M.R.O. 14—10,000—21-4-23

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 1276 — Press / Mis.

383-384

Dated 31-7- 18 69

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 31*st July* 1860.

No. 383. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Public Works Department, dated 25th July 1860, No. 1,591 :—

Awaiting the further report promised by the Acting Collector of Kurnool regarding the Survey of that District with reference to the operations of the Irrigation Company, and declining to transfer the new Survey party from Nellore to Kurnool

(Vide Public Works Proceedings, 25th July 1860, Nos. 404, 405.)

No. 384. ORDER THEREON, 31st July 1860, No. 1,276.

Ordered to be recorded.

(Signed) J. D. BOURDILLON,
Secretary to Government.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

Public.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 13th July 1860, No. 3,212:—

Read the following letter from J. I. MINCHIN, Esq., Acting Collector of Kurnool, to J. D. SIM, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Kurnool, 27th June 1860, No. 94:—

1. With reference to the Proceedings of the Madras Government, dated the 27th April last, communicated by the Board of Revenue with their Memorandum of the 3rd ultimo, I have the honor to report that the land Registers of the original Kurnool District are carefully preserved, and if the correctness of their details can in any way be depended on, ought to supply every information which will be required when the Irrigation Company begin to supply water to the villages.

2. Mr. Bayley in his published Report stated his belief that in spite of the rough process of measurement the errors in the Survey would not be found to exceed 10 per cent. in any one field, or 5 per cent. in the cultivable land of any one village, were this the case it would answer every practicable purpose on the present occasion, but it is certain that in individual cases the error has been found to be much greater, though I am not at present prepared to state whether such cases are general or exceptional.

3. Annexed is a Statement of actual cases of error reported by the Tahsíldárs, in reply to a Circular issued by my predecessor on the receipt of the present Government Proceedings, and the percentage of error is in some cases extraordinarily high.

4. The details of the land Registers are, however, recorded with much minuteness; the boundaries of each number are minutely described, and the lineal measurements are all entered in the local chain measures, as well as the computed area of contents. I cannot help thinking, therefore, that the errors thus brought to notice are exceptional, and are certainly easy of rectification. I propose in the course of the next fortnight to compare the measurements as entered in the Register, with the actual fields of a village, to which the Company will ere long supply Irrigation, and after completing this experiment, I will inform the Board of the results of the process.

5. I regret the delay that has occurred in answering this important requisition; but the Board's Memorandum was received before my arrival in the District, and was unfortunately not brought to my notice previous to the receipt of the reminder from the Sub-Secretary.

In Cons. 30th April 1860, No. 1,958.

1. Submitted for the information of Government with reference to their Order, dated 27th April 1860, No. 869.

2. It will be observed from paragraph 1 of the letter that the records of Mr. Bayley's Survey of Kurnool are carefully preserved, but whether the measurements of that Survey can be safely adopted in the proceedings connected with the operations of the Irrigation Company, is a matter upon which the Board hesitate to form an opinion, till at least the further report promised by the Acting Collector in paragraph 4 of his letter has been received. Mr Bayley himself states that the Survey was not carried out in the manner pursued in the Bombay Provinces, but on the method adopted by Sir Thomas Munro, and that although very useful as far as it went, no Maps or Plans were made, so that he could not be certain that the *whole* of the land in any one village had been surveyed.

No. VIII. of Selections, pages 58 & 59.

3. Considering the very great importance of having an accurate Survey of the lands to which the operations of the Irrigation Company are likely to extend, the Board think it worthy of consideration whether a regular Survey should not be commenced at once. A Survey party is about being formed for the Nellore District, and this might perhaps be transferred without much inconvenience to Kurnool, or a fresh party might be organised.

4. The Board would suggest that the matter be referred to Mr. Newill and Captain Priestley for their opinion.

(A true Extract & Copy.)

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

ORDER THEREON, 25th July 1860, No. 1,591.

1. In this letter the Board of Revenue reply to an Order dated April 27th 1860, calling on them to state, with reference to the operations of the Irrigation Company, what is the state of the land Registers in Kurnool; and also what is the condition of the records of Mr. Bayley's Survey of that District.

2. The former question referred to the land Registers now in use, and, so far as the Government understand the Acting Collector's letter submitted by the Board, it is not replied to. As respects Mr. Bayley's Survey, Mr. Minchin sends up a Memorandum of nine fields in which excessive inaccuracy is stated to have been detected. The variation ranges from 37 to 260 per cent.; but Mr. Minchin expresses his belief that these cases are exceptional.

3. The Government fully share this belief. Knowing Mr. Bayley's devotion to business, his familiarity with surveying and special fondness for it, and the great pains which he bestowed on the Kurnool Survey, they regard it as incredible that such errors as those now reported should be found in his work. No information is given as to the way in which these cases were selected, how the new measurement was made, or what gurantee there is that the fields as now measured are the same as at the time of Survey. They consider it far more likely that the boundaries have been altered, than that such gross inaccuracies should be found in the Survey measurements.

4. The Government will await the further Report promised by the Acting Collector, as to the results of his own actual inspection of a village. They hope to receive that Report at an early date; and they desire also that he will investigate the cases in the Memorandum above referred to, and ascertain the real causes of the discrepancy, and report the result.

5. Adverting to paragraph 2 of the Board's Proceedings the Government cannot consent to transfer the new Survey party from Nellore to Kurnool. It is true that a correct knowledge of the measurements of the land in Kurnool to be watered by the Irrigation Company, is desirable; but the Government believe that the existing land records will be sufficient for this, or that other means can be resorted to for the small area concerned. In Nellore, on the other hand, a Survey and a new Revenue Settlement are urgently called for throughout the District, to correct anomalies and evils of long standing and of great magnitude.

(True Extract.)

Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.
" Director of Revenue Settlement.
" Consulting Engineer for the Irrigation Company.
" Agent for the Irrigation Company.
" Revenue Department.

Exd. T. O'Connor.

Proc.s Govt. 30 April 1860
97-98-

Revenue 1860 Depart.t
Pro: of Govt for July

No. 1529

Proceedings of the
Madras Govt in the
Public Works Depart.t

Dated 25th July 1860.
Rec.d 27th

Awaiting the further
report promised by the
Asst. Coll.r of Kurnool re-
garding the Survey of
Kurnool District with
reference to the operations
of the Irrigation Company
and declining to trans-
fer the new Survey
party from Nellore to
Kurnool -

No 383 & 384-

No. 1276.

Recorded

31st July 1860.