M.R.O. 14—13,000—27-9-24.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 206 Press —Mis.—

408. 409

Dated 30 - 1 - 19 1863

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 30th January 1863.

No. 408. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 7th January 1863 :—

Read the following letter from R. E. MASTER, Esq., Officiating Director of Revenue Settlement, to W. HUDLESTON, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Madras, 3rd December 1862, No. 1,478, 80.

SIR,

1. In paragraph 18 of my letter of the 22nd September last, No. 1,211, I recommended (and my recommendation received the Board's support) that the submission of the Settlement Reports should in future be deferred until the correct survey areas could be made available. I excepted from this general recommendation the two Districts of Kurnool and Salem, in the former of which for special reasons connected with the Irrigation Company's operations, delay could not be allowed, and in the latter, owing to Mr. Thomas' contemplated early departure to England, the submission of the report in anticipation of the receipt of the whole of the true areas appeared at that time unavoidable.

2. In the Kurnool District, the urgency of the case will admit of no delay, and the report with calculations based on estimated areas will be submitted as soon as it can be prepared ; but on re-consideration I am of opinion that there is not the same necessity for haste in the case of the Salem District. The circumstance of Mr. Thomas having proceeded to England seems no sufficient reason for my troubling the Board and Government with a double set of Statements, the one set estimated, and showing therefore only approximate results, to be hereafter replaced by a second set exhibiting correct and possibly very different results. Besides the error arising from the want of correct areas, in Trichinopoly, the registry of the villages in the several Talooks has led to the discovery of numerous errors in the entries in the original accounts, such as leads to alterations in the amount of the money assessment of the village. Similar mistakes will doubtless be brought to light in the course of the registry of the Salem District. The Trichinopoly estimated Statements were found so unsatisfactory that it was impossible for the Government to pass orders upon them, and I shortly expect to receive Mr. Puckle's final report with Statements of financial results based on true areas, and drawn up after the registers had been prepared and all errors corrected. On such data, orders may be passed with confidence.

3. I feel very reluctant to send up the Salem report in it present state. I am anxious to avoid the course, the adoption of which in Trichinopoly has caused so much unnecessary trouble, and I propose, if the Board approve, to instruct Mr. Puckle after he has finished his work in Trichinopoly to take the Salem District in hand, to complete its registry carefully, Talook by Talook, leaving the columns for the amount of assessment blank, and to correct all errors in the entries. By the time this is accomplished the correct areas will probably be available, and Mr. Thomas' report may be submitted accompanied by reliable financial Statements, and such supplementary remarks as Mr. Puckle may find it necessary to make. The Board and Government will then be in a position to deal with the subject once for all and the uncertainties and doubts which have beset every stage of the proceedings in the case of the Trichinopoly District will be altogether avoided. No real delay moreover, will arise from the adoption of the course now recommended, for whether the report is submitted now or later, the Settlement cannot be introduced till the true areas areknown.

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1. Ordered to be submitted to Government with the Board's recommendation that the submission of the Salem Settlement Report be postponed as proposed by Mr. Master. The Board fully concur with him in opinion that the delay necessary for testing his proposed assessment by means of the true areas and by comparison with past collections and existing rates will be a good economy of time.

2. The doubt and uncertainty that have beset every stage of the revised Settlement in other Districts, are almost entirely due to the absence of the true areas and of the means of test which they and they alone can afford.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

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

No. 409. ORDER THEREON, 30th January 1863, No. 203.

Approved.

(Signed.) J. D. SIM,

Secretary to Government.

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Revenue Settlement Office,
Madras 3rd December 1862.

Thomas E.
Signed W. E. Master
Offg Director of Rev. Settlement.

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for Thos (Copy & Extract)

E Thornton
Secretary

To J. P. Sim Esq
Secretary to Government
Revenue Department.

E. Hickey Lieut

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E Thornton
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To J. P. Sim Esq
Secretary to Government
Revenue Department.

E. Hickey Lieut

Rev= 1863 Vol[ume]
Rec[eive]d 6 Jan[uar]y
Proceedings of the Board
of Revenue

No 206.

Approved.

Dated 27 January 1862
Rec[eive]d 30 Jan[uar]y

From the Secretary
30th January 1863
To Board of Revenue Despatch

Submitting with the Board's opinion a letter from the Offg Director of Revenue Settlement, requesting permission to defer the submission of the Report on the Settlement of Salem until the correct Survey Maps are available.

Nos 408 & 409.

No 206 30th Jany

With answer

C.R. Jany 63 - R26