIR,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Minutes of Consultation under date the 12th Ultimo,* directing me to furnish further explanations on the points, which the Board consider to have been placed before them in an obscure manner in my Special Report on the Godavery,† and to state that I have now done myself the honor of submitting accordingly further explanations on those points.

I also beg permission to submit now a copy of those explanations for the information of Government, if required.

From J. W. B. DYKES, Esq., on Special Duty; to J. D. SIM, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue; dated Rajahmundry, 1st February 1859.

SIR,

With reference to Minutes of Consultation in the Revenue Department under date the 12th Ultimo,‡ I now do myself the honor of submitting for consideration further explanations on these several points, in which I failed to express myself with sufficient clearness when reporting§ the results of the special survey in the Godavery Delta.

2. As supposed by the Board,|| I beg to state that the Rajahmundry accounts were furnished to me in the local measure of a Pooty, and were converted by me into acres at the rate of 8 acres to a Pooty. The grounds on which I considered myself justified in taking this step have been given at length in my report on the Kistna in continuation of the report under reference.

3. Viewed with reference to the estimates given by Mr. Bayley, Colonel A. Cotton, and Captain Rundall, I undoubtedly should have been far from justified in entering the whole excess found by survey as "concealed irrigation." And I regret that I did not explain in the first instance the grounds on which I had acted, instead of waiting till the question of local measurements was disposed of at once. Nevertheless I trust that the Board will kindly excuse the delay, and that the explanations now given¶ will prove satisfactory. When the Pooty was always taken at 8 acres by the local authorities; when the village Curnums offered to convert their returns for me at that rate; and when it was well known by all the local authorities that I took the Pooty at that rate; I could not regard the excess shown by the survey as otherwise than wilful.

4. Very probably the old differences in the value of the local measure will go far towards explaining why this excess was so much greater in some localities than others. The natives found the error always in their favor, and, as might be expected, they did not take particular pains to explain it. For this reason it would not be fair to treat those in fault, in the same way, as if there had not been this temptation in their path. But this, I would respectfully submit, does not affect the main point at issue. The error and the resulting excess was so much concealed

irrigation as regards the data, on which the Joint Rent was to be fixed. And, with regard to the Inams,** the Revenue returns show that the water cess, if laid on by the Pooty, was also invariably calculated by the Pooty of 8 acres.

5. With regard to the Board's remarks in paras. 18 and 20, I beg to give now in an appendix, the figured statements referred to, and to express my regret that I should not in the first instance have explained the process pursued, more clearly.

6. In para. 19 the Board express their wish that a comparative statement had been given, showing the gross revenue for some year before the Anicut was built, and in some recent year.

This I attempted to do, when I took the revenue of 1845-46; and compared it with that of 1857-58; but, as the Board are aware, I have since been permitted†† to draw up a comparative statement of this nature in a more satisfactory manner and for the whole Delta.

†† Mins. of Cons. Rev. Dept. No. 51.

1876 to 1877

No 281

The Government

will accept the further

of the Board of

Revenue

Revenue

Revenue

First of July 1877

2nd of July 1877

1st of July 1877

Revenue 1859 Report

Revenue 1859 Report

Revenue 1859 Report

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