M.R.O. 14—10,000—21-4-22.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 18 Press ~~Mis.~~

38-39

Dated 5 — 1 — 1860.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 38. Read the following letter from G. N. TAYLOR, Esq., Inám Commissioner; to J. D. BOURDILLON, Esq., Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, dated Narsapur, 9th December 1859, No. 304.

The results of the operations of this commission during the past month, as reported in my letter of the 7th instant, have placed beyond doubt the capability of my present staff of Deputy Collectors to decide, on the average, 5,000 cases a month. I am also satisfied that with the aid of my two Special Assistants, who have hitherto shared the work of the Deputy Collectors, I shall be able to superintend and revise double the above quantity of work. There can be no question as to the advantage of accelerating the progress of the Inám Settlement up to that point where the subordinate agency can still be efficiently controlled; and it is equally certain, that the addition of a further batch of Deputy Collectors to the present staff, will cause an eventual saving in the cost of supervision.

2. I beg, therefore, to propose that the strength of the commission be gradually increased from 8 to 16 Deputy Collectors. I shall not be able to avail myself of the services of so many as 8 additional Deputies while employed in these districts, the Inám Settlement of which will probably be completed before they could all join me; and it is not desirable that they should commence operations elsewhere, at a distance from my own personal supervision. The settlement of these two districts is now so far advanced, that with the addition of two, or perhaps three Deputy Collectors, every táluq could be occupied by the beginning of the year. But to be of real use, the persons appointed should be near at hand, and no time should be lost by them in joining the district.

3. Fortunately for my purpose, the services of two men, who are possessed of considerable local experience in these districts are readily available, and if they can be spared from their present duties, I can confidently recommend them from their known character and attainments, as being peculiarly fitted for the position of Deputy Collectors in this department. The first is Vadlamanáti Venkatáchalam, 4th class Deputy Collector, Rajámandri; and the second, M. Venkatáratnam Pilla, at present Manager of the Collector's office at Kádápa. The qualifications of the first named officer came under the observation of the Government on his appointment to his present post. I select him not only because he is on the spot, but also because his peculiar local knowledge and industrious habits point him out as a valuable acquisition to the department. Venkatáratnam is lately promoted from being Tahsildár of Bandar, which position he held on my arrival at Masulipatam, where he gave valuable aid to the officer making the Inám inquiry of his táluq. The third officer whom I would beg to nominate is B. Gopalaya, at present Manager of the Nellúr Sub-Collector's office. He took his Proficients' degree at the Madras High School, entered the public service in 1856, has risen by his talent and energy to be Tahsildár, and now Manager in Nellúr, and is, I believe, qualified in every respect for a Deputy Collectorship. These three officers would, if the Government approve of my selection, be attached to the Inám Commission as Deputy Collectors of the 4th class.

4. The táluqs which I would propose to assign to Venkatáratnam, are two in the present sub-division of Masulipatam bordering the Kristná and if he started at once from Kádápa, he could easily reach Beswada by the end of the year. Vadlamanáti Venkatáchalam could take up at once the táluqs of Kakinádá and Puttapur, where he is already employed; and the third Deputy would be employed in the two other táluqs of the sub-division of Masulipatam not yet settled; while the remaining portion of both districts would be fully occupied by my present staff.

5. On the first organization of the department, when the work was new and the ináms numerous, it appeared desirable to concentrate the entire agency in one district; assigning to each Deputy Collector, one out of a number of táluqs immediately contiguous to each other. Experience, however, has shewn the inconvenience of this arrangement. Towards the close of the inám investigation in each táluq, the time of the Deputy Collector is literally wasted, owing to the paucity of cases and the tardy attendance of the Inámdárs, who probably hold ináms in several parts of the district, and a further loss takes place in moving to a second táluq necessarily remote, and where nothing can be done till the Deputy Collector arrives. This point was alluded to in my recent progress report, and is remarkably exemplified in the return of work of one, at least, of the Deputy Collectors, who though able to decide nearly 1,200 cases in the past month, did next to nothing in the previous one.

6. It will, therefore, be desirable to adopt some change of system for the future. I propose that each Deputy Collector shall take up two or more adjoining táluqs together, and towards the close of the inquiry in one táluq, when the attendance of the Inámdárs threatens to fall off, he will be able to arrange for commencing the next, and no time will be lost in passing from one to the other. This will enable him to wind up the settlement of say 3 táluqs, with less interruption to his work, than now occurs towards the completion of one. Another advantage of this arrangement will be that from the wider separation of their work, the several Deputies will not interfere with one another, to the same extent, as has hitherto been the case, in regard to the attendance of persons holding ináms in several táluqs. It is certain too, that the experience gained by the Deputy in one táluq is of greater value, in a second táluq of the same district, than in another of a different district.

7. I am now adopting this plan with advantage in this district, as the Deputy Collectors are severally relieved from the táluqs upon which they were originally employed. Thus distributed, the Commission, will in future occupy a somewhat larger field than under the former arrangement, and several adjacent districts will have to be taken up at once, when the number of Deputies is increased. This will be especially necessary in the southern districts, where the ináms, except in Tanjúr, are comparatively inconsiderable in number, and where the táluqs under the new arrangement will be few and large. I believe that it is the wish of Government, that after the settlement of Masulipatam and Rajámandri, I should proceed to those districts where the new Police is in course of organization. I propose, therefore, to take up simultaneously, North and South Arcot, Chingleput, and, perhaps, Salem also. And as the ináms in those 4 districts, are less numerous, than those in Rajáhmandri and Masulipatam, which have been taken up together. I would assign to each Deputy Collector, some three or four of the old táluqs, and I would recommend the appointment of the additional Deputy Collectors, not all at once, but from time to time, as my arrangements are gradually completed for occupying the several districts.

8. Now that the confidence of the people has been gained, and the principles of the Inám Settlement are known throughout the country, the extension of the immediate circle of enquiry will not be attended with any of those disadvantages, which might at first, have been anticipated, from a want of greater concentration. The proposed arrangement will necessarily entail upon the Commissioner more constant locomotion, but this will be avoided to some extent by proper arrangements for the distribution of title deeds.

9. The Government will gather from the above remarks, that until the Commission leaves these two districts, I cannot conveniently find work for more than 3 additional Deputy Collectors, unless indeed it were thought desirable to continue the enquiry in Guntúr, which will form part of the new Kristná district, instead of proceeding direct to the south. This arrangement would certainly save both time and money in the conveyance of the establishment from one district to another; but the speedy settlement of the service tenurs in the North and South Arcot districts is so desirable, that I am reluctant to urge its adoption.

10. The order in which the several districts may be eventually taken up is the following: As the Deputy Collectors are severally relieved from the 4 districts above named, they would be sent into Tanjúr, arrangements being made for the settlement, consecutively, of Trinchinopoli, Koimbatúr, Madura and Tinnevelli, where the ináms are inconsiderable, and would be settled by one or two Deputies detached for the duty. The whole strength of the Commission might then take up Kádápa and Ballári, and afterwards Karnúl, Nellúr and Guntúr. Ultimately the districts of Vizagapatam and Ganjam to the north, and of Malabar and Kanará on the western coast, may be disposed of.

11. I beg to solicit the early orders of Government upon this communication to enable me to make arrangements for the future distribution of the Deputy Collectors.

No. 39. ORDER THEREON, 5th January 1860, No. 18.

The Government fully approve the Commissioner's design to enlarge his operations by augmenting the number of his subordinate agents. Two of the persons asked for by him in paragraph 3 have already been placed at his disposal; and the Government will take an early opportunity of giving him more assistance of the same kind.

2. The proposed change in the mode of conducting his operations, described in paragraphs 5 to 8, is the result of experience and is approved.

3. With reference to paragraph 10, the Governor in Council is of opinion that the best course will be to take the districts in order, proceeding southwards. Those next to be taken in hand therefore will be Guntúr and Nellúr, with North Arcot and Chingleput.

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

No 118

Revenue Department

Proceedings of the Madras Government
Under date the 5th January 1860.

Read the following letter
from the Inam Commissioner

(Here enter 9th December 1859
No 304:)

The Government
fully approve the Commis-
sioner's design to enlarge his operations
by augmenting the number of his
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2 The proposed change in the
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3 With reference to Para 10, the Governor in Council is of opinion that the best course will be to take the Districts in order, proceeding Southwards. Those most to be taken in hand therefore will be Guntúr and Nellúr, with North Arcot and Chingleput.

5 Copies to the Surveyor Commr. Dirp 6 Cs.
6 " " Dr. of Revs 6 "
4 " " Petty Esqrs 5 "
1 " " Chief Commissioner of Mofussil Police 1 "

Revenue 1860 Dept.
Pro: of Govt. 10th January.

No. 18.

Pro: of the Madras Govt.
Dy 5th January 1860.

Nos 38 & 39.

Observing the Commissioner's design to enlarge his operations, and observing that the best course will be to take the districts in order, proceeding Southwards.