

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 941

Press
~~Mis.~~

111-112

Dated 6-5-1865.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
6th May 1865.*

No. 111. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue:—

Forwarding Quinquennial Statements for
Fasli 1271, noticing at the same time
the results of each Statement as com-
pared with those submitted on the last
similar occasion. } (Here enter 28th Aug. 1863, No. 5,391.)

No. 112. ORDER THEREON, 6th May 1865, No. 941.

Miscellaneous.

Ordered to be recorded.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) C. G. MASTER,

Under Secretary to Government.

Exd. T. O'Connor.

No. 5,391.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 28th August 1863.

1. With reference to the opening paragraph of their Report to Government dated 4th February 1863, No. 706, on the Settlement and Collection of the Revenues of this Presidency for Fasli 1271, the Board resolve to forward to Government, with the following remarks, the Quinquennial Statements, as per margin, due in that year. The Returns have been prepared with much labor, and in some respects are still

defective from the difficulty the Board have found, notwithstanding frequent references, in obtaining the necessary information. The Board proceed to notice the results of each Statement as compared with those submitted on the last similar occasion.

2. Statement A shows the number of Villages and Hamlets in each District held under each tenure. The extent in square miles entered in column 2, shows the entire area of each District including Zemindaris not forming portions of Taluks. These latter were not included in the District Returns submitted on the former occasion; but as, in consequence of this omission, the area given in those Statements did not represent the entire extent of the Districts, the Board directed that the Returns should hereafter include these particulars, and that their own general abstract should be prepared accordingly. It is owing partly to this cause, and probably to the fact that in some cases the extent now shown is calculated from more recent and correct data, that the extent in the present Statement differs from the area in the similar Return for Fasli 1267. The figures in columns 19 and 20 of the Statement relating to villages and hamlets include these particulars for Zemindaris not forming part of Taluks, which accounts for the large increase in the Zemindary villages and hamlets shown in the present Return as compared with that for Fasli 1267. Considerable variation will also be found in some of the Districts, both in respect to the extent and the number of villages, in consequence of transfers from one District to another, when the new organization of Taluks was lately made.

3. Annexed is a Comparative Abstract showing the variations in the numbers of villages and hamlets of each description, according to the present Return, as compared with that last submitted. As the latter includes those Taluks of North Canara, which were transferred to Bombay, the particulars appertaining to them have been deducted, and the remainder alone is compared with the results of the present Statements:—

Items.	Fasli 1267, excluding the Taluks of North Canara transferred to Bombay.	Present Returns.	Increase.	Decrease.
Ryotwary villages... ..	24,981	30,800	5,819	...
Rented do.	5,942	465	...	5,477
Amany do.	74	63	...	11
Shrotriem and Inam villages ..	3,832	3,795	...	37
Moturpha do.	138	101	...	37
Bé Chiragh or uninhabited villages ...	29	145	116	...
Total.....	34,996	35,369	5,935	5,562
Zemindary villages.	16,567	19,252	2,685	...
Grand Total.....	51,563	54,621	8,620 Net 3,058	5,562
Total Hamlets.....	41,832	43,390	1,558	...

4. The number of Ryotwary villages, entered in the foregoing abstract, will be found to differ from that in Statement No. 1, which accompanied the Board's Settlement Report for Fasli 1271, as this latter includes the villages of North Canara transferred to Bombay. If these are deducted from the total in column 15 of Statement No. 1, the net result is 30,800 as shown in the margin. The increase in this number, as compared with Fasli 1267, occurs chiefly in the Ganjam, Godavery, Tanjore, and Tinnevelly Districts, in consequence of the joint-rent villages in the two former, and the Oloongoo rented villages in the two latter, which were formerly included under the head of Rents having been transferred in the present Statement to the more appropriate head of Ryotwary, in accordance with the course already followed in respect to these villages in the Board's Annual Statement No. 1. The same cause accounts for the decrease in the number of rented villages. The increase in the Zemindary villages has already been explained, and the fluctuations under the other heads do not call for notice.

5. The Statement B shows the particulars of the several descriptions of irrigation works in each District, and the fluctuations in the number of these, as compared with a similar Statement for Fasli 1267, are shown in the annexed abstract :—

Description of Works.	Fasli 1267, adjusted for the transferred Taluks of North Canara.	Present Returns.	Increase.	Decrease.
Tanks.	RS. 27,731	RS. 29,932	RS. 2,201	RS. ...
River channels.	11,206	11,161	...	45
Spring do.	8,060	6,933	...	1,127
Anicuts.	7,731	9,571	1,840	...
Wells, old.	2,38,070	2,20,686	...	17,384
Do. new.	48,019	85,729	37,710	...
Total...	3,40,817	3,64,012	41,751	18,556
		Net 23,195		
Works out of repair...	74,512	79,443	4,931	...

The increase in the number of Tanks and Anicuts is found chiefly in South Canara,* and the Collector observes that what are termed tanks in his District are small rain-fed ponds, the water in which is used for the cultivation of the 2nd and 3rd rice crops, and that the so-called anicuts are temporary bunds constructed by the Ryots across small rivers and streams. The inclusion of these petty works in the present Returns has probably caused the apparently large increase, but evidently such petty works ought not to have been entered into the Return.

The Board propose on the next occasion of these Returns falling due, to define more exactly the description of works that should be included in them.

Neither in Canara nor in Malabar are there any Government works of irrigation, and the abundant and never failing south-west monsoon renders the Ryots comparatively independent of such artificial means.

6. The wells are as usual classed as old and new. The increase in the number of new wells as compared with the last Return is satisfactory and is evidence that the Ryots are alive to the fact that the labour and capital expended in their construction are profitably invested because no longer liable to any additional tax. The principal cases of increase are entered in the margin. This large addition to the permanent works of the country is calculated both

North Arcot..	7,214
South Arcot..	5,843
Tanjore..	3,521
Trichinopoly..	10,209
Tinnevelly	2,306
Coimbatore..	1,484
Salem..	5,111

to avert in great measure the effects of bad seasons and to have a beneficial influence on the general wealth of the people, and the stability of the Government revenues.

7. Statement C contains the particulars of houses and population according to the present census. The Board issued detailed instructions as to the manner in which the census should be taken and, in order to attain greater accuracy, they directed that the same date, viz., the 1st May 1862, should be adopted for the purpose throughout the Presidency. Previous arrangements were for this purpose made by the Collectors, and with a few exceptions, the census in all the Districts was taken on the day fixed. The Board have reason to believe that every precaution was taken by the local officers to render the account as accurate and complete as possible, but they consider that considerable allowance must still be made for the ignorance and prejudice of the people, and for the general indifference felt on the subject. The Collector of South Arcot observes that it is hopeless to expect a really reliable census of our Indian rural population, unless some system of registry by a paid and special agency be adopted here as in European countries.

8. According to the present census, the total population of the Presidency, exclusive of the Town of Madras, is 23,606,468 souls, exceeding the last census taken in Fasli 1266 by 1,577,438, as seen from the following comparative abstract :—

Items.	Return of Fasli 1267, A. D. 1857-58, adjusted for transfer of North Canara.	Return of Fasli 1271, May 1862.	Increase.	Per centage.
1. Number of houses	4,526,698	5,314,161	7,87,463	17
2. Population exclusive of Town of Madras...	22,029,030	23,606,468	1,577,438	7
Hindoos	20,375,444	21,858,713	1,483,269	7
Mohamedans	1,333,340	1,379,330	45,990	3
Christians	320,246	368,425	48,179	15
Total...	22,029,030	23,606,468	1,577,438	7
Particulars.				
Male...	...	12,092,820	...	...
Female...	...	11,513,648	...	...
Total...	...	23,606,468	...	...
Agricultural...	...	16,840,061	...	...
Non-Agricultural	...	6,766,407	...	...
Add for Zemindaris in Vizagapatam and Tinnevelly, for which details of sex and race have not been furnished	...	600,041	...	...
Grand Total exclusive of Madras Town.	...	24,206,509	...	...
Estimated population of Madras Town.	720,000	450,000	...	...

9. Distributing the above population in the Provinces, viz., 23,606,468, among the total number of houses, 5,314,161, these results average a little less than $4\frac{1}{2}$ residents to each house. This result warrants the belief that the Returns were prepared with a considerable approach to accuracy.

10. In the Return furnished to Government for Fasli 1267, the population was not distinguished as "Agricultural" and "Non-agricultural;" but the Board consider that this information is very important and useful, and they have accordingly inserted it in the present Statement. Under the former head are included all persons who derive their subsistence in whole or in part from land, whether in the form of wages or rent. All others come under the latter head. The agricultural classes form 71 per cent of the whole population. The increase in this class cannot be stated, as the Return submitted to Government in Fasli 1267 does not show their number at that time.

11. The males are apparently more numerous than females, the former being to the latter as 105 to 100. This result, which is directly opposed to experience elsewhere, is probably due to the delicacy felt in this country by many classes as to any particular enquiries regarding the females of a family. The exceptional causes which exist in some parts of India for such a result, are unknown in this Presidency.

12. The population of the Town of Madras has been estimated on the authority of the late report in the Medical Department on the registered mortality at 450,000, the former estimate of 720,000 having been considered much above the mark.

13. The particulars of Farmers and Agricultural Stock are shown in Statement D, and the results of a comparison between it and the similar Return for Fasli 1267 are exhibited below:—

Items.	Return of Fasli 1267, adjusted for the transfer of North Canara.	Present Return.	Increase.	Decrease.	Per centage.
Ryots.					
Registered Ryots.....	1,505,703	1,753,136	2,47,433	...	16.43
Sub-tenants.....	576,844	1,092,523	5,15,679	...	89.39
Total.....	2,082,547	2,845,659	763,112	...	36.64
Puttahs.					
Single.....	1,577,809	1,853,716	2,75,907	...	17.48
Joint.....	209,484	267,637	58,153	...	27.76
Total.....	1,787,293	2,121,353	334,060	...	18.68
Ploughs.....	1,469,546	1,637,096	167,550	...	11.40
Cattle.					
Tilling Cattle.....	3,442,479	3,667,544	225,065	...	6.54
Cows.....	3,138,765	2,728,205	...	410,560	13.08
She Buffaloes.....	1,256,379	1,021,994	...	234,385	18.65
Sheep.....	6,092,899	5,850,564	...	242,335	3.97

14. The terms formerly used to designate farmers were "Mirasidars" and "Under-tenants," but in the present Return the Board have thought proper to substitute for them "Registered Ryots" and "Sub-tenants" as being more correct. The peculiar tenure known as "Mirasi" exists in only a few Districts, and elsewhere the term "Mirasidars" is not appropriate. The designation as now altered would include not only the so-called Mirasidars, but also those not so-called who yet possess an equally good right to the land which they hold. Sub-tenants, or those who hold land from Registered Ryots, form 38 per cent of the whole number of Ryots. Of the total increase in that number, 68 per cent is in the class of Sub-tenants, and the remaining 32 per cent is in that of Registered Ryots. The ratio of increase in the agricultural class of farmers,

which is so much larger than that in the general population, may be accepted as evidence that the liberal policy pursued by Government of late years, in regard to the taxation on the land, has increased the profits of agriculture, although recent high prices for produce have doubtless materially aided in raising profits.

15. The large falling off in Stock is matter for serious consideration. During the five years that have elapsed since the last Return was prepared, there has been much sickness among the cattle. This sickness, added to the general scarcity of pasture caused by the bad seasons, has produced an absolute decrease of 4.9 per cent in the total numbers. Had there been no increase in stock, there would have been reason for uneasiness. A positive and large decrease may, in an agricultural community, produce sensible distress and loss of revenue to Government. The stock of Tilling Cattle appears to have been replenished to some extent by purchase from distant markets.

16. Statement E is the Rent Roll or a classified List of Ryots and of the assessment payable by this class. In comparing this Statement with the similar one for Fasli 1267, the necessary adjustment on account of the transfer of part of North Canara cannot be made, as the former District Return is only an abstract, and does not contain the details of Taluks. The figures, as per Returns of Fasli 1267 in the following abstract, include, therefore, the whole of North Canara also, while, from the present Returns, the greater portion is excluded.

Items.	Returns of Fasli 1267 including North Canara.		Present Returns excluding North Canara.		Increase.		Decrease.	
	No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.	No.	Amt.
Ryots paying upwards of Rs. 1,000.	431	6,78,771	420	6,57,326	...	...	11	21,445
Do. do. from 500 to 1,000.	1,539	10,27,431	1,637	11,04,864	97	77,430	...	...
Do. do. " 250 to 500.	5,615	18,82,660	5,641	18,90,300	6	7,340	...	...
Do. do. " 100 to 250.	31,180	45,35,135	31,532	46,77,590	352	42,455	...	...
Do. do. " 50 to 100.	77,498	52,75,621	77,498	52,75,666	...	45	...	...
Do. do. " 30 to 50.	1,14,227	43,36,652	1,18,672	45,03,616	4,445	1,71,964	...	...
Do. do. " 10 to 30.	3,98,029	69,49,683	4,21,569	73,79,825	33,540	5,50,142	...	...
Do. do. under 10 Rupees.	10,08,022	26,35,322	11,97,157	43,37,695	1,89,135	7,02,172	...	...
Total single Puttahs.....	16,33,334	2,82,91,779	16,61,076	2,97,51,282	2,27,662	15,36,103	...	...
Do. joint do.	2,07,401	38,99,993	2,62,009	47,89,753	54,608	9,49,755	...	...
Grand Total....	18,40,735	320,61,777	21,61,304	3,45,41,035	2,82,270	24,79,858	...	...

17. It will be observed that there is an increase in every class, except the highest, or that comprising Ryots paying upwards of Rupees 1,000, in which there is a small decrease, and if the necessary adjustment on account of the transfer of North Canara could be made in the Return for Fasli 1267, the increase would certainly be much larger. Even as it stands at present, the result is gratifying as indicating the improving resources of the Ryots. Distributing the total assessment on the number of Puttah holders, there results an average of about Rupees 16 for each Puttah.

18. The last Statement F shows the particulars of the extent and assessment of the Ayacut in each District, and the proportion cultivated and waste in regard to both Government and Inam lands separately. It will be observed that some alteration has been made in the form of this Statement, chiefly in the addition of separate columns to show the changes in the Ayacut by the grant on the resumption of Inams since the survey. The insertion of these details in the Village Quinquennial Statement No. 21 having been sanctioned by Government in Extract

from Minutes of Consultation dated 28th February 1859, No. 256, the Board instructed the Collectors to furnish these particulars, which are entered accordingly in the Statement now submitted to Government.

19. The Board observe that the proportion of waste to cultivation is still very large in several Districts, notwithstanding that the latter has increased considerably during late years under the influence of high prices, and the stimulus given by a reduction of assessment were oppressive. The Board believe that owing to the present improved circumstances of the people, much of this waste will be gradually brought under cultivation,

Districts.	WASTE.		CULTIVATED.	
	Extent.	Assessment.	Extent.	Assessment.
	Acres.	Rupees.	Acres.	Rupees.
Nellore	5,45,976	10,17,597	5,25,218	12,27,776
Cuddapah	16,84,630	10,26,972	11,09,589	15,93,071
Bellary	27,21,932	11,84,278	22,76,785	19,66,919
Kurnool	12,23,325	4,53,979	10,84,761	13,79,639
Madras	5,73,160	12,24,093	3,26,275	11,28,833
North Arcot	4,14,912	8,06,004	5,72,508	16,40,124
South Arcot	9,12,754	15,46,357	10,12,347	30,10,793
Madura	6,96,741	9,32,732	6,03,505	12,00,563

(A true Extract.)

[Signature]
Secretary.

To J. D. Sim, Esq., Secretary to Government, R. D.

Copy to All Collectors.

26 Sept 1859
28 Feb 1859
30 April 1859
123-725
20/1/59
30-8-59
18-8-59

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

Dated 28th August 1863.

Despatched by *[Signature]*

Received *[Signature]*

No. 5,391.

No. 2133

1863 Department.

[Signature]

Forwarding Quinquennial Statements for Fall 1871, noticing at the same time the results of each Statement as compared with those submitted on the last similar occasion.

RECORDED.

8-944.