

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.**Government of Madras.***Revenue* **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. <i>489</i>	<u>Press</u> <u>Mis.</u>
<i>76.77</i>	
Dated <i>6 - 3</i>	<i>1862</i>

Not to be folded or roughly handled

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.

489

Press
Mis.

Dated

Sep

19/86.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

From G. R. Taylor Esq
Main Commissioner

To J. Dyer Esq
Chief Secretary to Government

Sir
I have the honor to report for the
information of Government that I have this
day resumed charge of my office from
Mr. W. J. Blair -

I have the honor to be

Sir

Your most obedient servant

Madras

6th September
1862

J. Taylor
Main Commissioner

Rev- 1862 Oct.
Pro: of Govt for Sept.
W-2570.

From the Secretary
Income Commr.

Dated 6th Sept. /62.
Received 9th }

Reports that he has
resumed charge of his of-
fice from Mr. W. H. Blair.

W-26.

Miss 189

John H. George
9th Sept. 1862

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
6th March 1862.*

No. 76. Read the following letter from the Honorable C. PELLY, Member of the Board of Revenue; to J. D. SIM, Esq., Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Fort Saint George, dated Madras, 18th February 1862, No. 1,177:—

SIR,

7th April 1860, No. 86.
25th June 1861, „ 163.

1. I have the honor to report on the Village Establishments of the Ganjam District, and to forward the letters of the Collector on the subject.

2. In Ganjam the denomination for Curnums and Shroffs, are respectively the same words. But the Maniakarens are designated Karjis, Nayudus and Dolabaras. The Vettyans are called Bariki, Jogali, Village Peons, Kolapaiks and Barbers.

3. In general there is but one Maniakaren and one Curnum for each village. In some instances there is but one Curnum for a set of villages, and in the Gumsúr Tálúq there are as many as 60 small villages at present under a single Curnum.

4. The Maniakarens are represented as quite illiterate. The Curnums in the southern Tálúq (where it may be observed they have better emoluments) are generally efficient; but those in the centre and northern Tálúqs are incompetent, for the most part ignorant of Telugu, and unable to write on paper.

5. The Maniakarens and Curnums are remunerated, generally very indifferently by Inám lands and fees; but in some villages they have no Inám land, and in some others neither land or fees. There are some Curnums and Maniakarens in the southern Tálúq, who are handsomely remunerated, but in the centre and northern Tálúqs, they receive but a small pittance; while again in Gumsúr and Mohery, the Curnum performs the whole duty in the Khond hamlets without any emoluments apparently, except in a few instances where he gets a fee of about 4 Annas for each hamlet.

NOTE.—Fees:	RS.
Maniakarens	1,719
Curnums	10,397
Vettyans	2,098
	14,214

6. The fees usually paid by the Ryots to the village servants have already been converted into cash payments, and brought to account by inserting them in the Ryot's Pattas, to ensure their punctual payment. The commutation was made in some cases, at a certain rate per Rupee in reference to the value of the fees usually paid in kind, and in others at so much per village without reference to its Sist.

7. In the centre and northern Tálúqs, more especially in Gumsúr, there are a great many very small villages, which the Collector has reduced, as he believes, to the lowest possible number by clubbing several of them together, and he is of opinion (see letter, dated 20th April 1861, paragraph 2) that it would be very injudicious to club together a larger number of forest hamlets than he has proposed.

8. The emoluments of the Vettyans are very small, averaging not more than 6½ Rupees per year for each man. These fees have been commuted. The Collector expressed an opinion that their present number could not be reduced (though in his proposed scheme, it seems that he has reduced the present number, which is 1,576 to 1,307), because though, the villages as far as the Maniakarens and Curnums are concerned, may be amalgamated, yet it may be necessary to retain a Vettyan for the separate villages. Mr. Forbes says that the Vettyans may be remunerated by grants of land yielding 24 Rupees per annum, and generally advocates land being given for the remuneration of the village servants. But Mr. Davidson, when officiating as Collector, recommended that the deficiency in the emoluments of all classes of village servants should be supplemented by cash payments as by far the better mode of remuneration; which is generally according to my views.

Letter dated 20th April 1861, paragraphs 2 and 3.

9. By the amalgamation of villages the existing number of Maniakarens will be reduced. The number of Curnums will be slightly increased, as one Curnum at present in several instance

performs the work of a great many small villages. At present there are 1,237 villages exclusive of hamlets. These it is proposed so to amalgamate as to reduce the number to 565 villages. The number of Revenue servants is not large, and the emoluments amount in value to only 50,025 as follows:—

Collector's letter, dated 2nd June 1860.

NOTE.—565 is the correct number according to the Statement, not 566 as is written in the letter.

	No.	Emoluments.			
		Land.	Fees.	Total.	Average.
Maniakarens.. .. .	872	11,844	1,719	13,563	15½
Curnums.....	535	15,688	10,397	26,085	48¾
Vettyans.....	1,576	8,279	2,098	10,377	6½
Total.....	2,983	35,811	14,214	50,025	...
Shroffs.....	81	534		534	6½
Total.....	3,064	36,345	14,214	50,559	16½

Letter No. 163, dated 25th June 1861.

10. In the Inám villages which number 238 villages the emoluments now granted amount to 25 per cent. of the entire revenue of the villages, and it is not necessary to assign any further allowances in land or money, but the Collector would re-adjust and equalize the rates of allowances. But it will perhaps be better to leave the Inám villages as they are.

11. Before I lay before Government the Establishment proposed by the Collector and by myself for the future, it will be necessary to discuss the principle on which the present emoluments in land and fees are to be made available, and I must beg the attention of Government to the Collector Mr. Forbes' letter of 18th May last, No. 115.

Letter from Collector, dated 18th May 1861, No. 115.

12. Mr. Forbes is very strongly opposed to the scheme of enfranchisement of the service Ináms, lately sanctioned in Kurnool, at a rate below their assessed value, and to the substitution of a cess for the present fees.

13. With regard to Mr. Forbes' remarks in paragraph 3, I am not aware that there is any marked peculiarity in the service Ináms in Kurnool distinguishing them from service allotments, elsewhere, except perhaps in the fact that they are more extensive, and more commonly divided among co-sharers than may be the case in some other Districts, and evidently is so in Ganjam.

* Paragraph 4.

14. Mr. Forbes does not hesitate to assert* that the relinquishing of three-eighths of the Inám land as a rent free grant to the present holders is an act beyond the authority of the local Government. The lands are public property, devoted to the remuneration of local officers, and cannot be given away to private individuals except by the authority of the Legislature. He considers the proposed measure involves a great sacrifice of political consistency as well as a relinquishment of the means now at the disposal of Government for the maintenance of local establishment. But in adopting the measure of a general enfranchisement of the service Ináms, I would remark that the Government were actuated by considerations of justice and clemency to the actual holders of those Ináms who will be dispossessed of their long enjoyed privileges, when they are, by the new system, removed from all share in the office and its emoluments; and the measure was received with favor as being the simplest and most feasible way of disposing of a difficult question with the least hardship to individual claims. Whether the Government have

the power legally to carry into effect their proposed measure may admit of some question, though I think that there is no legal obstacle to their disposing of the service Ináms in the manner best calculated, in their opinion, to secure the service being performed in the most efficient manner.

15. Mr. Forbes does not question the right of Government to commute the possession of the Ináms at their *entire* actual value, and to apply the whole amount of the emoluments to the maintenance of the local Establishment;

his objection is to the Government relaxing their demands on any portion of their emoluments; consequently the excess in the Ináms of individuals retained in office, and the whole of the Ináms of those displaced, would be available for providing funds for those places where the emoluments are now deficient, and in Ganjam the effect of this course would not bear heavily on many individuals, and may be adopted without inflicting severe injury on vested privileges.

16. Respecting the fees and the proposed cess at 6¼ per cent., which will, Mr. Forbes observes, double the amount now collected, he questions the justice of Government in assuming the position of paymaster, on the ground that the village functionaries were in earlier times rather the servants of the municipality than of the Government, and that the fees paid to them by the villagers had distinct reference to service rendered for the benefit of the community. I must refer the Government to his letter above quoted paragraphs 6 to 14. But I do not admit that the village functionaries, with whom the Government are now dealing, can be considered as merely the servants of the municipality, except so far as that municipality represented the Government and looked after the Government interests, for it would necessarily follow that if they were only the servants of the municipality, the Government could not in any way interfere to punish or dismiss them, which is entirely contrary to all experience. In the measure now under consideration the Government are dealing only with that portion of the village servants who are required, and always have been required, to perform duties which it is the part of Government to see duly performed, as distinguished from the other members of the village community (the Barber, Smith, Potter, &c., for instance) whose services are of a private nature, with which the interference of Government would be out of place. The head man, the Accountant, and the village Peon or servant, and the Watchman are all, so to speak, Government servants performing duties for the Government and for village people, which it is the province of Government to take care are duly performed, and these servants are accountable to the Government, and are subject to punishment and dismissal for negligence and misconduct by the Government, and not by the municipality. They have almost universally been paid by grants of land, made either directly by Government authority or by assignments in the village with the consent of the Government, and by assignments in the shape of fees on the produce of the village crops. These fees are undefined, irregularly collected, and often withheld, and the object, Government has in view, in substituting a well defined cess, in lieu of them, is to place them on a satisfactory basis.

17. In this District, the fees formerly paid have been commuted into a money rate. And it will be for the consideration of Government hereafter, whether this money commutation shall be confirmed, or some other rate in lieu of it be introduced, for I apprehend it is not the intention of Government to abandon their scheme of commuting fees, but it is proper to draw their attention to the observation of Mr. Forbes (paragraph 11) that "it is a very general complaint with Ryots that they ought to retain in their own hands the payment of those who serve them" and to his remark, in paragraph 13, that an important municipal principle is violated, by Government levying an arbitrary cess, to be applied at their own discretion and paid through their own officers.

18. I do not perceive in what respect Government can be said to be "tampering" (paragraph 12) with the ancient constitution of village communities" as objected by Mr. Forbes. The head man of the village will still be head man, and exercise the authority he has been accustomed to wield in his village, under the proper restraints that British Government everywhere imposes, and subject, as heretofore, to the sovereign power. His official remuneration will, in most cases, and especially in Ganjam, be much better than it is now. The

Curnum will be in exactly the same position as he ever has been, but made more efficient, and with more direct responsibility, and the village Vettyan will be a well paid, instead of half starved attendant on the head man of the village; and the Government work for the general benefit of the villagers, will be more efficiently performed than it has hitherto been, and I myself believe that the imposition of a cess in lieu of fees, if that cess is moderate, and nearly represents the exactions now made on the Ryots for fees, will rather be accepted by them as a boon than as a new burden imposed on them. Every Ryot will know exactly the demand on him for the Government rents, and the Government service; and paying that, he will feel himself a free man to dispose of his own in what manner he pleases without the risk of any official interference. The difference is, that as at present the head man, the Curnum and the Vetty, have each now to obtain, as they best can, from each individual Ryot what he demands as his fee, this fee is settled for him at once, and paid by the Ryot into the village Treasury from whence it will be paid in another shape to the several office-holders.

19. If the Government order is to be carried out in Ganjam, and one set of responsible officers appointed for each village on a proper emolument, there must of necessity be a disturbance to some extent of present privileges. The excess of emoluments found in one village must (unless the Government are prepared to make good deficiencies only, and to leave untouched all superfluity of emoluments) be taken to provide funds. There appear to be two ways of treating the Ináms; the one is to take the whole of the Ináms belonging to the several Inámdárs to assess them (either at the full or a reduced rent), and with the fund so raised together with the amount of the fees to pay the village servants. Or else to give to each office-holder so much of his own present Inám, and also that of other sharers who hold Inám in the combined village, as shall represent the amount of his proper emolument, and to resume the rest only either at full or reduced rates.

20. The second named measure is that originally contemplated by Government, the objection to it is that it absolutely deprives all sharers in the Inám of their lands and transfers the land to the actual office-holder, and he only retains it during good conduct. Permission may indeed be given to the present holder to retain his share, paying only the assessment on it to the office-holder; but this concession cannot be claimed as a right, and the land itself is considered as the real emolument of the office, and cannot be sold or otherwise disposed of to other parties.

21. The first named scheme has this advantage that it treats the whole of the Ináms alike, assessing all, and out of the proceeds forming a general fund for distribution among the office-holders. If the office-holder has Inám land, he will not lose it; he retains it with all its profits as part of his Patta holding, and he deducts from the Government demand on his Patta the sum he is entitled to for his office emoluments. If he loses office the Government have no claim on his land. He can dispose of it as he pleases subject to the payment of the assessment on it. He is the unrestricted proprietor of the enfranchised Inám. The Government have all they require; and instead of, as in the second named scheme, retaining part of the Inám unassessed, and assessing the surplus only, they assess the whole equally.

22. I propose, therefore, that this first named scheme be adopted, and that all the Ináms in Ganjam be assessed at their full value, as it seems unnecessary in this District to enfranchise them at a lower rate; and that the sum derived from them, together with the amount of the fees already commuted into money collections, form a fund, out of which the new Establishment is to be remunerated. The emoluments thus derived from the lands and fees may be calculated to produce Rupees 50,025 as shown in paragraph 9 of this report.

23. The Establishment of village servants as proposed by the Collector and as modified by me, is shown in detail in the accompanying Statement, in which also is entered the cost according to the scale of remunerations submitted for the consideration of Government under

See Statement No. 1.

date 30th April 1861, for comparison. The following is an Abstract of the cost according to those three several scales:—

Cost of Establishment.

	Pottail.		Curnum.		Vettyan.		Total.	
	No.	Cost.	No.	Cost.	No.	Cost.	No.	Cost.
According to minimum scale } proposed by Collector.....	565	21,864	565	34,488	1,307	31,368	2,437	87,720
According to the general scale...	565	12,792	565	28,926	766	27,576	1,896	69,294
According to the scale now } recommended for adoption. }	565	16,296	565	34,620	807	29,052	1,937	79,968

24. The villages in Ganjam are generally, it will be observed from the Statement, very small in point of Revenue. Out of the 565 villages that there will be when grouped together according to this scheme, there are 274, or about half, which fall into the lowest class (600 Rupees)

Total Revenue of 88 villages..... ^{RS} 11,063
Cost of Establishment according to
Mr. Forbes' scale.

Pottail..... ^{RS} 2,112
Curnum..... 3,168
Vettyan..... 2,112 ^{7,392}

of the general scale. Mr. Forbes' classification retains 88 of even a lower class, under Rupees 250, and to provide the lowest rate of Establishment for these small villages will absorb a sum equal to 66 per cent. of their Revenue. But if the new village Establishment is to be introduced in its entirety, I see no way of materially reducing the cost of these villages. The Collector considers it

“would be very injudicious to club together a larger number of the forest hamlets than he has proposed, because the extent and the outline which would be covered by one nominal village would be extremely inconvenient; and because it is not unreasonable to expect that each of these hamlets will in the course of a few years, become a thriving village with a considerable revenue if the District continues to prosper as it has lately done.”

25. I have however modified the rates of remuneration proposed by the Collector throughout his scheme. I have also not considered it necessary to allow so many Vettys as he wishes to retain; but I have added 41 to the number provided in the general scheme of rates for 39 villages* in which, from the number of scattered hamlets and other causes, extra men seem to be required. And for each Vetty I have allowed a salary of 2½ Rupees a month. The general scale allows 3 Rupees per month. Mr. Forbes is of opinion that 2 Rupees is sufficient for these men, but I think that is too low a remuneration for the work they will be expected to perform.

26. For the Curnums for the lower class of villages, I have allowed only 3 Rupees a month, with this exception none are to be paid less than five Rupees the sum settled by Government as the lowest remuneration they ought to receive, but for such very small villages as those contained in the lowest class, perhaps Government may consider that 3 Rupees a month, the sum also recommended by the Collector, will suffice, and half that sum for the Pottails.

27. There are 81 Shroffs having emoluments in land valued at only 514 Rupees. They need not be touched.

28. There are no servants of the class of Nirgunties in this District.

Order of Government, dated 19th November 1861, No. 2,180, paragraph 9.

29. For convenience I annex a monthly rate of remunerations referred to in foregoing paragraphs:—

Class of Villages.		Potails.			Curnum.			Vettyan.									
		Collector's scale mini- num.	General scale.	Now proposed.	Collector's scale mini- num.	General scale.	Now proposed.	Collector's scale.		General scale.		Now pro- posed.					
								No.	Rate.	No.	Rate.	No.	Rate.				
Up to	250	2	1½	1½	3	3	3	1,307	At 2 Rupees each.	374	374	At 3 Rupees each.	366	366			
"	600	3	1½	2	5	3	5								At 3 Rupees each.	18	18
"	1,000	3	2	2	5	4	5										
"	1,500	3	2	3	5	5	5										
"	2,000	3	2	3	5	6	6										
"	3,000	6	3	4	8	7	7										
"	4,000	6	3	4	8	8	8										
"	5,000	6	3	5	8	9	9										
"	6,000	8	4	5	12½	9	9										
"	7,000	8	4	6	12½	10	10										
"	9,000	8	4	6	12½	10	10										
Above	9,000	8	4	6	12½	10	10	8	8								
Extra Vetty for 39 villages.....														41			

30. The cost of the proposed Establishment exceeds, it will be seen, the total sum of the available assets by 37,695 Rupees according to Mr. Forbes' estimate, and by 29,943 Rupees according to that now submitted for the consideration of Government. There are no funds to meet this. But Mr. Forbes in the letter* before alluded to gives it as his opinion that so heavy a charge need not fall "on the state Revenues, as waste lands "which now yield no Revenue, and would perhaps remain "unproductive for years, may, in most instances, be granted "as service Maniems." I think it objectionable to remunerate the Vettys and the Curnums by grants of land; and even with regard to the Potails I think it desirable not to revert

* Dated 20th April 1861, paragraph 2.

to the system of remunerating them by lands as Maniem, of which they may at any time be deprived on removal from office, and which, as it is often found, are left uncultivated, and yield no real remuneration to the office-holder. And it is not improbable that, even if that was not the case, the cultivation of the new Inám, would be at the expense of the Circar lands. But (if the Collector finds it feasible) I see no objection to the Potal, retained in office, taking new land into his usual holding to represent the full amount of his emolument, and deducting the rent of the land from his Patta. He could then retain it, or not, as he pleases when he retired from office. It would practically be Inám to him while he held his office, though not set aside as service Maniem. But in the case of the Curnum and Vettyan it is not desirable to induce them to take land as their remuneration.

31. It remains only to notice the effect that a general fee cess in lieu of all existing fees would have in raising a fund for the Revenue Village Establishment. I have no information respecting Police funds. A cess at the contemplated maximum rate of 6½ per cent. on the land assessment would yield about 47,500 Rupees, which is 33,327 Rupees more than the existing Revenue fees. Assuming the value of the Maniem lands to be, as given by the Collector, Rupees 35,811 (see paragraph 9 above) there remains (according to my scale) a sum of Rupees 44,157 to be made good, and the fee cess at 6½ per cent. would be more than is required for the Revenue Establishments only.

The propriety of introducing the cess into Ganjam is a separate question.

From R. DAVIDSON, Esq., Officiating Collector of Ganjam, to C. PELLY, Esq., Member of the Board of Revenue, Fort Saint George, dated Chetterpore, 7th April 1860, No. 86.

SIR,

1. With reference to your Circular letter of the 26th October last, No. 59, I have the honor to forward herewith two Statements* showing the emoluments of Maniakarens, Curnums and Shroffs and of the servants of the Vettyan class performing Revenue duties as at present paid, with other particulars of each village in the different Tálucs of this District, prepared according to the forms received with the Circular above quoted.

2. In this District there is no other denomination for Curnums and Shroffs, but Maniakarens are called Kavjes in some Tálucs and Nayudus and Dolabahas in others. Vettys and Toties are called Bariki, Jogali, Village Peons, Kolapaiks and Barbers (for in some of the Tálucs the duties of Toly are performed by Oreyas Barbers).

3. Generally speaking there is but one Curnum and Maniakaren for each village in this District; but in some, however, there are more, while in others there is but one Curnum for a set of villages, indeed in Gumsúr, as many as sixty small villages and Khond hamlets are placed under a single Curnum. The office of Shroff is in existence only in a very few villages.

4. The Curnums of the southern Táluc are tolerably efficient men, but those of the centre and northern Tálucs are not equal to the duties required of them. They for the most part are ignorant of Telugu, nor can they write on paper. They keep their accounts on çadjans, and employ hired Gumáshtas to prepare the village accounts according to the manual. This gives rise to great confusion and trouble in the preparation of accounts, and except in a few cases, I do not think that competent men can be selected from among the present employés. The Maniakarens are quite illiterate. The Curnums and Maniakarens are generally remunerated both by Inám lands and fees, but in some cases they are dependent upon the fees alone, while in others the Maniakarens possess neither Ináms nor fees, and in some villages there are no Maniakarens at all. In some of the villages more especially in the southern Táluc where there are two or more Curnums and Maniakarens, the duties of the former are performed jointly while the latter divide the work between them. Such cases are, however, very rare in the centre and northern Tálucs. The share-holders do not perform any work but are allowed only a share in the produce in some cases, while the division of land is allowed in others. Some of the Maniakarens and Curnums in the southern Táluc more especially the former are handsomely remunerated; but in the centre and northern Tálucs they receive only a small pittance as will be seen from the Statement No. 1. In all those cases in which the same individuals perform the duties in more than one village, I have inserted their number in black ink in the first village and in red ink in others.

5. I herewith send a Statement marked A, showing the present and proposed number of villages and of Revenue servants, the aggregate and average income, maximum and minimum

scale of remuneration proposed to be fixed to Maniakaren and Curnum, and only a maximum for Shroffs, together with a pay proposed to be fixed to the servants of the Vettyan class. The proposed number of the servants of the Vettyan class has been fixed in reference to the requirements of each village.

6. The fees usually paid by the Ryots to the village servants have already been commuted into cash payment, and brought to account by inserting them in the Patta of each individual Ryot in order to secure the punctual payment. The commutation was made in some cases at so much per Rupee in reference to the value of the fees usually paid in kind, and in others at so much per village without reference to its Sist. In some villages no fees are allowed to maniakarens.

7. In the centre and northern Tálugs more especially in Gumsúr, the number of villages yielding a small revenue is too large, and I have taken the present opportunity to reduce the number to the lowest possible scale, as will be seen from the accompanying Statement, by clubbing two or more small villages into one. In Gumsúr and Mohery a number of small villages and Khond hamlets have been amalgamated into a single village in the accounts for the sake of convenience.

8. In Gumsúr and Mohery there are no village servants in the Khond hamlets with the exception of a Curnum for a number of hamlets, even this servant is not remunerated either by land or fees in many cases, and it is in a very few instances he is allowed fees amounting to about 4 Annas per hamlet.

9. The number of Vettians and Toties differ according to the size and duties required in each village. Their income both in land and fees is too small as the average income per man does not exceed 6½ Rupees a year. The fees of these men also have been commuted. These men may be remunerated by grants of land yielding 24 Rupees each per annum. By the amalgamation of two or more villages into one, a large reduction can be effected in the present staff of Maniakarens and Curnums, but it is not possible to effect a proportionate reduction in the number of Vettians as though the villages are amalgamated in the accounts for the sake of simplicity, yet the requirements of each village as far as Vettians are concerned will be the same as at present, and it will therefore be necessary to maintain nearly the whole of the present staff. There are no Niringunties in any of the villages in this District.

10. It will be perceived from the accompanying Statements that the emoluments of all classes of village servants of this District are far below the scale allowed in other provinces, they will have therefore to be supplemented either by further grants of land or cash payment. Cash payment is, I consider, by far the better mode of remuneration. In the Statement marked A, I have shown the scale of remuneration which I recommend may be adopted in reference to the requirements of this District.

11. I think another class of villages might with advantage be added to the four made by you, as shown below :—

	Rs.
1st Class above 5,000	
2nd do. from 2,500 upwards	
3rd do. from 1,000 do.	
4th do. from 250 do.	
5th do. below 250	

12. The extent of Inám land shown in the Statements Nos. 1 and 2 includes also the portions under the enjoyment of the share-holders, as the circular now under reply states that the Inám lands is always to be taken in the first place as representing the future emoluments of the office-bearer; but as the Order of Government, dated 15th February 1860, circulated with your letter of the 17th idem, enjoins that the fees of the village are to be taken in the first place as representing the future emoluments of the office-bearer. I have also shown in the Statement marked A the total value of the portions of Inám in the enjoyment of all the share-holders which amounts to only 2,133 Rupees, whereas the value of Inám under the enjoyment of office-holders is 31,212 exclusive of Kattubadi.

13. In this District the only villages leased to renters are those the Ryots of which do not consent to take them up at a reasonable Sist, but these are again brought to the head of Ryotwari as soon as the Ryots agree to do so. In this manner many rented villages are brought in each Fasli to the head of Ryotwari. Some villages are rented to the Ryots under the denomination of joint-rent, and are allowed to remain so until the Ryots are enabled to adjust the Sist on each individual holding in reference to the quality and quantity of land under each Ryot; when, they are brought to the head Ryotwari. The servants in these villages are and will have to be remunerated in the same manner as in Ryotwari villages. I have therefore included all these villages in the Statement Nos. 1 and 2, which are intended only for the Ryotwari villages. There are no Amani villages in this District.

14. A list of the Shrótium, Inám, Muhturfa and fishery villages will shortly be submitted with requisite explanation regarding the remuneration of their servants.

15. I regret that in consequence of the non-receipt of this list from one of the Tálugs, my present report is not quite complete, but as I do not feel myself justified in detaining it any longer on that account, I forward it at once and shall take the earliest opportunity of transmitting the remainder.

From G. S. FORBES, Esq., Collector of Ganjam, to C. PELLY, Esq., Member of the Board of Revenue, Fort Saint George, dated Chatterpoor, 20th April 1861, No. 94.

SIR,

1. I have the honor to reply to your letter No. 822, dated the 3rd instant, in which you request me to re-consider, first, the amalgamation of villages proposed in my letter of 7th instant, No. 86; second, the number of village servants to be apportioned to them, the means of providing remuneration for these Establishments, and lastly, the amount of remuneration to be paid to Vettians and Maniakarens, or as they are here called Barikes and Náyudus.

2. I consider that it would be very injudicious to club together a larger number of the forest hamlets than I have proposed, because the extent and outline which would be covered by one nominal village would be extremely inconvenient; and because it is not unreasonable to expect that each of these hamlets will in the course of a few years become a thriving village with considerable Revenue if the District continues to prosper as it has lately done. This result will not be furthered by ignoring their individual existence and keeping them without village establishments. This argument applies to the second part of references above enumerated, viz., the number of village servants to be apportioned. I do not advise any reduction in the number already recommended, as I consider it would be impossible to keep an eye on the extension of cultivated clearings except under such arrangements as have been already proposed in Mr. Davidson's letter to your address. As regards the emolument to be provided in villages where no assets exist there needs no such heavy charge as you apprehend on the State Revenue, as waste lands which now yield no Revenue, and would perhaps remain unproductive for years may in most instances be granted as service Maniems. The only cash payments made in Ganjam are the fees paid by the villagers which under the instructions given in the Tálug Manual are debited in their Pattas and collected by Government for the village servants. In some Districts I believe village officers receive a per centage on the village collections, and if uniformity of system is, as I presume, an important feature in your scheme, the same source would naturally supply any deficiency of the emoluments in land which I have suggested.

3. I have no new suggestions to make regarding rates of payment to Vettians and Náyudus or Maniakarens, the latter would, I am convinced, prefer a grant of waste land to a trifling deduction from the Patta in all case where such waste is available.

4. I will as soon as possible prepare a list showing the number of cases in which no waste land nor any existing assets are available for the remuneration of village officers.

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6th March 1862.

From G. S. FORBES, Esq., Collector of Ganjam, to C. PELLY, Esq., Member of the Board of Revenue, Fort Saint George, dated Chatterpoor, 18th May 1861, No. 115.

SIR,

1. In reply to your Circular letter No. 863, dated the 30th ultimo, received on 15th instant, I have the honor to forward Statements showing the assets realizable, first, from an enfranchisement of the village service Ináms under a permanent assessment of five-eighths of the District rates; and secondly, from the levy of a general cess of $6\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. on the land Revenue and on Inám lands, as compared with the total sum now realized from fees.

2. These Statements will also show how far the amount to be realized from these two sources would meet the cost of proposed Village Establishments.

3. As regards the policy of enfranchising village Ináms on the terms above mentioned, I observe that the Government order speaks of the service Ináms of Kurnool in terms which recognize some marked peculiarity in their case, distinguishing these lands from service allotments elsewhere, and I should have been glad to learn how the case stands in that District in order to have a clear understanding of the grounds taken by the Government.

4. As regards this District and all other parts of the Presidency with which I have any acquaintance, I do not hesitate to say that the enfranchisement of village service Inám lands on terms which are in reality equivalent to a rent-free grant of three-eighths of the whole extent, to the present holders and their heirs for ever, is an act beyond the authority of the Local Government. These lands are public property devoted to the remuneration of local officers, and cannot be given away to private individuals except by the authority of the Legislature. A wide distinction has always been drawn between these and all other classes of Ináms, so that in thousands of cases misconduct has led to the summary alienation of such lands from the offender and his heirs in perpetuity. The sub-division of service Ináms among co-sharers who render no service has also been repeatedly forbidden and at very recent dates. The proposed measure therefore involves a great sacrifice of political consistency as well as a relinquishment to a great extent of the means now at the disposal of Government for the maintenance of local Establishments.

5. If Government decided to commute the possession of these lands at their entire actual value, and to apply the proceeds derived from their resumption to the object they have in view, I cannot see that any objection either in Law or Equity could be offered, and if so, there seems no reason to make over lands to the value of some lacs of Rupees to persons who have no legal claim to such a boon.

6. The substitution of a general cess of $6\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. on the land revenue in place of all fees now contributed by the village communities is a measure of a different kind, but opens an equally serious question.

7. In the first place the cess of $6\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. will probably double the amount now collected, and secondly, it will be an illegal impost. I understand that the Government lately declined to defend the legality of the orders under which in 1855 their Tálúq Manual directed the insertion of village fees in Ryotwari Pattas. It would be necessary, therefore, to levy this cess under an Act of the Legislative.

8. But there are other considerations deserving of notice in discussing this proposal.

9. The maintenance of the twelve village functionaries or "Bara Bulloowuttee," who were formerly to be found in every perfect village community, by fees on the produce and by grants of land from the Government or from the villagers, rests on the authority of Menu's Code, but there can be no doubt that these functionaries were in earlier times rather the servants of the municipality than of the Government, and that the fees paid to them by the villagers had distinct reference to service rendered for the benefit of the community.

Regulation VI of 1831.
C. O. Board of Revenue, dated 28th August 1851, Vol. 2, page 33.
Note No. 1, page 463 of the Vol. 1 of Board's C. O.
Commissioner's Proceedings, dated 30th June 1853.
Proceedings of Madras Government, dated the 3rd September 1859, No. 1,187, &c. &c.

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10. Hence it follows that Government cannot justly assume the position of paymasters in respect of these fees, nor can they without the consent of the parties increase their amount.

11. I have no doubt that the insertion of these fees in the Ryots' Pattas was, as the Bellary Court held, illegal, and it is a very general complaint with Ryots that they ought to retain in their own hands the payment of those who serve them. A brief Act would more justly and more effectually secure the rights of village officers and save these ancient cesses from falling into disuse.

12. It seems especially inconsistent to tamper with the ancient constitution of village communities at the very time when their value has been recognized in view to the administration of the Revenue, as well as of Civil and Criminal justice, and while plans are under consideration for utilizing them in all these departments. It would surely be a wiser policy to restore and strengthen these ancient municipalities on the principles under which they had their origin and which have been the means of preserving them through every political revolution.

13. But if the Government levy an arbitrary cess to be applied at their own discretion and paid through their own officers, and important municipal principle is violated. The community should pay its own functionaries even though it may be necessary to protect the rights of the latter by Law, rendering the payment obligatory.

14. I subjoin extracts from two authors of admitted weight in illustration of the position of village servants towards the community. In both cases the writers refer the origin of village municipalities to the same ancient authority, nor is this point I believe disputed.

P. S. I have to request you will do me the favor to submit this letter to Government when reporting on the subject it refers to.

Extract from Colonel Wilk's South of India, Chapter V.

Every Indian village is, and appears always to have been, in fact, a separate community or republic, and exhibits a living picture of that state of things which theorists have imagined in the earlier stages of civilization, when men have assembled in communities for the purpose of reciprocally administering to each other's wants: 1, the Gond, Potal, Mucondim, or Mundil (as he is named in different languages), is the Judge and Magistrate; 2, the Curnum, Shanboag, or Putwaree, is the Register; 3, the Taliary or Sthulwar, and, 4, the Totie, are severally the watchmen of the village and of the crops; 5, the Nirgunty distributes the water of the streams or reservoirs in just proportion to the several fields; 6, the Jotishee, or Joshee, or Astrologer, performs the essential service of announcing the seasons of seed time and harvest, and the imaginary benefit of unfolding the lucky or unlucky days and hours for all the operations of farming; 7, the Smith, and 8 Carpenter, frame the rude instruments of husbandry, and the ruder dwelling of the farmer; 9, the Potter fabricates the only utensils of the village; 10, the Washerman keeps clean the few garments which are spun, and sometimes woven, in the family of the farmer, or purchased at the nearest market; 11, the Barber contributes to the cleanliness, and assists in the toilet of the villagers; 12, the Silversmith, marking the approach of luxury, manufactures the simple ornaments with which they delight to bedeck their wives and their daughters; and these twelve officers (Bara Bulloowuttee, or Ayangadee), or requisite members of the community, receive the compensation of their labor, either in allotments of land from the corporate stock, or in fees, consisting of fixed proportions of the crop of every farmer in the village.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) G. S. FORBES, Collector.

Extract from Honorable Mountstuart Elphinstone's India. Book II, Chapter II.

A township in its simplest form is under a headman (b), who is only spoken of in Menu as an Agent of the King, and may have been removable at his pleasure. His office has now

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become hereditary; and though he is still regarded as an officer of the King, he is really more the representative of the people. The selection of an individual from the proper family rests sometimes with the village community, and oftener with the Government; but to be useful to either he must possess the confidence of both. He holds a portion of land, and receives an annual allowance from the Government; but the greater part of his income is derived from fees paid by the villagers.

The headman is assisted by different officers, of whom the Accountant and the Watchman are the most important.

The Accountant (c) keeps the village records, which contain a full description of the nature of the lands of the village, with the names of the former and present holders, the rent, and other terms of occupancy. He also keeps the accounts of the village community and those of the villagers individually, both with the Government and with each other. He acts as notary in drawing up Deeds for them, and writes private letters for those who require such a service. He is paid by fees on the inhabitants, and sometimes has an allowance or an assignment of land from the Government.

The Watchman (d) is the guardian of boundaries, public and private. He watches the crops, is the public guide and messenger, and is, next to the headman, the principal officer of Police. In this capacity he keeps watch at night, observes all arrivals and departures, makes himself acquainted with the character of every individual in the village, and is bound to find out the possessor of any stolen property within the township, or to trace him till he has passed the boundary, when the responsibility is transferred to the next neighbour.

The Money Changer may also be considered an assistant of the headman, as one of his duties is to assay all money paid. He is also the Silversmith of the village. Besides these there are other village officers, the number of which is fixed by the native name and by common opinion at twelve; but, in fact, it varies in different villages, and the officers included are not always the same.

The Priest and the Astrologer (one of whom is often the Schoolmaster), the Smith, Carpenter, Barber, Potter and worker in leather, are seldom wanting. The Tailor, Washerman, Physician, Musician, Minstrel, and some others, are not so general: the dancing girl seems only to be in the South of India.

The Minstrel recites poems and composes verses. His most important character (in some places at least) is that of genealogist. Each of these village officers and artisans has a fee, sometimes in money, more frequently a portion of produce, as a handful or two out of each measure of grain.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) G. S. FORBES, *Collector.*

No. 77.

ORDER THEREON, 6th March 1862, No. 489.

Ordered to lie over.

(Signed) C. G. MASTER,

Deputy Secretary to Government.

Pro: 3rd September 1859 No 7-10
 " 10th October 1861 " 138-139
 " 26th " " 325-326
 " 19 November " 185-186
 " 15 February 1862 41 & 44

Rev = 1862 Depot
 Pro: of Govt for all work.
 W. 482

From,

The Honorable C. Pelly
 Member of the B.
 of Revenue.

To
 J. D. Sim Esq.
 Secretary to Govt.

Dated 18th Feb. Rev. Dep.
 Received 20th February 1862.

No 1174

Enclosures - 2.

E-16.

Submitting his
 report on the Village
 Establishments of the
 Ganjam District.

No 76 & 77

W. 489

Recd Mr. Pelly
 6th March 1862

29.6.83 RH

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