M.R.O. 14—10,000—21-4-22.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 1603	Press ~~Mis.~~
148-149	
Dated 10 - 8	186 .

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 10th August 1861.

No. 148. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 20th July 1861, No. 3,862:—

1. The Board resolve to submit their usual report of the progress made in the preparation of the village Register A, during the months of March, April and May last.

2. The amount of work done in each District is shown in the annexed abstract Statement:—

Districts.	Total number of villages in each District.	Number of villages whose Registers were completed up to *March* 1861.	Villages whose Registers were completed up to *April* 1861.	Villages whose Registers were completed up to May 1861.	Villages, the Registers of which are under preparation.
Ganjam	1,233	...	...	1,221	12
Godavery	980	979	979	980	Completed.
Kistna	1,394	1,386	1,387	1,391	3
Kurnool	1,203	1,186	1,186	1,186	14
North Arcot	3,080	...	...	3,016	64
South Arcot	2,473	...	...	2,473	Completed.
Tanjore	3,079	2,990	3,028	3,032	47
Madura	783	352	362	369	339
Tinnevelly	1,100	1,084	1,084	1,084	5
Coimbatore	1,543	1,517	1,517	1,517	26
Salem	3,257	3,065	3,069	3,085	172

3. It will be seen that in the Godavery District and in South Arcot the Registers of all the villages have been completed, and the Collectors have been directed to send up a few specimens for examination in this Office. In the Kistna District,

Ganjam.
Kurnool.
Tinnevelly.
Coimbatore.

the work is almost completed, three villages only remaining to be registered; and it is nearly so in the Districts noted in the margin; but in none of these has satisfactory progress been made during the period under report.

4. Of the remaining Districts, Tanjore is the only one in which progress to any considerable extent is shown. The number of villages in each of these Districts, of which the Registers remain to be written are shown in the margin. Of the 64 villages in North Arcot, it is stated that 38 have no Tarum Chittas, and three are purely Mohturfa villages. The work in Tanjore and Salem has steadily advanced, and will, it is hoped, be completed very shortly, while the slow progress in Madura has been accounted for in paragraph 4 of the Board's Proceedings, dated 20th February 1861, No. 948.

	Registers written during the period under report.	Registers remaining to be written.
North Arcot	31	64
Tanjore	141	47
Madura	29	414
Salem	68	172

5. Adverting to paragraph 1 of the Order of Government, dated 4th June 1861, the Board observe that the delay in the submission of the reports for February last from the marginal Districts is, it is stated, owing to the Collector's Kacheri in Tinnevelly having been in circuit at the time, and to the non-receipt of certain explanations called for from the Cuddalore Táluq in South Arcot. In regard to North Arcot, Mr. Robinson observes that the preparation of the Registers was in abeyance owing to the absolute want of the materials from which they are compiled, and that consequently no report was submitted by him for February last. The Collector of Madras has not yet responded to the Board's call for explanation, neither has he submitted any Progress reports for the months under notice. Mr. Cunliffe's attention will again be drawn to the remark of Government.

Tinnevelly.
South Arcot.
North Arcot.

From North Arcot, 27th June 1861, No. 131.

6. The Registers of 3,016 villages in North Arcot have been carefully compared in the Sherista Department of the Collector's Office, and their accuracy is being further tested by the Collector personally and by his Deputy. The result will be reported to Government on the receipt of a further communication promised by the Collector.

From Nellore, No. 85, dated 8th, in Cons. 13th May 1861, No. 2,927.

7. The Board regret to find that the results of the examination of certain Registers in the sub-division of Nellore are extremely unsatisfactory. The omissions and discrepancies described by Mr. Dykes are very important, and such as are calculated to render the Registers untrustworthy as documents for future reference and reliance. The Curnums assert that the mistakes were accidentally committed; but the Board cannot acquit them of gross carelessness and neglect of duty. Mr. Dykes is requested to take such notice of their misconduct as will serve as a warning to others. He will report also what measures he has adopted or intends to adopt for the correction of the mistakes brought to light.

(A true Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON, *Secretary.*

No. 149. ORDER THEREON, 10th August 1861, No. 1,603.

1. The Government expect that the progress made during the quarter which commenced with June 1861, will be more satisfactory.

2. The explanation afforded by the Collectors of Tinnevelly and South Arcot and noticed in paragraph 5 of these Proceedings is insufficient.

3. The Nellore Sub-Division Registers should be corrected without delay. The accurate preparation of these Registers is a matter of the utmost consequence, and the Board are requested to have a certain number from each District carefully examined in their Office. Such misconduct as is noticed in paragraph 7 of the Board's Proceedings should be promptly and severely punished. As a further precaution, these Registers should at the settlement be produced before the settling Officer for inspection by him, as well as examination by the Ryots of the village concerned.

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

IN CONS. 13TH MAY 1861, No. 2,927.

From J. W. B. DYKES, Esq., Collector of NELLORE,
dated 8th May 1861, No. 85.

In continuation of my letter of the 27th ultimo, reporting the result of my examination into the Register A of certain villages of the principal division, I have the honor now to forward copy of a letter* from the Officiating Sub-Collector on the subject of the Registers of certain villages of the Sub-division, the preparation and condition of which Registers will be found to be equally unsatisfactory to those reported on in my letter above referred to.

* No. 50, dated 26th April 1861.

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ENC. 1.

From W. S. WHITESIDE, Esq., Officiating Sub-Collector of NELLORE,
To J. W. B. DYKES, Esq., Collector of NELLORE,
dated Ravuru, 26th April 1861, No. 50.

I have the honor to report upon the result of my examination of the A Registers of some of the villages of the Ongole and Kundukur taluqs in the Sub-division. The A Registers of the villages marginally noted have been examined by me. On comparing the Registers with the number Chittas and the Jamabandi Fisul individual Chittas of the Fasli in which they were prepared, it has been observed by me that in several cases in a number or field a greater or less extent of land has been entered in the Register than is correct according to the number Chittas. In other cases it will be found that a portion of the land of higher Taram or class in a field has been changed to an inferior one to the prejudice of the interests of Government. Moreover, in one or two cases; it will be found that the land which was classified and assessed in the number Chitta alluded to, was entered in the A Registers as "unclassified grazing land," with the apparent object of assessing it hereafter with a small amount when it might be taken up for cultivation.

Ongole Taluq.
1. Alavalapad.
2. Muppalla.
3. Ramakur.
4. Ethumudi.
5. Nalatur.
6. Allur.

Kandukur Taluq.
1. Viguru.
2. Moogachintala.
3. Petlur.
4. Narsimhanami Kandriga.
5. Nandanavanam.
6. Kovur.

2. In some of the Registers examined, I find that in the margin near the discrepancies remarks have been written. They are however unsatisfactory, inasmuch as they do not show from or into what fields the excess or deficiency in others has been taken or included. The general answer given by the Karnams is that these mistakes were only accidentally continued but not created by them.

3. In a few cases, the holdings of Ryots were incorrectly entered in the Registers as appears to me on comparing them with the individual Fisul Chittas of the Fasli in which they were prepared. The Karnams explain these to be merely clerical errors.

4. The columns 11, 12 and 13, which appear to me to be the most important in the Registers, have not been filled up, except for some of the villages in the Kavali taluq in which the Pymaish Survey had been made. I consider, therefore, that the discovery of these omissions and discrepancies show that the Registers generally are quite untrustworthy, as documents for future reference and reliance. And as the holdings of Ryots are continually changing either by their transferring a portion of their dittam, or taking up new and relinquishing old land, they cannot be said to be permanent documents of reference.

5. I believe that the discrepancies above pointed out will likewise be found in all the village Registers, should they be examined.

6. You may perhaps suppose that none of the Kavali taluq villages have been examined. The Register of Anemadugu, a village in that taluq, has been examined, but the number Chitta

forwarded by the Tahsildar was found to be a mere transcript of the A Register and not the original document prepared in Fasli 1233, or any later date. It was therefore returned to the Tahsildar with instructions to send the original number Chitta, if any, for that village, as also for some others at the same time.

7. I have delayed sending in this report until I was able to give more time to the examination of the Registers than was possible in the course of the Jamabandi, and hence also my delay in replying to your letter, No. 126, dated 6th December 1860.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) J. W. B. DYKES,
Collector.

Exd. J. Tulloch.

Revenue Dept.

No. 1603.

Proceedings of the Madras Government.
Under date the 10th Augt. 1861.
Read the following letter
from the Secy. to the Bd. of Revr.

Submitting report of the Progress made in the preparation of the village Register A during the months of March, April, and May last. — } Received 20th July 1861 No. 3760

The Govt. expect that the progress made during the quarter which commenced with June 1861 will be more satisfactory.

2 The explanation afforded by the Collectors of Tinnevelly and South Arcot and noticed in paras of these Pros. is insufficient.

3 The Vellore Sub-Division Registers should be corrected without delay. The accurate preparation of these Registers is a matter of the utmost consequence,

and

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requested to have a certain
number from each District
carefully examined in their
office. Such misconduct
as is noticed in para 7 of
the Board's proceedings
should be promptly and
severely punished. As a
further precaution these
Registers should at the
settlement be produced
before the settling Officer
for inspection — & by him,
as well as examination
by the Agts of the village
concerned.

S.N.S

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I believe the only way
of making & keeping
true Registers is that
a true period — if ab.
a stated period being
them open for the Agts
Examination.

1k Copies
To the Board of T.

Revenue 1861 Departt.
Pro: of Govt for August
No 1603.

Pro: of the Madras Govt
Dt 10th August 1861.

From B. Dt 21 Decr 1860 No 3075
Register from June to September Inl
Pro. 20 Jany 1862 No 83

Village Registers &c.

159-61
28-3-61
35-6
4-6-61

Boards Proceedings
submitting Report of the
Progress made in the Village
Registers &c with orders
thereon.

No 148 & 149.