

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 701

Press

~~Mis.~~

373.374

Dated

23.6.1918

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
23rd April 1864.*

No. 373. Read again letter from Very Reverend B. F. AMARANTI, dated — December 1863, and recorded in Proceedings of Government, 15th idem, No. 2,285.

Read also the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 15th March 1864, No. 1,583:—

Read the following letter from the Acting Collector of Madras, dated Saidapet, 6th February 1864, No. 68.

Six original enclosures are herewith returned.

With reference to the Board's Proceedings dated the 18th December last, No. 8,015, forwarding Government Order dated the 15th idem, No. 2,285, I have the honor to forward a Statement showing the Ayacut cultivation and waste of the village of Varadarajapuram under the different rates of assessment prevailing in the village, together with the revenue derived during the last ten years. On the subject of Mr. Amaranti's former application, I beg to refer the Board to the marginal correspondence. Mr. Hooper in his letter of the 17th April 1863, puts the facts of the case clearly before the Collector.

Board's Proceedings, No. 5,012, dated 1st August 1862.
Board's Proceedings, dated 6th June 1863, which contains
Mr. Ellis's letter to the Board dated 27th April 1863, and
Mr. Hooper's report of the 17th April 1863.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.
STATEMENT showing the Ayacut cultivation and waste of the village of Varadarajapuram in Conjeeveram Talook, Madras District.

REMAINDER.

Total Ayacut.	Deduct Perum- boke.	Descrip- tion.	Rate of Assessment per Cawny.	SHEIGAL.		LAIK.		ANADI.		TOTAL.	
				Extent.	Assessment.	Extent.	Assessment.	Extent.	Assessment.	Extent.	Assessment.
1,391 6 6	335 14 4	Poonjah ...	1 2 10 0 2 1 12 0	6 1 4 35 4 12	15 15 1 61 12 4	 0 5 0	 0 8 9	156 4 8	410 3 10	162 5 12 35 9 12	426 2 11 62 5 1
		Nunjah ...	1 7 0 0 2 5 4 0 3 3 8 0	13 0 12 9 15 2 10 12 4	91 5 3 52 2 9 37 10 11	1 5 12 0 10 12	9 8 3 2 5 7	0 12 2 11 1 0 809 12 4	5 4 11 58 1 3 2,834 2 11	15 2 10 21 0 2 821 3 4	106 2 5 110 4 0 2,874 3 5
		Thotakal...	1 7 0 0	33 12 2	181 2 11	2 0 8	11 13 10	821 9 6	2,897 9 1	857 6 0	3,090 9 10
		TOTAL AYACUT.....		0 2 10	1 2 5	.....	.....	.....	.....	0 2 10	1 2 5
		Poonjah ...	1 2 10 0 2 1 12 0	75 4 12	260 0 9	2 5 8	12 6 7	977 13 14	3,307 12 11	1,055 8 2	3,580 4 3
		Nunjah ...	1 7 0 0 2 5 4 0 3 3 8 0	6 1 4 26 2 12 32 4 0	15 15 1 45 12 9 61 11 10	 0 5 0 0 5 0	 0 8 9 0 8 9	36 9 0 36 9 0	96 1 2 96 1 2	42 10 4 26 7 12 69 2 0	112 0 3 46 5 6 158 5 9
		Thotakal ...	.....	33 7 10	180 3 2	1 5 12	9 8 3	235 12 14	842 8 9	270 10 4	1,032 4 2
		TOTAL CULTIVATED...		65 11 10	241 15 0	1 10 12	10 1 0	272 5 14	938 9 11	339 12 4	1,90 9 11

OF AYACUT.

PARTICULARS		LAND LYING WASTE.		LAND LYING WASTE.		LAND LYING WASTE.		LAND LYING WASTE.		LAND LYING WASTE.	
Fusly.	Beriz.	Extent.	Assessment.	Extent.	Assessment.	Extent.	Assessment.	Extent.	Assessment.	Extent.	Assessment.
1262 ...	231 11 19	9 2 0	15 15 7	.....	.....	.....	.....	119 11 8	314 2 8	119 11 8	314 2 8
1263 ...	206 4 2	9 2 0	15 15 7	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	9 2 0	15 15 7
1264 ...	278 12 9	9 2 0	15 15 7	.....	.....	.....	.....	119 11 8	314 2 8	128 13 8	330 2 3
1265 ...	297 3 9	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2 9 2	13 7 9	2 9 2	13 7 9
1266 ...	421 11 5	0 4 8	0 15 9	0 10 12	2 5 7	583 3 6	2,041 8 7	584 2 10	2,044 13 11	584 2 10	2,044 13 11
1267 ...	415 11 5	0 4 8	0 15 9	0 10 12	2 5 7	585 12 8	2,055 0 4	586 11 12	2,058 5 8	586 11 12	2,058 5 8
1268 ...	557 8 5	0 2 10	1 2 5	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	0 2 10	1 2 5
1269 ...	626 14 1	9 9 2	18 1 9	0 10 12	2 5 7	705 8 0	2,369 3 0	715 11 14	2,389 10 4	715 11 14	2,389 10 4
1270 ...	627 1 4										
1271 ...	748 11 6										
10 ...	4,411 10 8										
Average per Fusly...	441 2 8										

NOTE.—There is but one tank in this village known by the name of "Mudva Anicut," and the following expenditure was incurred by the Government on the work :—

	RS.	A.	P.
1849. Earth-work...	116	15	0
1853. do. ...	139	11	0
1858. do. ...	197	0	0

(Signed) G. BANBURY,
Acting Collector

Saidapet, 6th February 1864.

1. Resolved that the above letter with its enclosure be submitted for the consideration of His Excellency the Governor in Council, with reference to the Order of Government under date 15th December 1863, No. 2,285.

2. It will be observed from the Statement which accompanies Mr. Banbury's letter, that the Beriz of the village referred to in Mr. Amaranti's address has been steadily increasing from year to year, that expenditure on Maramut has been very limited, and that there is a very considerable quantity of waste land attached to the village.

3. When Mr. Amaranti first made his proposals to rent the village, though he himself made two distinct proposals, as he now remarks, he stated that Government might make their own terms. The one was to rent the village under the terms of a Notification which had been issued without the Board's sanction, and of which, when brought to their notice, the Board expressed their decided disapproval, as evidenced in the Proceedings and letter quoted in the margin, copies of which will now be submitted to Government; the other was to rent it at an

5th November 1860, No. 5,101.
11th January 1861, „ 202.

increase of 10 per cent. on the average Beriz of the previous five years.

4. These proposals were forwarded to the Collector for report, and from the Sub-Collector's letter, recorded in the Board's Proceedings dated 6th June 1863, copy of which is herewith submitted, it appeared that neither proposal would be advantageous to Government as the collections were on the increase, and as the average Beriz during the previous five years, even with an addition of 10 per cent. was considerable below the collections of the previous Fusly. It further appeared from a report made on the subject in the Department Public Works that if certain irrigation projects were carried out a considerable portion of the lands of the village would be submerged, and that if they were not carried out, the existing sources of irrigation might still be improved, so as to secure a large increase of revenue.

5. Under these circumstances the Board unhesitatingly rejected Mr. Amaranti's offer. The Board do not deem it necessary to refute here that gentleman's erroneous views as to the relative merits of the Ryotwary and the renting systems, as the Board's opinion on that point is sufficiently expressed in the papers referred to in paragraph 3 above, nor do they think that a reference is necessary to their refusal to grant him copies of the documents to which he refers, for His Excellency in Council must be well aware of the inconvenience which would frequently result if such confidential communications were to be thus communicated to private persons.

No. 374.

ORDER THEREON, 23rd April 1864, No. 201.

1. These papers relate to a proposal from the Reverend B. F. Amarante to take the village of Vurtharajapooram in Madras District either on Zemindary tenure or on a long lease. Mr. Amarante first offered to pay, in perpetuity or for 99 years, the average revenue of the last five years, plus 10 per cent., engaging to relieve Government of all expense for tank repairs; subsequently he expressed himself to take a 30 years' lease on the same terms as another village has shortly before been rented out, and ultimately he left the Board and Government to name their own terms.

2. Mr. Amarante is a Merassidar of the village, holding one-fourth share of the Merassy privileges in it, the remaining three-fourths being held by fourteen other individuals, all of whom he states are desirous of seeing him Mootahdar or Renter of the village.

3. The Board declined Mr. Amarante's offer because the revenue of the village was steadily increasing, and a rental fixed on an average of past years would be disadvantageous to Government because there was a considerable extent of culturable waste, and because the construction of the Pommel tank if that work is carried out will submerge a large portion of the village, while if it is not carried out, the irrigation of the village may in the Engineer's opinion be greatly improved.

4. The village comprises 1,055 Acres of culturable land, assessed at Rupees 3,580, of which 339 Acres assessed at Rupees 1,190, were cultivated in Fusly 1272, leaving 716 Acres assessed at Rupees 2,390 waste.

5. The uncertainty regarding the Pommel tank works and the large proportion of waste, preclude the Government at present from acceding to Mr. Amarante's request.
(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. D. SIM,

Secretary to Government

To the Board of Revenue.
„ the Very Reverend B. F. Amarante.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 5th November 1860.

Read letter from the Collector of Madras, dated 26th September 1860, No. 332.

(In Cons., 28th September 1860, No. 4,876.)

1. The Board objected to the Collector's notification in the District Gazette, because they considered it likely to be regarded as an invitation to parties to come forward and claim leases. They will be prepared to deal with individual cases on their merits.
2. As regards paragraphs 5 to 9, the Board remark that the Collector's proposal is virtually the re-introduction of the renting system, which was tried years ago and signally failed. They believe that on the whole the Ryotwary system is the best for Government and the people, because it is based on the natural principle of individual right and responsibility. The people have greater security when they hold direct from Government than when any renter is interposed, and the Government revenue is also larger, because the profits which must be allowed to this intermediate agent are saved. The gentleman referred to in paragraph 7 may prove a good landlord, but his successor may be quite the reverse, and however convenient a lease may be to Government, the Ryots gain nothing by having a renter to collect their payments from them; the village Officers will still have to make the collections; there will still be the same accounts to be kept, and in fact nothing will be changed, except the Agent, who will be comparatively irresponsible and independent instead of the Collector. It may be urged that a renter will lay out capital on his village, but experience has shown that this is not the case generally, even with Zemindars whose title is permanent. Experience has also shown that it is a matter of extreme difficulty to uphold the rights of the Ryots of a Zemindar or Farmer in the present state of the law. Moreover, the wishes of the people cannot be ignored in a matter which so seriously concerns their interests, and would at once convert them from proprietors into tenants.
3. The Board attach little weight to the argument put forward in paragraph 9. Good Government is the surest and most legitimate mode of securing the loyalty of the people, and the experience of the last three years has shown that, in order to secure it in this Presidency, it is not necessary to sacrifice the interests of the mass of the people to particular classes. Any attempt to create a wealthy or influential class by artificial measures is sure to end in disappointment, and the real progress of the country will only be retarded by such efforts. The persons referred to by the Collector may lay out their capital in purchasing private land, or they may take up Government waste, or rent private lands: these are all legitimate modes of investing their capital, and are all open to them, but for Government to place them in its position, and to convert the real proprietors of the land into their tenants, merely that they may thus artificially attain the position of *quasi* landlords, would be both unjust and impolitic. These persons, it must be remembered, would not after all be landlords in the real sense of the term; they would not own an acre of land by such a policy; and would merely acquire the right of levying the Government assessment, and paying it over to Government less a certain deduction in some shape for their trouble and responsibility. Under such circumstances, their interest would really be to get all they could out of the Ryot proprietors during their tenancy.
4. The Board resolve to furnish the Collector with a copy of the Orders of Government, dated 8th May 1860, No. 736, on an application from an European of capital and respectability, to re-purchase an old Mootah in the Salem District. Mr. Cunliffe will see that the Government have no present intention of departing from the Ryotwary system, or arbitrarily placing the Ryots (who are *de facto* and *de jure* the real proprietors of the soil) under middlemen, whether Zemindars or renters.
5. The Board request Mr. Cunliffe to be cautious in raising expectations of a change in the system of Land Tenure, until he has first ascertained what probability there is of their being fulfilled, for disappointment in such cases only works harm, and the Board may find themselves placed in an embarrassing position when proposals, thus originated, come before them.

(A true Extract.)

(Signed) J. D. SIM,
Secretary.

To B. Cunliffe, Esq., Collector of Madras.

Edw. J. Wright.

No.: 202

From W. HUDLESTON, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue,
To B. CUNLIFFE, Esq., Collector of Madras.

SIR,

1. The attention of the Board has recently been forcibly drawn to the evils inherent in the system of renting out villages, which is to some extent in force in your District, and request you will furnish them with the information particularised below, and with your opinion as to the advisability of abolishing the system altogether at the earliest opportunity.
2. It is in itself a rude and imperfect method of Land Revenue administration, calculated to foster abuses, and materially to weaken that independent sense of property in the land which it is most desirable to encourage as essentially necessary to the existence of a substantial Landlord class, while it affords a field for much petty office intrigue and favoritism, which there is reason to fear has not been neglected in the District in times past, nor will be so in the future.
3. The necessity for its maintenance is not obvious in your District where a Ryotwari land tenure exists in its integrity, and the Board do not think that the slight additional convenience of the renting system can in any way counterbalance its many defects.
4. They request that you will report the number of villages now under lease with the conditions of the lease in each case as to amount of rent, and date of expiry, showing also the field assessment of the village, and stating in each case whether the means exist of administering the village on the Ryotwari and Amani system so soon as the present lease shall have expired.
5. You will please to rent out no more villages without the Board's sanction in each case till the question is settled, unless to the whole body of the Mirasidars, or landholders of the particular village in question.
6. The Board trust to receive the information called for at an early date.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,

Your most obedient servant,
(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
Acting Secretary.

REVENUE BOARD OFFICE,
Fort St. George,
11th January 1861.

Exd. J. Wright.

Vol. 1. The Phre-
Conclusion in the Phre-
-ology of the Board
of Revenue to the Secretary
to Government &c. &c.
dated 15 March 1864.
No. 1583.

Dec-20/61

Grand Opening
to the Office of
Madras dated 5th
November 1880 at 35101
Regarding Thiruvandraya
Thiruvannamalai. -

1000

11/12/11

No. 3,319.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 6th June 1863.

Read the following letter from the Honorable R. S. ELLIS, c. B., Acting Collector of Madras, to W. HUDLESTON, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Saidapet, 27th April 1863, No. 133:—

With reference to the Board's Proceedings No. 5,012 of the 1st August 1862, I have the honor to forward a copy of the Acting Sub-Collector's report on Board's Petitions Nos. 1,923 and 3,147 of 1862, and 446 of 1863, together with copies of its enclosures. I concur with the Acting Sub-Collector in his opinion that, for the reasons stated, it will not be advisable to make over the village of Vardarajapuram to Mr. Amarante on the terms offered by him.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

W. S. HOOPER, Esq., Acting Sub-Collector of the Madras District, to the Honorable R. S. ELLIS, c. B., Acting Collector of the Madras District, dated Streepermatoor, 17th April 1863, No. 69.

Herewith returned with Petitions Nos. 1,923 and 3,147 of 1862 and 446 of 1863.

1. With reference to the Proceedings* of the Board of Revenue, No. 5,012, dated August 1st 1862, calling for a report on a letter from the Reverend B. F. Amarante of Saint Thomé, I have the honor to enclose a Statement, giving in a tabular form the total Ayacut of the village of Vardarajapuram, together with the extent of land, Nunjah, Punjab and Tottakal, occupied by the Mirasidars each Fasli for the last 20 years, the amount of remissions granted during that period, and the extent of land unoccupied at the present time.
2. This village has been held by the Mirasidars on Ryotwari tenure during the above period, and the highest revenue derived therefrom was in Fasli 1271, when it amounted to Rupees 748-11-6.
3. I have the honor to enclose copy of a letter from the District Engineer regarding the capabilities of the village in the way of irrigation. There is no information in this Office as to the amount which has been spent on Maramut works.
4. From the above, I am of opinion that the proposal of the Reverend B. F. Amarante can be acceded to. The possibility of the Pamunal tank project being carried out is an objection, for it would then be necessary to give compensation for the land submerged. On the other hand, were this work never undertaken, the large extent of land unoccupied, and the facility for improving the irrigation works of the village, to which the District Engineer alludes, would render it unadvisable to accept the terms offered. The revenue now derived from the village considerably exceeds that which would be payable under either of Mr. Amarante's proposals.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) R. S. ELLIS, c. B., Acting Collector.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.

ABSTRACT.—Copy of the Statement called for.

ENCLOSURE No. 3.

ABSTRACT.—Copy of the Acting District Engineer's letter.

ENCLOSURES Nos. 4 to 6.—Petitions.

Under the circumstances reported in the Sub-Collector's letter, the Board concur with Mr. Ellis in considering that it will not be advisable to accept Mr. Amarante's offer. The following Endorsement will be passed on his address:—

"After due consideration, the Board have resolved not to accept Mr. Amarante's proposal to rent the village of Vardarajapuram, as they consider that such a change of tenure would neither be beneficial to the Government, nor to the Ryots."

(True Copies and Extract.)

(Signed) R. A. DALYELL,
Sub-Secretary.

To Honorable R. S. Ellis, c. B., Collector of Madras.

Copy to Revd. B. F. Amarante, of Saint Thomé.
Exd. J. Wright.

Enclosure No. 2 in the
Proceedings of the Board
of Revenue to the Secretary
to Government of Madras
15th March 1864 No. 1583.

Rev. 720/64

Collected from the
Secretary to the Board of
Revenue to the Collector
of Madras dated 11th
January 1861 No. 202 page
11
Village -

Revenue Department

Memo.

These papers relate to a proposal from the Reverend Fr. Amarantha (Coanese Bishop of St. Thome) to take the village of Partharajapoorani in the Madras District either on Leasing or on a long lease. Mr. Amarantha first offered to pay, in perpetuity or for 99 years, the average revenue of the last 5 years, plus 10 per cent engaging to

This seems to turn upon the question of the restoration of the Domain Land should be necessary to prevent alienation of land which we may have occasion to submerge. Otherwise I think some arrangement might be made with the Rev. Amarantha.

W.D.

Correspondence of the Board of Revenue in the Madras District to the Secretary to Government, Madras, dated 15th March 1883.

Department.

1883-84

No.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF

Dec 16th June 1883

22.88.

No. 3,312.

Concerning with Mr. Ellis in considering it an advisable to accept Mr. Amarantha's offer to rent the village of Vardanjipuram, and passing a despatch on his address.

1883-84

to relieve Govt of all
expense for Sanku-
pairs - subsequently he
expressed himself to
take a 30 years lease
on the same terms as
another village had
shortly before been
rented out and ulti-
mately he left the
Board and Govt to
name their own terms.

Mr. Amaran-
te is a merassidar of
the village - holding
 $\frac{1}{4}$ share of the merassy
privileges in it - the
remaining $\frac{3}{4}$ being
held by 14 other indi-
viduals all of whom
he states are desirous
of seeing him Mootah-
dar or Renter of the
village.

v. G.O. (mt) - b

village -

The Board de-
clined Mr. Amaran-
te's offer because the
revenue of the village
was steadily increasing
and a rental fixed
on an average of past
years would be dis-
advantageous to Govt -
because there was a
considerable extent of
culturable waste - and
because the construc-
tion of the Canal in
Sank - if that work is
ever carried out will
submerge a large
portion of the village
while if it is not car-
ried out, the irriga-
tion of the village
may in the Engineer's
opinion be greatly
improved.

improved -

The village com-
-prises 1055 acres of
culturable land as-
-sessed at Rs 3580 - of
which 339 acres as-
-sessed at Rs 1190 were
cultivated in 1272 -
leaving 716 acres as-
-sessed at Rs 2390 waste -

The uncertainty
regarding the Pomuel
Sank works and the
large proportion of
waste, seems to me, to
bear out the Board's
decision - and to place
it out of the Govt to
offer Mr. Amaranthe
any terms which he
would be likely to ac-
-cept -

The Board remarks
about -

Yes Mr
JP

- To make the plan
work there must be
a single person with
whom the Govt can
deal either as sole pro-
-prietary or as agent &
representation of the
Village Landholders -
otherwise complications &
difficulties arise

Mr

about the impolicy
of renting villages
out to strangers, are
sound enough but -
the rent of a village to
to its own merassidars
on terms which will
bring in the fair va-
-lue of the waste with-
-in a reasonable pe-
-riod does not appear
to me to be open to the
same objections and
I begin to think, that
this kind of arrange-
-ment will prove to be
practically the best
solution of the Merassy
question in Chingleput.

If for instance
there were not the Ma-
-rassidars hitch in this
case and Mr. Amaranthe
and the other merassidars
were

were willing to take on
the village in perpe-
-tuity, paying (under
all circumstances) Rs.
1000 yearly for the
next five years - then
Rs. 1500 for another
term of 5 years and so
on until ultimately the
Govt got $\frac{4}{5}$ of the
full assessment which
should then be its
permanent assessment
this arrangement would
I think be a good &
favorable one, in the
circumstances of the
Singhpur District - the
Merassidars would
of course have to
keep the tank in
repair.

The emissions
in the village appear
large

Yes Mr.

large and should be
looked into by the
Board.

Is

Rev. Dept.

N^o 701-

Proceedings of the Madras Government
Under date the 23^d April 1864

Read again letter from
Very Rev^d B. F. Amaranto
of Dec^r 1863, and re-
corded in Progs of Govt^y
15th idem N^o 2285.-

Read also the fol.
lowing Progs of the Board
of Rev.

Submitting with the
V^o remarks letter from the
Col^l of Madras, forwarding
Statement showing the Ayaat
cultivation and waste of the
village of Varadarajapuram
in Coimbatore Taluk.-

Here enter 15th March 1864
N^o 1583

These papers re-
late to a proposal from
the Rev^d B. F. Amaranto
to take the village of
Varadarajapuram in
the Madras District
either on Zamindari
tenure or on a long
lease. W^o Amaranto
first

first offered to pay, in perpetuity or for 99 years, the average revenue of the last 5 years, plus 10 per cent engaging to relieve Govt. of all expense for Tank repairs. subsequently he expressed himself to take a 30 years lease on the same terms, as another village has shortly before been rented out, and ultimately he left the Bd. and Govt. to name their own terms. —

2. — Mr. Amaratte is a Merassidar of the village - holding $\frac{1}{4}$ share of the merassy privileges in it. the remaining $\frac{3}{4}$ being held by 14 other individuals.

individuals all of whom he states are desirous of seeing him Mootabdar or Renter of the village. —

3. — The Board declines Mr. Amaratte's offer because the revenue of the village was steadily increasing, and a rental fixed on an average of past years would be disadvantageous to Govt. because there was a considerable extent of culturable waste. and because the construction of the Ponnich Tank. if that work is carried out will submerge a large portion of the village - while if it is not carried out, the irrigation of the village may in the Engineer's opinion be greatly improved.

Pro No. 242-243
15-12-63

Revenue Bd. Dept.
Pro: of Govt for April

N: 701

Pro: of the Madras Govt.
D: 22 April 1864

From the Very Reverend B.D.
St. Marc's 12. May 1862

Request of the
Very Rev. Vicar General of
Saint Thomas that the Village
of Varadarajapuram in the
Pongiveram Taluk of the
Madras Distt. may be
granted to him on fixed
rent. not acceded to.

N: 373 & 374