M.R.O. 14—10,000—21-4-22.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 2458 Press ~~Mis.~~

344-345

Dated 20—12—1860

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 20*th* *December* 1860.

No. 344. Read the fotlowing Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 29th November 1860, No. 5,547 :—

Read the following letter from H. NEWILL, Esq., Director of Revenue Settlement, to J. D. SIM, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, Fort Saint George, dated Madras, 16th November 1860, No. 1,242.

SIR,

1. In paragraph 2 of my letter, dated 3rd October last, No. 980, I stated that further information would be obtained on the opinion expressed by Government in paragraph 3 of Proceedings, dated 21st September 1860, No. 1,673, that the difference between the areas as recorded by the Curnums and ascertained by the Survey was a constant error, and I have now the honor to submit letters on the subject from my Deputies in the Godavery and Kistna Districts as noted in the margin.

From Deputy Director Godavery District, dated 6th October 1860, *No.* 85.
From do. do. 19th October 1860, *No.* 96.
From do. do. 8th November 1860, *No.* 113.
From do. do. Kistna District, dated 15th October 1860, *No.* 185.

2. From paragraph 4 of Mr. Master's letter of 19th ultimo, it will be seen that the Curnums' areas of the detailed fields (on which the Survey is based) are purely imaginary, the joint rent being divided more on the individuals than on the land, which is entered at random, and the actual occupation of fields and levy of assessment being also frequently different from the nominal occupation and assessment in the accounts without any satisfactory reason whatever. This is shown fully in Mr. Master's letter of 8th instant.

3. The former Curnums' numbers, *which are not the present divisions of property,* and are most inconvenient and irregular, and could not on trial be adopted as a basis for the demarcation, are no better than the old Paimáish fields in the south, the search for which it was resolved to abandon in paragraph 4 of Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 4th July 1857, No. 2,278.

4. The specimens forwarded of the comparison of the nominal areas of the Ryots' fields with the Survey areas, show almost every imaginable variety of discrepancy, and appear of use only so far as they show the utter confusion in which the accounts are as regards areas ; the impracticability of drawing conclusions in the manner proposed by the Board in paragraph 6 of their Proceedings, dated 14th July last, No. 3,247, and the necessity of the course which was taken to secure the *best possible* returns of the area.

5. It appeared to me unnecessary in my annual report to dilate on the inaccuracy of the returns in the Godavery District, so often brought to notice; but as the Government appear still in their Proceedings above quoted, to hold the opinion that the Curnums' accounts would have afforded a more suitable basis of calculation than that adopted, I beg that the subject may be laid before them.

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1. Ordered to be submitted for the information of Government, with reference to the Board's Proceedings, dated 14th July 1860, on the annual Survey and Settlement Report, and to the Proceedings of Government thereon, dated 21st September 1860, Revenue Department, No. 1,673.

In Cons., 22nd September 1860, *No.* 4,760.

2. The present letters confirm the Board in their opinion of the futility of attempting to establish any comparison between the rate of progress of the Demarcation and Survey operations, when the areas operated on are in the former case assumed from the Curnums' statements, and in the latter have been ascertained with scientific precision.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON, *Acting Secretary.*

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No. 345. ORDER THEREON, 20th December 1860, No. 2,458.

Ordered to be recorded.

(Signed) J. D. SIM,

Acting Secretary to Government.

R- 21st September 60 No 380-387.

Rec. 1860 Depart
(6) Proc. of Govt for Dec.

No 2817

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue

Dated 29th
Despd - 3 Decr } November
Recd - 4 Dr } 1860.

Encl 4. Ol. Cupl with their Accompt
7 Encls Nos 1 - 5547 Documents.
Referred 21st May 1861 in Chuma
No 2458. 20. Decr.

Submitting for information a letter from the Dr of Revenue Settlement forwarding letters from his Deputies in the Godavery and Kistna Districts bearing on the subject of the difference between the areas as recorded by the Cummums and ascertained by the Survey.

No 344 & 345.

Recorded

No 2458

Recorded

20th Decr 1860.

C. 8 Dec 60 15