

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	1314	<u>Press</u> <u>Mis.</u>
Dated	1-6-	1886.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 52. Read the following letter from the Honorable C. PELLY, Member of the Board of Revenue, to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Fort Saint George, dated Madras, 15th January 1866, No. 1,886 :—

1. With reference to the Order of Government, under date 28th November last, No. 2,946, passed on my reports on the proposed Village Establishments, I would beg permission to make two observations which seem to be called for.

2. *First*, I am led to think from the remarks in paragraphs 4 and 5 of the Order, that the Government are under the impression that the proposed grouping of villages has been carried to an extent much greater than it really has been. It

is true that more than 30,000* villages, as at present existing, have been reduced in number by the process of grouping to 15,039. But if this grouping is analyzed,

* NOTE.—32,691 as shown in paragraph 15 of report, dated 30th May 1863; on this see Note below.

it will be found that a very large proportion of these villages consists of very small villages. Perhaps, as a *general* rule, villages with a revenue of less than 1,500 Rupees should not be ranked as separate revenue villages. But even taking a revenue of 1,000 Rupees as the model minimum, it will be found that more than nine-tenths of the villages which have been absorbed in other villages have a revenue of less than 1,000 Rupees. The following table will shew how very many have much smaller revenues :—

The total number of villages which have been added to a principal village is No. 15,145

Of these, the villages which have a revenue under 50 Rs.	2,066
above 50 and under 100 Rs.	1,331
above 100 and under 250 „	3,439
above 250 and under 500 „	3,783
above 500 and under 750 „	2,024
above 750 and under 1,000 „	1,129

Total of 1,000 Rupees and under ...	13,772 villages.
above 1,000 Rs. and under 1,500 Rs. ...	926
above 1,500 „ and under 2,000 „ ...	300
above 2,000 „ and under 3,000 „ ...	117
above 3,000 „ ...	30

Total above 1,000 Rupees... 1,373 villages.

Total number of villages combined with a principal village ... 15,145

Add number of principal villages of the above groups ... 7,680

Do. number of villages not grouped including large villages split into two or more villages ... 7,699

Total of existing villages... 30,524

NOTE.—The number of old villages here entered will be found to differ from that given in the abstract entered in the margin of paragraph 15 of my Report, dated 30th May 1863, by 2,167. This difference is owing to the Shrotriem, Mokassa, Survamaniem, &c., villages in Tanjore especially, having erroneously been included in the latter, and to large villages which have been split up in the revision having been exhibited in the returns recently received as separate villages, and to other causes.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
1st June 1866.*

3. As illustrative of the number of plots of ground designated villages in parts of the Presidency, I would give the following analysis of the 6,332 villages in Tanjore, as taken from a letter from the Collector of that District:—

Total villages	No.
Deduct Zemindary, Inam, and Mokassa villages	6,332
Remains Government villages	1,474
Of which—	4,858
Villages without any houses or habitations whatsoever...	No. 792
Villages which have each 1 house	75
2 houses	75
3 do.	65
4 do.	66
5 do.	83
6 to 10 houses	390
10 to 25 do.	934
25 to 50 do.	985
50 to 100 do.	809
above 100 do.	584

Total villages having any houses at all ... 4,066

Total Government villages with and without houses ... 4,858

4. The 4,066 villages which have a house at all are again thus classified with reference to the area of cultivation:—

Villages containing 5 Valies equivalent to 33 Acres and under	No. of villages.
Do. above 5 Valies up to 10 Valies = 33 Acres to 66 Acres	271
Do. above 10 do. 15 do. = 66 do. to 99 do.	540
Do. above 15 do. 20 do. = 99 do. to 132 do.	567
Do. above 20 do. 50 do. = 132 do. to 330 do.	459
Do. above 50 do. = 330 ...	1,514
	715

Total ... 4,066

5. The following table shews the size of the 15,039 new grouped villages as submitted in my scheme:—

Villages with a revenue under 250 Rupees	No.
Do. above 250 and under 600	88
Do. 600 1,000 "	564
Do. 1,000 1,500 "	2,164
Do. 1,500 2,000 "	1,547
Do. 2,000 3,000 "	2,317
Do. 3,000 4,000 "	2,224
Do. 4,000 5,000 "	806
Do. 5,000 6,000 "	3,305
Do. 6,000 7,000 "	4
Do. 7,000 9,000 "	535
Do. 9,000 10,000 "	374
Do. 10,000 ...	76
	34

15,039

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
1st June 1866.*

6. In paragraph 5 of the Order of Government under reply, it is observed with reference to the proposed grouping "that so sweeping a change was never contemplated by Government." But as pointed out in my general report, and in my several reports on each District, I think I may be permitted to say that the grouping of villages, for the most part to the extent proposed, was perfectly understood to be a necessary part of the scheme. And in any revision of the village Establishments it will be expedient, I imagine, to have recourse in a very considerable degree to the measure already proposed, and to group a very large number of those petty villages shewn by the foregoing analysis to be villages of such insignificance.

7. Secondly, in paragraph 9 of the Order, there is, I believe, an important misapprehension. The Government are under the impression that the value of the fees is included in my estimate (20,06,875 Rupees) of available assets. This is a mistake. I have only taken such fees as have been commuted into regular cash payments, and have purposely excluded all uncertain fees estimated at 7,33,794

DISTRICTS.	Rate of Cess necessary to meet the deficiency.		
	Rs.	A.	P.
Ganjam ...	3	15	0
Vizagapatam ...	1	12	0
Godavery ...	2	6	0
Kistna ...	3	8	0
Nellore ...	5	15	0
Cuddapah ...	1	15	0
Bellary ...	3	12	0
Kurnool ...	1	8	0
Madras ...	8	2	0
North Arcot ...	2	5	0
South Arcot ...	3	5	0
Tanjore ...	1	4	0
Trichinopoly ...	3	5	0
Madura ...	1	15	0
Tinnevely ...	0	9	0
Coimbatore ...	2	7	0
Salem ...	2	7	0
South Canara ...			
Malabar ...			

Total per cent... 2 7 0

Rupees, and in lieu of these have proposed a small fee cess varying according to the requirements of each District and averaging only Rupees 2-7-0 on the assessment, leaving a large margin in every District, but one, between this rate and the maximum (viz., 6½ per cent.) of the Village Service Cess, legalized by the Act. On this point I would beg to refer to the remarks submitted in paragraphs 27 to 31 of my letter of 30th May 1863. The total amount of fees and cash payments is shewn in column 3 of the statement attached to paragraph 28 of that report, and is ... Rs. 16,59,658 of which taken into my assets, (column 6) - ... 9,25,864 Amount not taken, and to be otherwise provided by cess. ,, 7,33,794

No. 53.

ORDER THEREON, 1st June 1866, No. 1,314.

Miscellaneous.

Ordered to be recorded.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. GROSE,

Under Secretary to Government.

To the Honorable C. Pelly
"The Board of Revenue"
Exd. S. T. Augustin.

1850 Oregon
Pro of fact for June
17-154

The Honorable C. Kelly
Member of the Board of Revenue

J. D. Am Esquire
Secretary to Government
P.D.
Fort Saint George

Dated }
 Dispatched 18th } 15th January 1866.

N: 1886

Making certain observations

on the order of Government dated
28th November 1865 No 2946 re-
garding the grouping of Villages
in the Districts of the Madras Presidency

1527-1314.

Recorded.

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[illegible]

No 52-53.