M.R.O. 14—18,000—27-9-24.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. ~~2118~~ 2182 Press ~~Mis.~~

37-38

Dated 2—12—~~19~~ 1863

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 2nd December 1863.

No. 37. Read the following letter from J. W. B. DYKES, Esq., Collector of Nellore, to J. D. SIM, Esq., Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Fort Saint George, dated Nellore, 21st November 1863, No. 29 :—

SIR,

1. A day or two ago I read in the public papers a Minute of His Excellency the Governor on Indian agriculture. I have the honor to request you will be so good as to submit for His Excellency's consideration, that the crowding of crops referred to in that Minute is the natural result of a standard grain assessment.

2. In my letter of the 13th instant, I brought to the notice of Government, that a standard grain assessment on all the land in occupation, is opposed to the true principles of agriculture, and could be easily shown to be the chief cause of the defects in the Ryotwar system. And here is one defect at once observed by His Excellency, and to be distinctly traced to the cause I have assigned.

3. When a standard grain assessment is imposed on every field, the Ryot necessarily finds it more profitable, with ordinary markets, to put two or three different kinds of grain in one field and so reduce the area of his holding, than put as many different kinds of grain in as many different fields and getting a heavier but inferior crop, pay assessment, as if each field had been cropped with the standard grain.

4. Again, with a standard grain assessment, a system of allowing dry fallow has naturally arisen, and has been nearly universal for the last sixty years. And here the working of an assessment, based on a false principle, is still more apparent. The Ryot pursues the same course ; he *condenses* his cultivation, and at the Jammabundy gets the assessment remitted on the remainder of his holding as fallow.

No. 38. ORDER THEREON, 2nd December 1863, No. 2,182.

Recorded with reference to G. O. dated 24th November 1863, No. 2,118.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) C. G. MASTER,
Deputy Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

4. Again, with a standard grain assessment, a system of allowing dry fallow has naturally arisen, and has been nearly universal for the last 60 years. And here the working of an assessment, based on a false principle, is still more apparent. The ryot pursues the same course; he condenses his cultivation, and at the Jamabandi gets the assessment remitted on the remainder of his holding as fallow.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient

J. W. B. Day Esq.

Collector

Pro-24 Nov: 63 N 315-316
- 6 " " " 63-66

Copy in a letter to Engd
28 Novr/63 No 23.

14 Copies Letter Bd of Rev & Customs & Excr.

No 37 & 38.

Reference to L. O. dated
24 November 1863. R. 21.

C 28 Nov/63 R20

1863 Revenue 1863 & Sept
Pro: of Govt for December
No 1853

From
The Collector of Kattore
To The Secretary to Government
Revenue Department
Fort Saint George

Dated 23 November
Recd 28 Do 1863
Recd 24th Do

Enclosure None
No 29

Submits for the consideration of His Excellency the Governor that the standard grain assessment is the cause of different kinds of grain being plaitted in the same field. No 2182

Recorded with
Letter to Govt
Dec 1863