M.R.O. 14—10,000—21-4-22.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 2505 Press
Mis.
439-440

Dated 24—12— 1860.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 24th December 1860.

No. 439. Read the following letter from W. HUDLESTON, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, to J. D. SIM, Esq., Acting Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, dated 11th December 1860, No. 5,800:—

SIR,

1. In pursuance of the orders of Government, dated 1st December 1860, No. 2,289, the Board have conferred with Mr. Newill on the question *In Cons. 1st December 1860, No. 6,261.* of the probable cost of the operations of his Department, and direct me to submit such results as they have been able to obtain.

2. The assessing operation in question involves three distinct processes, viz., the demarcation of fields, the classification of soils, and the determination and imposition of the rates of assessment, including the preparation of the individual Registers.

3. The actual cost of the work already performed, which does not include the last process, is shown below:—

	Demarcation.	Classification.	Total.
Godavery.....	43	40	83
Kistna.....	40	41½	81½
Trichinopoly and Salem.....	31	32½	63½

4. Thus for only two out of the three operations mentioned, the actual outlay has in two instances greatly exceeded, and in the third has very nearly equalled the amount estimated to cover the cost of the whole, the fact being that the demarcation, for which scarcely anything was allowed in Mr. Newill's detailed Estimate, has absorbed one-half of the contemplated mileage rate of expenditure.

5. Mr. Newill objects to any adverse criticism being based on the results obtained in the Godavery and Kistna Districts, on the ground of the parties there having been incomplete and imperfectly trained, and because much of the work needed to be done a second time, thus greatly increasing its cost; but he admits that the working of the southern party affords a fair criterion, and though a less cost may be attained in some cases, the average is not likely he thinks to fall below the expense per square mile incurred in Salem and Trichinopoly. Assuming, therefore, that the estimate of 64 Rupees per square mile will prove sufficient for the expense of two out of three processes, it remains to determine, if possible, what the cost of the third operation will be.

6. Mr. Newill is desirous that the actual results for the year 1860 should be ascertained, and that he should be allowed to gain a practical insight into the work of imposing the new rates in Manárgudi and Chellumbrum, before he is required to express a decided opinion on the entire cost per square mile, but he is disposed to think that the whole expense of his Department will in no case exceed Rupees 80 per square mile, and that Rupees 75 may perhaps be found more than sufficient for the purpose. He is also very decidedly of opinion that the expense of the Establishments as now sanctioned cannot anywhere be reduced without impairing their efficiency. The Board agree with Mr. Newill that the actual results of the current year, including those of the work of imposing the rates, will materially aid in forming a tolerably correct Estimate of the future minimum cost of the assessment work, and as Mr. Newill is on the eve of proceeding to Manárgudi and Chellumbrum, and cannot be detained, they beg leave to recommend that any further action in the matter be deferred till the actual settlement of those Táluqs shall have been made, which they suppose may be completed by the end of February 1861.

No. 440. ORDER THEREON, 24th December 1860, No. 2,505.

1. The Government consent to adopt the course proposed by the Board, whose further report on the subject they expect in March next.

2. The entries in paragraph 3 should have been headed so as to show that they represent the cost of the operations in Rupees per square mile.

(Signed) J. D. SIM,
Acting Secretary to Government.

No. 5,800.

From W. HUDLESTON, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue,

To J. D. SIM, Esq., Acting Secretary to Government, R. D.

SIR,

1 In pursuance of the Orders of Government, dated 1st December 1860, No. 2,239, the Board have conferred with Mr. Newill on the question of the probable cost of the operations of his Department, and direct me to submit such results as they have been able to obtain.

In Cons. 1st December 1860, No. 6,261.

2. The assessing operation in question involves three distinct processes, viz., the Demarcation of fields, the Classification of soils, and the Determination and imposition of the rates of assessment, including the preparation of the individual Registers.

3. The actual cost of the work already performed, which does not include the last process, is shown below:—

	Demarcation.	Classification.	Total.
Godaveri.....	43	40	83
Kistna.....	40	41½	81½
Trichinopoly and Salem ..	31	32½	63½

4. Thus for only two out of the three operations mentioned, the actual outlay has in two instances greatly exceeded, and in the third has very nearly equalled the amount estimated to cover the cost of the whole, the fact being that the Demarcation, for which scarcely anything was allowed in Mr. Newill's detailed Estimate, has absorbed one half of the contemplated mileage rate of expenditure.

5. Mr. Newill objects to any adverse criticism being based on the results obtained in the Godaveri and Kistna Districts, on the ground of the parties there having been incomplete and imperfectly trained, and because much of the work needed to be done a second time, thus greatly increasing its cost; but he admits that the working of the Southern party affords a fair criterion, and though a less cost may be attained in some cases, the average is not likely he thinks to fall below the expense per square mile incurred in Salem and Trichinopoly. Assuming, therefore, that the estimate of 64 Rupees per square mile will prove sufficient for the expense of two out of three processes, it remains to determine if possible, what the cost of the third operation will be.

6. Mr. Newill is desirous that the actual results for the year 1860 should be ascertained, and that he should be allowed to gain a practical insight into the work of imposing the new rates in Munargudi and Chellumbrum, before he is required to express a decided opinion on the entire cost per square mile, but he is disposed to think that the whole expense of his Department will in no case exceed Rupees 80 per square mile, and that Rupees 75 may perhaps be found more than sufficient for the purpose. He is also very decidedly of opinion that the expense of the Establishments as now sanctioned, cannot anywhere be reduced without impairing their efficiency. The Board agree with Mr. Newill that the actual results of the current year, including those of the work of imposing the rates, will materially aid in forming a tolerably correct Estimate of the future minimum cost of the Assessment work, and as Mr. Newill is on the eve of proceeding to Munargudi and Chellumbrum, and cannot be detained, they beg leave to recommend that any further action in the matter be deferred till the actual settlement of those Taluks shall have been made, which they suppose may be completed by the end of February 1861.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

W. Hudleston

Acting Secretary.

REVENUE BOARD OFFICE,
Fort St. George,
11th December 1860.

Copy to H. Newill, Esq., Director of Revenue Settlement.
„ Captain F. J. B. Priestley, Superintendent of Revenue Survey.

Godaveri Munargudi

Xd. J. Wright

No 2505

Revenue Department
Proceedings
No 2954.
From
The Acting Secretary to the
Board of Revenue
To The Acting Secretary to
Government
Revenue Department

Dated 11th
Despd 14th } December 1860.
Rec'd 15th

No 5886.

Madras 21st March 1861.

Reporting with reference
to the order of Government dated
1st December 1860 No 2789 the re
of the Board's conference with
Mr Atwill on the question of the
probable cost of the operations
this Department.

No 2505. 7th December
Wilkins order

No 2389 of 1860

The Government con
sent to adopt the course pro
posed by the Board when
further report on the subject
they expect to receive in March next.

2. The entries in
para 3 should have been
bracketed to a broken Rail
they represent the cost
of the Superintendent in Rupees
per Square mile

Fort St George
6th December 1860

Copies Board of Revenue Dept
Do of Revenue Settlement
Audit of Revenue Survey