M.R.O. 14—13,000—27-9-24.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 603 Press ~~Mis.~~

190 1,91

Dated 15 6 ~~19~~ 1864

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 15th June 1864.

No. 190. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 3rd June 1864, No. 3,389.

Read the following letter from the Collector of Nellore, dated Krishnapatnam, 12th May 1864, No. 127:—

1. I have the honor to submit for the Board's consideration, and request that they will be pleased to forward, with such remarks as they may deem fit, the accompanying Memorial from my Sheristadar, Baru Venkatravu Puntulu.

2. The case brought forward is the case of a Sheristadar who has done good service, and according to present rules, has no prospect of further promotion.

3. In the re-organization of Revenue Establishment, it was, I believe, intended that the promotion sought should not be looked for in the Department in question, but in the higher grade of Deputy Collector.

4. But in the first starting of a new scheme, it is to be expected that individual cases will arise, were a rigid adherence to the terms laid down would be productive of consequences that the Board and the Government would wish to avoid, and special provision may be made to meet the claims of individuals with advantage to the public interests also.

5. Under any circumstances, it seems scarce desirable that an Officer who has spent thirty years of his life in the Account Department, should be suddenly called on to undertake the duties of a Deputy Collector. Under present circumstances, there is no chance of such a contingency, as all the Deputy Collectors in the Inâm Department have to be provided for.

6. And I therefore trust that the Board will be pleased to support claims like the present, where under the former system, a direct acknowledgment would have been made, and under the new arrangements the provision intended is really not available.

7. Looking through the annual list of the Revenue Establishment, I find that there are ten Sheristadars whose period of service is twenty years and upwards; and of these, five including the present Memorialist, can point to a service of more than 25 years. There is therefore no large number to be provided for, supposing all otherwise worthy of consideration. And as regards the claims of Baru Venkatravu to the favourable consideration he seeks, it is not necessary, I should swell this correspondence by stating here what I have already recorded year by year as my opinion of his services. Opinions given at the time and to be found in the printed testimonials which accompany the enclosed Memorial, are more valuable than what I can say on an occasion like the present, when favourable notice is specially asked for. And in simply stating that Baru Venkatravu has been a most zealous and faithful servant of Government, I beg to call the attention of the Board to the characters given by those he has previously served under, and strongly recommend, as an exceptional case, he be allowed in due course the increased rate of 20 Pagodas, after every five years' service, to which he would have been entitled under the old arrangements.

ENCLOSURE. No. 1.

ABSTRACT.—Memorial from Baru Venkataravu Puntulu, Sheristadar of Nellore.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.—Printed copy of Testimonials.

1. The Board are unable to support this recommendation. They doubt not that Baru Venkat Row has done the State good service, and has well earned his present position. But they see nothing in the case to warrant an application for a special personal allowance, and they are not prepared to advocate the abandonment of the system which was deliberately adopted on the revision of Establishments, and the creation of the Office of Deputy Collector.

2. The post of Hoozoor Sheristadar is no longer what it once was either in the nature of its duties or in the position of the office.

No. 191.

Miscellaneous.

ORDER THEREON, 15th June 1864, No. 1,030.

The Board's view of this case is correct.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Board of Revenue.
Exd. S. T. Augustin.

To,

His Excellency
the Governor in Council

&c^a &c^a &c^a

Fort St^t George

The humble Memorial of Basu Venkataran
Hazur Shirestadar in the Collectorate of Nellore

Respectfully Sheweth

That Your Memorialists service under Government extends over a period of 29 Years and 5 Months, during which period Your Memorialist served under 22 Gentlemen, whose names are shown in the Margin, and Conducted his duties to their entire satisfaction, which will be observed from the enclosed Printed Copies of Testimonials &c^a. It will be seen from the accompanying Registers that Your Memorialists service commenced on the 24^th November 1834, as a Gumasta on a Salary of Rs. 14—-—- which was conferred on him by Mr. J. C. Wish late Principal Collector, and he was eventually appointed to his present post by Mr. F. B. Elton after a gradual promotion.— Your Memorialist served the Government without any flaw in his Official Career, such as Reduction, Suspension or fine, in proof of which he need only refer to the Printed Copies of the Extracts from Conduct Register, Public Correspondence, Extracts from the Copies of Jamabundi Reports, and Testimonials, in which shows with how much assiduity, Zeal and energy Your Memorialist discharged his duties up to the present

Mr^s J. C. Taylor
" F. D. Phillips
" A. Purvis
" J. C. Stonehouse
" W. C. Cochrane
" Edward Maltby
" D. Mayne
" A. J. Arbuthnot
" J. R. Pringle
" J. F. Bishop
" C. J. Arbuthnot
" D. White
" J. Ratliff
" J. S. Minchin
" F. B. Elton
" G. N. Taylor
" W. S. Whiteside
" R. W. Barlow
" E. F. Elliott
" D. Williams
" J. B. Pennington
" J. W. B. Dykes
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ista; and what exertions he has made towards increasing the Government Revenue, especially in a District like Nellore, where the Revenue System has been most complicated owing to the want of Survey, and where 4 Sheristadars were formerly employed.

2. Your Memorialist begs to bring to Your Lordship's notice that in the Fasli previous to that of 1269 when he was appointed Sheristadar, the Revenue of the District was only 25,80,000 Rs and in the Current Fasli the Revenue has risen to 33,93,000 Rupees as will be seen from the Marginal entry. He begs to add that this Revenue is free from all arrears, and that, in spite of unfavorable seasons during the last 5 Years, there is a steady increase in the occupation and Cultivation of lands. This is mainly attributable to careful supervision.

Fasli		Rs
1263 or 1852	1853	13,53,245
64 or 1853	54	22,36,811
65 or 1854	55	24,68,614
66 or 1855	56	25,03,576
67 or 1856	57	22,15,933
68 or 1857	58	25,80,481
69 or 1858	59	26,63,009
70 or 1859	60	29,15,930
71 or 1860	61	31,36,071
72 or 1861	62	33,93,609

3. From the Settlement Reports of the District, Your Lordships will observe that, prior to Fasli 1269, the Jamabandi was closed in the months of May with 4 Sheristadars, and ever since that Fasli, it has been concluded by March with only a single Sheristadar.

4. Your Memorialist does not dwell upon the hardships to be endured in a District like Nellore, where though toiling every day from morning to night, the time is not enough to bring up the daily work, owing to the increasing Revenue arising from the large extent of assessed and unassessed lands being brought under occupation. This is mainly due to the irrigation of the Penner Anikat and River Channels and want of Survey. Your Memorialist begs to add that he has in addition completed the Jamabandi Accounts of 47 Srikarikota Villages, yielding an assessment of Rs 37,000 and lately transferred from the Madras District.

5. In taking leave to close the subject of the satisfactory mode in which your Memorialist discharged the duties required of him from the time of his entertainment in the Government Service, he humbly begs to solicit your kind perusal of the following circumstances relating to 4 points, 3 of which though unconnected with his ordinary duties, were for the interest of Government and welfare of the public.

1st In the Year 1853 when Mr. F. B. Elton was Collector of Nellore and Your Memorialist then Revenue Munshee in the Sub Division, a dreadful famine raged in Nellore, and the Town was looted. On the 25th November 1857 a similar riot appeared likely to take place, and all the Military men in the Town, who were pinched with want, came to Mr. Elton and expressing their grievances, requested instructions how to proceed if a riot took place. Besides this, there was an uproar abroad that the Town of Nellore was likely to be looted, and Crowds of people were gathering

themselves in the Streets from 8 A. M. on that day: — Mr. Elton at 11 A. M. issued to your Memorialist, who then was Revenue Head Munshee, an order, in his own hand, directing him to suppress the riot in any way possible. Your Memorialist disregarding his life, and being thoughtful of the Interests of Government proceeded with a few Dalayets armed with Muskets to the Bazars, where were Crowded more than 1,500 people with Clubs and Baskets, and suppressed the riot by prevailing on the Merchants to sell, and persuading the people to be peaceful. Mr. Elton was highly pleased with Your Memorialists Conduct on this occasion; and at 5½ P. M. Mr. Elton with some peons came to the Bazar and seeing the grain heaped in the public Streets for sale and hearing applauses of this famine stricken people, was much pleased with him and promised to bring the same to the favorable consideration of Government, which however Your Memorialist regrets to state has been somehow omitted. The order issued to him on this occasion is to be found among the printed Copies of Testimonials &c. marked L.

2nd. In the Year 1856 Certain robbers on their way to a Village of Talamanchi Taluq, with intent to commit robbery, committed the same in the fields of Allum on those they met with, and perpetrated murder & wounded on of the Public

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Servants. The same gang, on the 31st May of that Year, consisting of about 60 men was on the look out to perpetrate the crime, as a grand festival was being performed at Jonnavada, a Village in the Nellore Taluq. These robbers concealed themselves in the Western Villages of the Taluq during day time, gathering themselves together during night. Three of the individuals connected with the gang came close by Your Memorialist, when he was put up at a Choultry being holiday for the feast, and he having suspected them from their failure to give a satisfactory account of themselves, immediately apprehended them, and made an express report of the same to the then Magistrate Mr. Elton, who was then in Nellore. One of the three was identified by some of the wounded in the fields of Allum. Mr. Elton then sent to your Memorialist an order marked K, among the Testimonials &c. directing him to have the robbers tried by the Head of Police. At the part of the arrest which took place at 7. A. M. was known to the rests of the gang, they took to their heels as they were then at a distance of 10 or 15 miles to the place where Your Memorialist was put up. From these Your Lordship may know that the prevention of the robbery was mainly due to the sagacity and well management of Your Memorialist on the occasion, otherwise the robbery would sure to have occurred the said night, which was a full moon day and many people had assembled for the feast leaving their Homes.

3dly In July 1858 Mr. P. Connell of the Enginieus, came to Nellore on Special duty to fill up the breaches of the Perinar Anikat, which was built at the expense of some lacs of Rupees to the Government, as there was every ground to apprehend that the Anikat will be washed away by the freshes of the River likely to be brought on by the early rains, whereby the Government would have been exposed to a considerable loss. In vain did this Gentleman try to procure Wodders and Bricklayers. Mr. Elton then issued an order to your Memorialist to render the Enginieer gentleman every aid. Your Memorialist, though then Revenue Head Munshee, only exerted himself to the utmost of his abilities and procured the services of 550 Wodders and 250 Bricklayers with great difficulty. These were employed on the Anikat, and the repairs completed shortly. A few days afterwards came heavy freshes as previously apprehended, which did no harm to the Anikat. The Enginieer gentleman was highly pleased with Your Memorialist, and expressed the same in a letter addressed to him, which forms one of the Printed Copies of Testimonials &c.a marked O.

4.th In Fasli 1269, which is the year of Your Memorialist's appointment to his present post, Mr. Whiteside the then Head Assistant Collector conducted the settlement of Atmakur Taluq. Your Memorialist in preparing the Jamabandi Returns, detected a fraud committed by an individual of Kalavaya Village which was a sum of Rs. 700 — — had been shown in the accounts of previous years as Totally irrecoverable, and passed off by his predecessor accordingly. The whole correspondence was scrutinously examined by Your Memorialist, and represented to the said Gentleman, wherefore the amount was forthwith collected. The Testimony borne by Mr. Whiteside of Your Memorialist's Character which is also to be found among the Printed Copies in this respect &c.a marked Q will speak of itself.

6. In conclusion Your Memorialist most respectfully begs that Your Lordships will kindly take the above points into your kind and favorable consideration, and place him either on the Terms of former Sheristadars in respect to pay, which is to increase at the rate of 20 Pagodas once every five years for good service in the unsettled Districts, or as a special case; in consideration of the services rendered by Your Memorialist for the interest of Government as above mentioned, grants a personal Allowance, so long as Your Memorialist may hold his present post. For which act of benevolence Your Memorialist as in duty bound.

Shall ever Pray

Nellore
10.th May 1864.

Baru Venkatarow
Sheristadar
Collector's office
Nellore.

× Vide Page 4 of the Revenue Board Circular Order Book dated 27.th March 1820 Vol. I.

In No 2801 of 1864

Rec'd 11th Oct 1864

Dept. 16th Oct 1864

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TESTIMONIALS

AND PARTS OF PUSLIC CORRESPONDENCE

RELATING TO THE

CONDUCT

AND APPROVED SERVICES

OF

BARU VENCATRAU PANTULU

SHERISTADAR,

OF THE

NELLORE DISTRICT.

1864.

Printed by C. H Kotch, at the Collectorate Press —Nellore

TESTIMONIALS

AND PARTS OF PUBLIC CORRESPONDENCE

RELATING TO THE

CONDUCT

AND APPROVED SERVICES

OF

BARU VENCATRAU PANTULU

SHERISTADAR,

OF THE

NELLORE DISTRICT.

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Memorandum of the Services of Bar Vencatarau Sheristadar in the Zillah of Nellore, from the 24th November 1834 to the 30th April 1864.

Rank.	Period of Service.			Amount of Pay.		
	Years	M.	D.	Rs.	A.	P.
Maramut Gumasta in the Hoozoor...	1	5	9	14	...	...
English Writer do.	...	2	7	15	...	...
Maramut 3rd Gumasta do.	...	3	16	14	...	
Maramut 3rd Gumasta do.	1	1	7	21	...	...
Maramut 2nd Gumasta do.	3	...	29	25	...	...
Maramut Gumasta do. when the establishment was reduced....	...	1	24	20	...	...
Magistrate Gumastah in the Hoozoor... ...	1	1	3	20	...	..
Revenue Moonshee in the Sub-Division.....	2	9	5	50	..	...
Magistrate Moonshee in the Collector's Office.	...	...	16	50	...	...
Revenue Moonshee in the Sub-Division.....	9	8	28	50	...	...
Hoozoor Head Moonshee..	2	5	6	85	..	...
Naib Sheristadar in the Collector's Cutcherry.	...	3	18	175	...	...
Hoozoor Head Moonshee.....	2	...	19	85	...	...
	24	8	7			
Head Manager.....	...	11		175	...	...
Sheristadar.....	3	10	...	200	...	...
Total Service as Collector's Sheristadar....	4	9	...			
Grand Total of Service...	29	5	7			

Extracts from the Conduct Register Book.—Page 35.

Baru Vencatráu is one of the most intelligent men I have ever met in the service, he is very careful in conducting public business, and solicitous for the interests of Government and his immediate superiors. He is a man whose experience would be of great value in an emergency.

(Signed.) F. B. ELTON,

Collector.

September, 1859.

I fully agree with my predecessor in his view of the zealous charge Baru Vencatráu takes of the interests of Government. He has now been nigh on 3 years my Sheristadar; he is a man of great influence, great energy. And in stating that I owe much to his zealous discharge of his duties, it gives me pleasure to place on Record my obligations to the Head Officer of my Establishment.

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

Collector.

10*th May* 1862.

During the short time I have been in charge of the Collectorate I have found Baru Vencatráu most useful and zealous in the discharge of his duties and in the interests of Government and have great pleasure in contributing this little to his former excellent characters which have been fully borne out during his service under me.

(Signed.) E. F. ELIOTT,

Sub-Collector in charge.

NELLORE, 23*rd August* 1862.

Extracts from the Jamabandi Reports of Nellore District.

Fasli 1269.—A D. 1858-59. *Dated Podlakuru 13th Octr.* 1860.—*Para.* 28.

P. 28. I have mentioned above, that Baru Vencatráu, my Sheristadar, has been for many months dangerously ill. Fortunately for me, his sickness did not attack him till after the Jamabandi had been concluded, and to his zealous co-operation during the Jamabandi, I gladly bear witness. Called on to carry out the orders of Government on the subject of remissions in a District, with which I was entirely unacquainted, I could but anticipate considerable difficulties. Remissions had always been given in Nellore to a large amount, and not only was the old system to be abandoned, but the Jamabandi of the whole of the Principal Division was to fall on one Sheristadar instead of four. That the orders of Government were rigidly adhered to, and the Jamabandi closed by the 1st of April, I owe to the influence and unceasing exertions of Bar Vencatráu, who fully deserves that I should bring his conduct thus fully to the favorable notice of the Board.

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

Collector.

Fasli 1270 —A D 1859-60. *Despatched on the 16th September* 1861.

From Baru Vencatráu, I have received the assistance I had a right to expect from his abilities, long experience, and influence. He has discharged the heavy duties of his office most efficiently. That I have for the last two years been able to bring my Jamabandi to a close before the end of March, I owe to him and I have much pleasure in bringing his meritorious conduct to the favorable notice of the Board.

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

Collector.

Fasli 1271.—A D. 1861-62. *Dated 17th September* 1862.—*P.* 23.

P. 5.—My Sheristadar, Baru Vencatráu Pantulu, continues to discharge his duties most zealously. He is a thoroughly efficient Public Servant. And with a Sheristadar with less

Extract from the Jamabandi Report of Nellore Dtstrict.

energy it would be difficult to bring the settlement to a satisfactory close, year after year, by the end of March.

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

Collector.

Fash 1272 —A.D. 1862-63. *Dated 17th September* 1863.

Baru Venkatrow my Sheristadar has seen to the adjustment and collection of the General Revenue with the results shown in the preceding paras, and the zeal and ability that those results display.

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

Collector.

Extracts from Public Correspondence in respect to the services of Baru Vencatráu Sheristadar of Nellore District.

EXTRACT from a letter from Mr. ELTON, Collector of Nellore, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 18th March 1857.—Paras. 2 and 3, No. 41.

* * *

PARA. 2.—The wants of the District as the Board must be aware are under such circumstances great and urgent and the difficulties in which I shall be placed are likely to be very considerable unless I can promptly make arrangements to secure the services of some talented man who has experience in the somewhat peculiar and complicated Revenue details of this District.

Extract from the Public Correspondence &c.

3. Such a person I consider there is in the Office at present; Baru Vencatráu a servant of 22 years standing appointed to the important post of Revenue Head Moonshee by the late Acting Collector from a similar position in the Sub-Division with the sanction* of the Board of Revenue. I beg to enclose copies of testimonials given to him by the Gentlemen whose names are entered in the margin† and to recommend him for the appointment of Head Sheristadar of the Nellore District.

*Extract from the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 16th October 1854.

†Mr. E. Maltby.
„ Purvis.
„ C Arbuthnot.
„ Ratliff.
„ Minchin.
„ Elton.

* * *

(Signed.) F. B. ELTON,
Collector.

EXTRACT from a letter from Mr. TAYLOR, Acting Collector of Nellore to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 9th June 1857.—Paras. 4 and 5, No. 83.

* * *

Para. 4—V. Vencataráu acquiesces in this view and is prepared to retire at once.—With respect to his successor in the Office of Head Sheristadar, Mr. Elton has already nominated Baru Vencataráu who is at present Acting as Naib and in whose ability and integrity he has expressed the greatest confidence. Should the Board see fit to re-consider their former objections to the elevation of this Officer to the Head of the native Cutcherry and sanction his appointment to act as Head Sheristadar on the retirement of V. Vencataráu, I shall have great pleasure in availing myself of his known industry and capacity for business and of his long experience in the District while I remain in charge of the Collectorate. * *

5. * * * With Baru Vencatráu as Acting Head Sheristadar the business of the District will be satisfactorily conducted until the Board's proposition regarding Uncovenanted Assistants is acted on, and when that contingency occurs, I have no doubt that Rangacharry will obtain one of the new appointments, or that he or Baru Vencatráu will be chosen by Mr. ELTON as the future Manager of the Office.

* * *

(Signed.) G. N. TAYLOR,
Acting Collector.

Extract from the Public Correspondence &c.

EXTRACT from a letter from Mr. ELTON, Collector of Nellore, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 23rd October 1857.—Paras. 4 and 5, No. 150.

* * *

Para. 4.—It is I consider very necessary from the amount of work that there should be an efficient Naib and that the duties of both posts should not be thrown on one man, it will therefore in the event of the above being sanctioned be necessary to provide another person to fill the Naib Sheristadar's place.

5. A sense of justice compels me to propose for this place the Head Moonshee Baru Vencatráu who lately held it with the sanction of the Board as a temporary measure pending the then contemplated abolition of the Office. For his qualifications and services the latter extending to 22 years and upwards, I beg to refer the Board to my letter of the 18th March last, and to the testimonials of different Gentlemen under whom he has served, copies of which were forwarded on that occasion, as also to the fact of Mr. TAYLOR having proposed him for the Head Sheristadar's place.

* * *

(Signed.) F. B. ELTON,
Collector.

EXTRACT from a letter from Mr. ELTON, Collector of Nellore, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 25th July 1859.—Para. 2, No. 116.

* * *

2. The arrangements I intend to make are as follow: Baru Vencatráu, Head Moonshee of my Office, recommended by me in the year 1857, for the post of Head Sheristadar, and who was appointed with the Board's sanction to act as Naib Sheristadar on that occasion, I propose to appoint as Manager of my Office, for which he is extremely well qualified.

* * *

(Signed.) F. B. ELTON,
Collector.

Testimonials granted to Baru Vencatráu Sheristadar of the Nellore District by various Gentlemen under whom he served.

(A)

BARU VENCATRAU,

I am happy at having it in my power to tell you that your diligence and attention to your duty during the time you have been with my Cutcherry has given me much pleasure—the great improvement you have made since you were first placed under me, when you had been but a short time in the Cutcherry, is a proof that you have always taken advantage of the various opportunities afforded you of gaining a knowledge of business. You are one of the fastest and best gentoo readers I know, and your knowledge of English which you must be careful to keep up, will be certain to be of great use to you. You will I feel sure be very careful in performing any business that you may be ordered to do, and thereby show that you are not undeserving of the promotion which Mr. STONEHOUSE has on two occasions been so kind as to give you, and that I have not been mistaken in my opinion of you.

Your friend,

(Signed. A. PURVIS,

Nellore, *February* 1838. *Asst. Collector.*

(B)

BARU VENCATRAU,

Although the fact of my having appointed you Revenue Moonshee when holding a situation in the Principal Division Cutcherry of but 20 Rs. is sufficient to show the estimation in which I hold you as a public servant, yet on leaving Nellore I feel it right to tell you, and I do so with pleasure, that the expectations I entertained when I gave you the appointment have been fully realized, and your conduct has given me great satisfaction. You have shown yourself to be an attentive, zealous, very hard-working and to the best of my belief an upright servant. Your abilities and knowledge of detail, I need say nothing of as those qualities are at once apparent. I regret for many reasons your sudden transfer

from the Sub-Division but it is I know agreeable to yourself and family and I hope it may prove to your advantage.

17*th January* 1845. (Signed.) A. PURVIS.

(C)

Ullur, 11*th February* 1845.

BARU VENCATRAU,

I had the pleasure to receive your letter some days ago and was glad to find that you were affording satisfaction to Mr. COCHRANE. I suppose Mr. MALTBY has arrived and that I shall see you ere long on your way back to Ramapatam. I take this opportunity of telling you how much pleased I was at the manner in which you conducted the business during the short time you were with me. The very day you were with me and the very good character you have on several occasions received from Mr. PURVIS who is of course far more competent to judge of your capabilities than I am, would make my saying anything more quite superfluous. I hope you will afford satisfaction to Mr. MALTBY.

(Signed.) A. J. ARBUTHNOT.

(D)

Pullecarney, 30*th November* 1845.

BARU VENCATRAU,

Revenue Moonshee at Ramapatam,

I was glad to receive your letter and hear that you are continuing to do your duties carefully and gave satisfaction to the gentleman under whom you are now placed. By continuing in this course you will doubtless obtain promotion hereafter on a suitable opportunity occurring.

* * * *

If your letter was your own writing, it shows that you have been taking pains to improve yourself in English, and this is certain to be an advantage to you.

Your well wisher,

(Signed.) E. MALTBY.

(E)

VENCATRAU,

I have this morning received your letter with its enclosures the latter I return. I fear you will meet with a disappointment, and that you are too sanguine of a vacancy occurring in my Office, as there will probably be many applicants for the situation in the Board besides Vencatramaniah he may however succeed and should such be the case your claims and merits will have due consideration. But I must tell you at once, though I have made no arrangement or spoken to any one on the subject, that you must not expect to succeed Vencatramaniah—your claims shall have fair consideration which is all I can at present say.

Your faithfully,

(Signed.) J. F. BISHOP.

6*th December* 1846.

(F)

Nellore 15*th May* 1847.

BARU VENCATRAU,

It would be contrary to Maumool were I to leave the Sub-Division of Nellore, without giving to the Revenue Moonshee of that Cutcherry a few lines to let him know what I thought of his character and what opinion I had formed generally of him during an acquaintance of now two long years.—In every particular then I have no hesitation in telling you that I have been most perfectly pleased with your conduct both as far as concerns your aptness for business and at the same time the perfect readiness which you have displayed on every occasion when called upon to undertake duties which did not actually form part of those required of you. I had hoped that the day would have come and was not very far distant when I could myself witness the promotion to which I consider you most fully entitled. But although perhaps I may not be present when such an opportunity occurs, still I hope it is unnecessary for me to say that if a line from me will promote your welfare, you shall have it whenever you like to ask it and I shall be truly delighted to hear that success attends you in all your undertakings.

Your well wisher,

(Signed.) J. R. PRINGLE.

(G)

BARU VENCATRAU,

I am glad to send you this testimony to your exemplary conduct during the 20 months I acted as Sub-Collector in this District.

I have never had a complaint against you, and I have no reason to suppose you have given occasion for any to be made. Your intimate knowledge of the details of business I found very useful and from your extensive acquaintance with all that has transpired in the Sub-Division during the last 12 or 15 years, I have constantly derived information essential to the proper transacting of public affairs.

Your knowledge of English too enabled you to do the chief part of the English Department work, and thus to supply the deficiencies of the incapable person who held that Office. I shall be happy to hear of your promotion to a higher grade, which when you attain, I hope you will be very careful to walk in a blameless course, and so continue to merit the confidence of your employers.

(Signed.) C. ARBUTHNOT.

Nellore, 22nd December 1852.

(H)

BARU VENCATRAU,

The appointment of Head Moonshee in this Cutcherry is now vacant. The salary is you are probably aware but 70 Rs. I am afraid you will not think it worth while to leave Nellore for so small an increase of pay, but if you should be willing to do so I shall be very glad to nominate you to the Office. I shall not be at all annoyed by your declining only send me an answer as soon as you can.

Yours,

(Signed.) A. PURVIS.

Rapally, 1st April.
Direct to Vatapollem.

(I)

Ramapatam, 24th October 1854.

I have much pleasure in recording my opinion of the ability, and great knowledge of Revenue matters, more especiall regarding the Nellore Sub-Division possessed by Vencatráu.

I have only been in charge of the Sub-Collectorate for little more than two Months and the high Testimonials possessed by Vencatráu, given by my predecessors, who had extensive experience of his services during the last 14 years as Revenue Moonshee in the Division, are of far greater value, than any that I can afford, but I must state that for the short time he has worked under me, I have received the most valuable assistance from his great knowledge and capacity for business.

He now leaves the Office on his promotion to the post of Head Moonshee in the Nellore District and I shall always be happy to hear of his continued well doing and consequent success.

(Signed.) J. I. MINCHIN,

Acting Sub-Collector.

(J)

Cuddapah, 24th October 1855.

It is some time since I received your last letter, Vencataráu, asking me to give you a testimonial as to character. Such, from *me*, I should have thought needless, seeing that my opinion as to your conduct and ability was clearly demonstrated by my promoting you to the Office of Huzur Head Munshi upon the first opportunity after I had charge of the District. Your subsequent proceedings while I continued in charge having been such as to justify your appointment and afford me, every satisfaction.

I am delighted to hear that Nellore has at last received a good supply of rain. Here too we have had a very fair fall. I am too busy to write a long note to-day—remaining always.

Your friend.

(Signed.) J. RATLIFF.

(K)

To,

BARU VENCATARAU,

Head Munehee.

I have received your letter regarding the three suspicious persons of Cuddapah. You are to order the Tahsildar in my name to arrest them, and report the case to me unless on further enquiry they appear innocent and harmless. I have directed that the Naique who was wounded near Allur is to go to you if he can identify them as having been concerned in that murder.

(Signed.) F. B. ELTON,

Magistrate.

Nellore, 31*st May* 1856.

(L)

To,

THE HEAD MUNSHEE,

There is again a difficulty about grain which is not sold freely, and the Sepoys are in immediate want. You must make arrangements through the Tasildar for supplying them with eight candies or at least six candies this very day.

You must come to the House at 11 o'clock and tell the Tahsildar and Basti Amin to come at the same time, to consult what can be done to make the Merchants more reasonable by persuasion. I rely on your activity and promptness in this matter.

(Signed.) F. B. ELTON,

Collector.

25*th November* 1857.

(M)

BARU VENCATARAU,

As it seems probable that there will be a vacancy in the Head or Naib Sheristadarship in my Office, for which you might be desir-

ous of being a candidate, I beg to assure you that from your talents and great experience in the Revenue affairs of this District and the industry and faithfulness you have shown in the discharge of your duties under me, I consider you qualified for the post of either Naib or even Head Sheristadar if V. Ramaya is promoted in Tanjore.

(Signed.) F. B. ELTON,

Collector.

Nellore, 10*th March* 1857.

(N)

VENCATRAU,

I was very glad to hear from your letter of the 19th that Mr. ELTON entertained so high an opinion of your conduct and qualifications as to have recommended you for the office of Head Sheristadar. I have little doubt the Board will approve of the arrangement. I hope to hear shortly that such is the case—It is very gratifying to me to think that one whom I have known so long and been so much interested in should by his own exertions and good conduct have attained to such a high and important Office and I feel sure that your future conduct will be such as to prove to Mr. ELTON and all the world that his confidence in you has not been displaced and that his selection has been a good one. I am glad to hear that you are so careful to pay for every thing on circuit—you will recollect what I used to tell you on this subject long ago, though then you thought I was very strict.—It will now be more incumbent on you than ever to conduct yourself with the utmost propriety in every respect and so set a good example to the other servants. When the Head Sheristadar of a District is above suspicion the subordinates, even if actuated by no better motive, are *afraid* to be corrupt—Denounce bribery and extortion wherever you find it high or low.—Be just to all whether brahmin or pariah, friend and enemy, tho' of this last I hope you will have none.—Do right and fear not.

I remain,

Your sincere friend and well wisher,

(Signed.) A. PURVIS.

Rajamundry District, Sevalode.
29th March 1857,

(O)

I have much pleasure in certifying that Baru Vencatráu Head Moonshee in the Collector's Office has exerted himself successfully in collecting Vadders and Bricklayers for the Pennair Annikat at a time at which they were much required.

Preserved the Anikat.

(Signed.) P. O'CONNELL, Captain,

Engineer, on special duty at Nellore.

12*th July* 1858, *Nellore.*

(P)

Government House, 22nd March 1859.

SIR,

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your Memorial of the 19th instant, together with its enclosures which have been submitted to the Right Honorable the Governor.

In reply His Lordship desires me to inform that your application to be appointed an Uncovenanted Deputy Collector in the Nellore District has been recorded.

I remain,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed.) *Private Secretary.*

Baru Vencatráu, Head Munshee,

Collector's Cutcherry, Nellore.

(Q)

B. Vencatráu the Huzur Head Manager has concluded the Revur Taluq Revenue Settlement for this year under me, and I have pleasure in stating that I am entirely satisfied with the careful

and zealous manner in which he has examined the accounts and investigated the various items, owing to which one particular sum of Rupees 700, that had been fraudulently permitted to remain in the accounts uncollected from one individual for several Faslies has been now brought to account and is in process of collection.

(Signed.) W. S. WHITESIDE,

Head Asst. Collector.

Camp Kalavai, February 9, 1860.

(R)

Udagiri Hill, 25th January 1861.

I send you, Sheristadar, the remaining Village Accounts, and before you go away to Mr. DYKES, I must thank you for all the assistance you have been to me. Being quite new to the Taluq and only having done Jamabandi in one season some years ago, I should have taken twice as long to do the work, as well as having double the trouble, if you have not put every point to be decided so clearly before me. I know you are not in very good health and hope you will be none the worse for the very hard work, I know you must have had in looking through and preparing accounts &c., &c., in so very short a time.

Your friend,

(Signed.) R. W. BARLOW.

(S)

To

BARU VENCATARAU,

Head Sheristadar Nellore.

Baru Vencatráu Head Sheristadar of the Nellore District has given me entire satisfaction in the discharge of his duties connected

with the Settlement of the Taluqs of Atmakur and Udayagiri and also with the Settlement of Rapuru Taluq, which was made last year by me.

(Signed.) D. WILLIAMS,
Head Assistant Collector.

Udayagiri, 8th February 1864.

(T)

Baru Vencatráu Head Sheristadar of Nellore prepared the Jamabandi accounts of the Kavali Taluq for me (February 1864) and did his business in the most satisfactory way explaining every thing most clearly.

(Signed.) J. B. PENNINGTON,
Assistant Collector

Totakatla, 9th April 1864.

Rev-1489/64.

No. 3,389.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 3rd June 1864.

Read the following letter from the Collector of Nellore, dated Krishnapatnam, 12th May 1864, No. 127 :—

1. I have the honor to submit for the Board's consideration, and request that they will be pleased to forward, with such remarks as they may deem fit, the accompanying Memorial from my Serishtadar, Baru Venkatravu Puntulu.

2. The case brought forward is the case of a Serishtadar who has done good service, and according to present rules, has no prospect of further promotion.

3. In the re-organization of Revenue Establishment, it was, I believe, intended that the promotion sought should not be to be looked for in the Department in question, but in the higher grade of Deputy Collector.

4. But in the first starting of a new scheme, it is to be expected that individual cases will arise, where a rigid adherence to the terms laid down would be productive of consequences that the Board and the Government would wish to avoid, and special provision may be made to meet the claims of individuals with advantage to the public interests also.

5. Under any circumstances, it seems scarce desirable that an officer who has spent thirty years of his life in the Account Department, should be suddenly called on to undertake the duties of a Deputy Collector. Under present circumstances, there is no chance of such a contingency, as all the Deputy Collectors in the Inam Department have to be provided for.

6. And I therefore trust that the Board will be pleased to support claims like the present, where under the former system, a direct acknowledgment would have been made, and under the new arrangements the provision intended is really not available.

7. Looking through the annual list of the Revenue Establishment, I find that there are ten Serishtadars whose period of service is twenty years and upwards ; and of these, five including the present Memorialist, can point to a service of more than 25 years. There is therefore no large number to be provided for, supposing all otherwise worthy of consideration. And as regards the claims of Baru Venkatravu to the favorable consideration he seeks, it is not necessary, I should swell this correspondence by stating here what I have already recorded year by year as my opinion of his services. Opinions given at the time and to be found in the printed testimonials which accompany the enclosed memorial, are more valuable than what I can say on an occasion like the present, when favorable notice is specially asked for. And in simply stating that Baru Venkatravu has been a most zealous and faithful servant of Government, I beg to call the attention of the Board to the characters given by those he has previously served under, and strongly recommend, as an exceptional case, he be allowed in due course the increased rate of 20 Pagodas, after every five years' service, to which he would have been entitled under the old arrangements.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

ABSTRACT.—Memorial from Baru Venkataravu Puntulu, Serishtadar of Nellore.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.—Printed copy of Testimonials.

1. The Board are unable to support this recommendation. They doubt not that Baru Venkat Row has done the State good service, and has well earned his present position. But they see nothing in the case to warrant an application for a special personal allowance, and they are not prepared to advocate the abandonment of the system which was deliberately adopted on the revision of Establishments, and the creation of the office of Deputy Collector.

2. The post of Huzur Serishtadar is no longer what it once was either in the nature of its duties or in the position of the office.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

Secretary.

To J. W. B. Dykes, Esq., Collector of Nellore.

Copy to J. D. Sim, Esq., Secretary to Government, R. D., for information, with two enclosures.

Exd. J. Wright.

Rev. 1864. Department.
Pro: of Govt for June.

No. 1489.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

Dated 3rd June 1864.

Desp. 7 do
Res &c. —
C2 Ol

Pro. of the Board of Revr
of 21 September 64 No 2535

No. 3,389.

Declining to support the recommendation for a special personal allowance to Serishtadar B. Venkatravu Puntulu of Nellore.

Rec 1030 15th June

With an Order

No. 190 & 191.

9 June/64. R.M.

No. 1030.

The Bds view of this case is correct. —

J. Dl.

Fort St. George
15th June 1864.

11 Copies Letter Bd & Rec'd Rec'd 16 June