

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 897	<u>Press</u> ~~Mis.~~
24.28	
Dated	3 - 5 - 1868.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
3rd May 1865.*

No. 24. Read the following letter from R. A. DALYELL, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, to J. D. SIM, Esq., Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Fort Saint George, dated Madras, 24th April 1865, No. 2,057 :—

SIR,

With reference to the Order of Government, dated 18th February 1865, No. 366, I am directed by the Board of Revenue to inquire whether it is the desire of Government that the whole of the present District of Kurnool should be surveyed and assessed by the Special Department.

2. In their Proceedings, dated 10th January 1865, No. 120, the Board adverted to the obvious objections which exist to parts of the same District being settled on totally different calculations, and to the ill effects which might result if such an arrangement caused a depreciation in the value of the Irrigation Company's works.

3. In their Order dated 18th February 1865, No. 366, the Government were pleased to direct that the operations of the Settlement Department should be extended to the Talook of Pattikonda, but no orders were passed relative to the Talooks of Cumbum and Markapoor.

4. It is true that these Talooks will not be affected by the works which the Irrigation Company are now engaged upon in the Kurnool District, but the Board deem it inadvisable to leave them on a different footing to the other Talooks of the District.

5. The Talook of Markapoor is in a most poverty-stricken condition, and that of Cumbum is far behind the other Talooks of the District in material prosperity. The Collector ascribes the disadvantageous position of these two Talooks to the general poverty of the soil, and partially to the pressure of the assessment, especially in the case of the unirrigated lands, and to the number of rates in both irrigated and unirrigated lands. Mr. Minchin has accordingly submitted proposals to the Board for a partial revision of the assessment in both Talooks, and hence the present reference.

6. The proposals brought forward by Mr. Minchin involve a large reduction in the number of rates both for irrigated and unirrigated land. The proposed rates in the Cumbum Talook, into which all existing rates would be merged, range from Rupees 12 to Rupee 1 per acre for irrigated land, and from Rupees 3 to Annas 2 per acre for unirrigated land. In Markapoor they are still lower ranging from Rupees 8 to Rupee 1 per acre for wet land, and from Rupees 2 to Annas 2 per acre for dry land. The introduction of these rates would involve a loss of existing revenue of about Rupees 21,000 in Cumbum, and Rupees 18,000 in Markapoor, and the Collector does not anticipate any large increase of cultivation except in the case of the dry lands in Cumbum. The irrigated lands in both Talooks are, it is said, completely occupied at present rates, and the dry lands in Markapoor are so inferior as scarcely to be worth cultivating however low the rate of assessment might be.

7. It is worthy of consideration that Mr. Minchin's proposals will be applied to unsurveyed areas, and that, even if carried out, these Talooks would be placed in

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an inferior position to those which have been settled in the same District by the Settlement Department. They will be much in the same position as the Pattikonda Talook, the assessment of which was revised in a somewhat similar manner, when it was attached to the Bellary District. The Government have now decided that the assessment of the latter Talook shall be thoroughly revised, and the Board recommend that the same course be adopted in regard to Cumbum and Markapoor. The detailed consideration of Mr. Minchin's proposal, will, therefore, be deferred until the orders of Government are received.

No. 25. ORDER THEREON, 3rd May 1865, No. 807.

Land Revenue.

The Director of Revenue Settlement is requested to state when the Patticondah Talook is likely to be completed.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. D. SIM,
Secretary to Government.

To the Officiating Director of Revenue Settlement.

Exd. T. O'Connor.

No. 2,057.

From R. A. DALYELL, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue,
To J. D. SIM, Esq., Secretary to Government, R. D.

SIR,

With reference to the Order of Government, dated 18th February 1865, No. 366, I am directed by the Board of Revenue to inquire whether it is the desire of Government that the whole of the present District of Kurnool should be surveyed and assessed by the special Department.

2. In their Proceedings, dated 10th January 1865, No. 120, the Board adverted to the obvious objections which exist to parts of the same District being settled on totally different calculations, and to the ill effects which might result if such an arrangement caused a depreciation in the value of the Irrigation Company's works.

In their Order dated 18th February 1865, No. 366, the Government were pleased to direct that the operations of the Settlement Department should be extended to the Taluk of Pattikonda, but no orders were passed relative to the Taluks of Cumbum and Markapoor.

4. It is true that these Taluks will not be affected by the works which the Irrigation Company are now engaged upon in the Kurnool District, but the Board deem it undesirable to leave them on a different footing to the other Taluks of the District.

5. The Taluk of Markapoor is in a most poverty-stricken condition, and that of Cumbum far behind the other Taluks of the District in material prosperity. The Collector ascribes the disadvantageous position of these two Taluks to the general poverty of the soil, and partially to the pressure of the assessment, especially in the case of the unirrigated lands, and to the number of rates in both irrigated and unirrigated lands. Mr. Minchin has accordingly submitted proposals to the Board for a partial revision of the assessment in both Taluks, and hence the present reference.

6. The proposals brought forward by Mr. Minchin involve a large reduction in the number of rates both for irrigated and unirrigated land. The proposed rates in the Cumbum Taluk, into three classes, are:—dry land, and from Rupees 3 to Annas 2 per acre for unirrigated land. In Markapoor, the rates are lower ranging from Rupees 8 to Rupee 1 per acre for wet land, and from Rupees 2 to Annas 2 per acre for dry land. The introduction of these rates would involve a loss of existing revenue of about Rupees 21,000 in Cumbum, and Rupees 18,000 in Markapoor, and the Collector does not anticipate any large increase of cultivation except in the case of the dry lands in Cumbum. The irrigated lands in both Taluks are, it is said, completely occupied at present rates, and the dry lands in Markapoor are so inferior as scarcely to be worth cultivating however low the rate of assessment might be.

7. It is worthy of consideration that Mr. Minchin's proposals will be applied to unsurveyed areas, and that, even if carried out, these Taluks would be placed in an inferior position to those which have been settled in the same District by the Settlement Department. They will be much in the same position as the Pattikonda Taluk, the assessment of which was revised in a somewhat similar manner when it was attached to the Bellary District. The Government have now decided that the assessment of the latter Taluk shall be thoroughly revised, and the Board recommend that the same course be adopted in regard to Cumbum and Markapoor. The detailed consideration of Mr. Minchin's proposal, will, therefore, be deferred until the orders of Government are received.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

R. A. Dalzell
Acting Secretary.

REVENUE BOARD OFFICE,
Madras,
24th April 1865.

To J. D. Sim, Esq., Secretary to Government, R. D.
R. E. Master, Esq., Officiating Director of Revenue Settlement.
Copy to J. I. Minchin, Esq., Collector of Kurnool.

Exd. J. Wright.

5-12-08

Rev. 1865.

Department

W. G. B. Smith

No. 1107.

From the Acting Secretary to the Board
Revenue,
To the Secretary to Government, R. D.

Dated 24th April 1865.

W. G. B. Smith

W. G. B. Smith

No. 2,037.

From the Acting Secretary to the Board
Revenue,
To the Secretary to Government, R. D.

Recommending that the assessment of the
Taluk of Cumbum and Markapur be revised
as well as that of Puttukonda.

W. G. B. Smith

W. G. B. Smith

21-25

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