M.R.O. 14-5,450—22-10-25.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1346 Press ~~Mis.~~

Dated 1-6-1866.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 116. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 24th April 1866, No. 2,870 :—

Read the following letter from the Collector of Kurnool, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 22nd December 1865, No. 189.

1. In the Proceedings of Government, dated 30th June 1865, No. 1,490, paragraphs 9 and 10, I was directed to report on the working of the Revised Village Establishments, on the modifications, if any, which experience may dictate, and the limits within which it may be proper to apply the Act for levying a Cess in lieu of Fees. In the Order of Government, dated 10th October 1865, No. 1,443, the Government in reviewing a proposal of the Inspector General of Police, that the changes in village service carried out in this District should be abandoned as a failure, while disposed to view his recommendation favorably, deferred passing orders on the subject, until my opinion was before them, which I was desired to submit through the Board of Revenue. I have now the honor to reply to both these Orders.

2. As the Government have expressed themselves to be not unfavorably disposed towards the total reversal of the system organized in this District within the last five years, it becomes necessary for me to give a summary of the history of the changes effected, of the orders under which, and the mode in which it has been carried out, before reporting my opinion on the results.

3. In the Order of Government, dated 3rd September 1859, No. 1,187, a general reform of the Village Revenue Establishments was ordered, and the rules on which it was to be effected were laid down, the working out which in detail was placed in the hands of the Honorable Mr. Pelly.

4. The principles laid down for observance were, briefly, the appointment of one responsible Reddy and Curnum, with a sufficient number of Vettics for every village, in place of the then numerous existing office-holders. The fixing of a scale of remuneration for each office in accordance with the revenue of the village, which was to be obtained for the office-holder by making over to him sufficient of the Service Inâms of the village for the purpose, and leaving any surplus only in the hands of the body of Mirassidars to be enfranchised by the Inâm Commissioner; and finally, the clubbing together of small neighbouring villages under one set of officers, and dividing villages that might be too large to be administered by one Reddy and Curnum into two or more villages as might be found necessary.

5. The above principles were not put forth as suggestions to invite discussion; but the changes involved in them were laid down for immediate adoption, and the Honorable Mr. Pelly was appointed to the task of carrying them out.

6. On joining the District of Kurnool in May 1860, it was my duty to reply to Mr. Pelly's requisitions on this subject, and to give my fullest consideration to the mode in which the orders of the Government could be best obeyed.

7. It would be wearisome for me to repeat the details of the reports I then drew out. Suffice it to say, that, looking into the Returns, the existing state of things was found worse even than had been anticipated. Such was the sub-division of the Village Service Inâms, that out of a population of less than 6,40,000,

nearly 24,000 persons were sharers in those Ináms, and more than 17,000 professed to perform village duties. It was clear, therefore, that a change carried out in the mode prescribed by Government, of making over the whole Inam in the village required to make up the emolument fixed for the office, to the one office-holders would have deprived thousands of persons of what they had been allowed to consider their private property, and could not have been effected without causing wide-spread discontent.

8. The extent of Village Service Inám in the District was, however, very large, and it occurred to me, that by enfranchising it like ordinary Inám, casting the proceeds into a general fund, and supplementing the same with a cess to be levied in lieu of fees, a sufficient amount would be raised for the fit remuneration of the village servants, without that universal resumption of the Ináms which would result on carrying out the change in the mode prescribed in the Government Order.

9. With a slight modification as to the rate of enfranchisement, proposed by Mr. Taylor, then Inám Commissioner, the plan I advocated obtained the sanction of Government, and on this principle of enfranchising the Service Ináms, re-organization of the Village Revenue Service has since been based. It may be strictly legal to say that these lands were held solely on the condition of service, and that their enjoyment by parties not performing service was an abuse. The abuse was one dear to the native mind: the Service Inám was divided amongst all the members of the family, as certainly as any other hereditary property, and female coparceners held portions as their only means of livelihood, without being in any way bound by the service tenure.

10. In order that the simple enfranchisement of the Service Ináms should suffice, or nearly so, for the future village officer's remuneration, it became necessary to organize the new scheme with as much economy as might be consistent with efficient management, and as fixing the scale of salaries too low would have been ruinous to the latter, the only resource available was in a reduction of numbers, to be obtained by clubbing together villages in the manner proposed by the Government Order.

11. A Statement is appended shewing what would have been the cost of the Village Establishments, on the sanctioned scale of remuneration, if no such clubbing of the small villages had been carried out, and shews that a yearly saving of Rupees 32,568 was effected by the process. In fact, the cost of the Village Establishment would have been greater than shewn in the statement, if no small villages had been amalgamated, as it was absolutely necessary to divide several of the largest villages, (in a few cases one village being divided into five or six under the new arrangement,) and this would have added greatly to the expense of the establishment.

12. I may say that the introduction of a respectably paid village service, rendered the abolition of some of the smaller villages an absolute necessity. It was well enough for a Native Government to allot a little rent free land to any small community, desirous of setting up a village of their own, on hitherto uncultivated land, as remuneration for the village service, but it became out of the question to appoint paid servants, drawing Rupees 120 yearly on the lowest scale

to a so-called village, whose whole annual revenue might even be below that sum.

13. Mr. Robinson appears to be an enthusiast for the old village system. He styles the new distribution of villages, unions, more than hints at their illegality, and would do away with the changes effected with much thought and labor at a stroke, in order that his ideal Reddy, or head of a village, might in every hamlet have a personal control over the criminal class of the population, who under various names are supposed to transact the duties of a Village Police.

14. I am unaware by what subtle process of growth, is evolved that peculiar entity which Mr. Robinson may consider a legally constituted village. The villages as existing previous to the new arrangements were sometimes without houses or inhabitants, but merely a few fields cultivated by neighbouring Ryots: they were sometimes the fields, scattered over the country, which were held by certain Ryots living together in one community: they were sometimes a large territory, studded with hamlets, and separate houses. I cannot conceive in what way the Government is outstepping its dominant functions, in declaring that for the purposes of administration, an unwieldy territory shall be divided into so many communities, each with separate officers, or that a number of petty communities shall be united into one. If such a process be illegal, nothing can be more easy than to satisfy the punctilious scruples of the Inspector General of Police, by passing a Declaratory Act, to constitute the newly arranged villages in the Kurnool District, villages within the purview of Regulation IV. of 1816, and to give the Government power to make new villages out of existing hamlets whenever it may think proper.

15. I do not deny that to constitute every separate petty hamlet, a village with its own resident officers, would be advantageous for Police purposes; but the cost of such a measure renders it impossible, and the extent to which the clubbing up of villages should be carried out is a purely fiscal question. For the purposes of Revenue administration, the clubbing together of small villages is advantageous, as it provides one well-paid responsible Curnum in place of several whose pay is not sufficient for their subsistence, and this point should not be lost sight of in considering the grouping system.

16. In carrying out the re-organization of the village service in this District, I was no unreasoning enthusiast as to the advantages of the change of system. I knew well that the increased efficiency of Revenue administration would be counterbalanced by some disadvantages, but, as a servant of the Government, I considered it my duty to carry out the changes ordered, whatever might be my own opinion, proposing such modifications as would make them least unpalatable to the people.

17. The Government Order made no allusion to village Police service: knowing its intimate connection with the Revenue service, I wished for a comprehensive measure to comprise both, and while advocating that the head of the village should be purely honorary, I desired to appoint in every instance a second paid Reddy, to be in special charge of the Village Police. As it was determined that the heads of villages should be paid officers, there were no emoluments for the

appointment of Police Reddies, and thus one of the chief means to which I had looked for ensuring Village Police efficiency fell through.

18. The new organization of the village service after the most ample discussion and consideration, was sanctioned by Government in December 1861, and was carried out at the commencement of the ensuing Fusly, the 1st July 1862. The whole Village Revenue Service Ináms were enfranchised at the rate of ten Annas in the Rupee upon the assessment, the collection of fees by village servants was abolished, and one paid Reddy and Curnum, with a sufficient number of Vetties, were selected out of the servants then performing duty, and appointed according to a fixed scale of remuneration for each of the newly constituted villages. Within six months I was called upon to report on the working of the new system, and I beg to call particular attention to my letter, dated 17th January 1863, to the Honorable Mr. Pelly, which contains little with which, after an experience of three more years, I do not now agree. Except as regards the Curnums I would not advocate carrying out such changes in other Districts; as, with the exception of those servants, the advantages hardly counterbalance the opposition of native prejudice excited at first by the change. At the same time I most strongly deprecate a return to the old system in this District, where the change has been long carried out, where opposition has ceased, and where a recurrence to the former state of things, if possible, would in some respects be a marked retrogression, and be considered only the effect of weakness and vaccillation.

19. I will now remark in detail the effects of the new system on each class of village servant. With regard to the Reddies it is an hallucination on the part of the Inspector General to suppose that this office has in the slightest degree fallen into dis-esteem, or to believe that "the fine old Reddies of the Ceded Districts will "not long continue to hold a position which is distasteful and unnatural to them." Mr. Robinson is an idealogue, and naturally finds his facts to suit his theories. Captain Hearn is apparently of the same school, and must have looked at things through imaginative spectacles: I have made minute inquiries, and am unaware of a single instance in which a "Reddy, finding his increased duties and altered position distasteful, has resigned his post, which has been filled by outside Brahmins." I have inquired into the case of every Brahmin who holds the position of Reddy in the District. Most of these were the former holders of the villages, Agraharums; some were the hereditary Reddies of the village, despite their caste: in a few instances there were no hereditary Reddies, and one of the Curnum Mirassidars, a landholder in the village, was appointed. I have only found two cases in which outside Brahmins held the post, and have taken steps to rectify what I consider a very improper arrangement, if one hereditary Reddy be available in the village.

20. It must be remembered that these officers are not paid a monthly salary, but their yearly remuneration is deducted from their Puttah, so that, unless a person holds land paying assessment, it is impossible for him to receive the pay of his services. Besides its other advantages, this system precludes the possibility of appointing Cutcherry Brahmins to the office, and I trust will prevent that retrogression in this respect, which Mr. Robinson considers inevitable, "under the temptations of patronage, and the force of circumstances, and which he cannot, therefore, contemplate without the deepest misgiving."

21. As a fact evident to every one who has no theories to support or overthrow, the post of Reddy is eagerly sought after, and I regret to say, the salary, in the shape of the yearly deduction from the Puttah, is one of its strongest attractions, as a general rule, though of course not universally. I was always an advocate for making the post of Village Magistrate purely honorary, but I must acknowledge that had my views been adopted, there would have been frequent difficulty in filling up the post for which there are now always rival candidates. The objection too often urged, is that the remuneration should be larger; but while a Reddy will sometimes talk of its being a degradation to be paid less than his own Vetties, he never objects to the deduction of that pittance from his Puttah, but only wishes it were larger in amount.

22. Mr. Robinson mourns feelingly over the hundreds of influential Ryots, who valued their hereditary position as Reddy of their village, set aside under the new system. He seems to suppose that all of these were by law heads of villages, and have been unjustly and illegally cast down from that position. *By law*, there never could be more than one head of a village; *in fact*, until the new organization was carried out, every male adult in the Reddy's family acted as head, and probably does so to the present day to a certain extent, though one man is alone acknowledged as the appointed Reddy, endued with authority, and paid for his services.

23. Mr. Robinson, who finds everything black under the new system, states that the pay of the new stipendiary Reddy is not sufficient to retain the services of really good and respectable men. I have only to remark that the most respectable of the former Reddies do hold this position, and that they are identically the same men for whom, as the fine old Reddies of the Ceded Districts, Mr. Robinson professes to feel such admiration. Their translation to what he calls a union, has apparently destroyed all claims to his sympathy.

24. It is not to be denied that natives have strong local prejudices, and the clubbing up of villages was not a popular measure, in the small hamlets which have been absorbed. In the Police point of view, from which Mr. Robinson naturally regards it, the want of a resident Reddy in the smaller hamlets is a loss, but he should remember that the new organization has, on the other hand, divided several of the former over large villages, and given him a resident head in several hamlets which were before without such an officer. Perhaps Mr. Robinson may consider that these men are not legally constituted heads of villages, and have not, consequently, the respect of their fellow villagers; they are, however, members of the hereditary family, and differ in no way from other Reddies under the old or new organization.

25. In the four Talooks of Kurnool proper, and Koilkoontla, the system of clubbing up small villages was hardly at all necessary, as in those Talooks few small villages existed: in Puttikonda, Cumbum, and Markapoor, through the exigencies of economy, the system may have been carried too far, and my doubt is whether the operation of the Cess Act, I fear rendered nugatory by the insertion of a clause localizing the expenditure of the funds raised by it, can afford any remedy.

26. If the amount of cess realized in a Talook, might under that Act be expended on the village service throughout the Talook, there would be ample funds at once available for appointing a sufficient number of additional heads of villages, to remedy the chief defect in the new organization. If the expenditure must be strictly localized, this improvement is impossible for want of funds.

27. With regard to Curnums, I believe there is a unanimity of opinion that the new system has worked advantageously. The Curnums of this District are low in the scale of intelligence and education compared with most others; but a marked improvement is noticeable in their work, since responsibility has been thrown upon one decently paid public servant. The change has been carried out at a time when there was a great press of work, owing to the Inâm inquiry, the Survey, and the Settlement being all in progress. The pressure thrown upon the single Curnum of the village has been great, but the new system has satisfactorily borne this trying test, which has proved that one decently paid public servant is better than half a dozen hardly paid at all, who had to extort a subsistence by intrigues or combination.

28. The office is of course considered strictly hereditary, so long as there is *one* Mirassidar qualified to perform the duties. Only in the case of there being no qualified Mirassidar is the appointment given to an outsider, who is always some non-appointed Curnum of a neighbouring village.

29. There are a few very large villages in the District, where after full experience I am convinced that the services of an Assistant Curnum are necessary, as the work is quite beyond the scope of one man, however efficient, and the pay inadequate to enable him to provide a Gumashta. Appended is a Statement shewing the extent, population, and revenue of the several villages, for which I beg to recommend that an Assistant Curnum on Rupees 8 per mensem be appointed.

30. With regard to the remaining class of village servants, the Vetties, experience has proved that the pay originally fixed, Rupees 3 per mensem, is inadequate remuneration. At the present prices of the necessaries of life in Kurnool, such a sum does not provide a subsistence, and is certainly not half what any able-bodied man can obtain as wages for ordinary labor. Under such circumstances it is surprising that there has not been more difficulty in keeping up the establishment, but fortunately the men of this class will work in their own homes for a mere pittance, and there has yet been no absolute failure in filling up vacancies out of the Taliary class. Like all other village service these appointments are considered strictly confined to the hereditary families; but in some instances of refusal to accept the post by any properly qualified Mirassidar, it has been necessary to appoint former Revenue Peons, reduced on the revision of the establishment.

31. No outsider would ever be permitted to hold the place, if one hereditary claimant be available.

32. Now that the Act for levying a Cess, in lieu of Village Service Fees, can be introduced, I propose that the pay of Vetties should be raised to Rupees 4 per mensem. The clause which compels the expenditure of the cess in the villages in which it is collected, while fatal to the general utility of the Act, does not prevent this increase to be granted in the Vetties' pay, as in every village the collections should suffice at least for this purpose.

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

33. In reading the former correspondence, it will be seen that I always calculated on the levy of a cess, to supplement the receipts from quit-rent on enfranchised Inâms, as part of the assets of the Village Service Fund. The introduction, however, into the Act of the clause localizing the expenditure in the villages in which the cess is raised, has in a great measure rendered it nugatory, and I have not, therefore, yet applied for its application to this District.

34. In the revised settlement now being introduced, the village cess is included in the assessment, and will be collected with the ordinary revenues, unperceived by the Ryots. To bind down the expenditure of the sum thus raised, to the village in which it is collected, is a needless complication of the accounts, and renders it impossible to utilize in the best manner the legitimate assets of the Village Service Fund.

35. It appears to me perfectly legitimate, without any formal application of the Act to this District, to await the gradual introduction of the new Settlement, and to credit the Village Service Fund in general with that per-centage of the Land Revenue, which has been included in it on account of a Village Service Cess, under the revised assessment. In accordance, however, with the instructions contained in paragraph 9 of the Government Order, dated 30th January, I beg to forward a list of the villages in which the revised assessment has been introduced in the current Fusly. The payment of fees has entirely ceased throughout the District except to the Village Police.

36. The first thing to which I would apply these additional funds, would be to increase the pay of the Vetties from Rupees 3 to Rupees 4 per mensem in each village, on the introduction of the revised assessment.

37. As further funds become available, I would employ them in appointing additional Reddies in those villages where, for the convenience of the people, on account of Police purposes, such might be found advisable. The present system of a stipendiary village service, inaugurated three years ago, is of course not perfect, and must admit of much improvement in detail. The additional funds provided by the Village Cess, included in the revised assessment, will admit of such improvements being gradually introduced, and it should be the duty of the Collector to review yearly the Village Service Fund, and to report for the sanction of Government such improvements of organization as the assets will allow of being carried out.

38. I beg to forward a Statement shewing the receipts and expenditure of the Village Revenue Service Fund for the last Fusly; without any receipts on account of cess, the collection of quit-rent alone has more than paid the whole village Establishment, leaving on hand a safe margin of Rupees 20,524. I can, therefore, safely recommend that the employment of the Assistant Curnums, proposed in paragraph 29 of this report should be at once sanctioned, as the fund will bear this additional expense.

39. I trust that the Government will see no reason to alter a system which has now been organized for nearly four years. Whether the introduction of such changes elsewhere be advisable is entirely beside the question. The change has been carried out, and the new system is working most efficiently as a village Revenue Service. The Village Police is bad, but it has not been changed, and is pro-

bably no v[illegible] than it always has been. In my opinion it could be improved by putting it [illegible] stipendiary footing. It is idle to suppose that a Reddy in every hamlet [illegible] get efficient work out of the totally unremunerated Police Taliaries of the Cu[illegible] and Markapoor Talooks. Without further discussing this question, I can only [illegible] precate most earnestly the adoption of the retrograde policy suggested by the Inspector General of Police. I beg also to state that the Revenue Service Inâms *have been* enfranchised, and have constantly been made the subject of gift, and sale, and considered for upwards of three years as private property. Their resumption now as Service Inâms is impossible, and this alone prevents the possibility of a return to the old system.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

ABSTRACT.—Statement shewing the classes of the village servants, the amount of quit-rent, &c., for Fusly 1274.

1. Ordered that the foregoing paper be submitted to Government, with reference to their Orders, dated 30th June 1865, No. 1,490, Revenue Department, and 10th October 1865, No. 1,443, Judicial Department.

2. In the latter Order the Government observed that the Inspector General of Police had recommended to Government that the change carried out in Kurnool in the Village Establishments should be abandoned as a failure, and that the village service generally should be re-placed on its old footing; the quit-rent charged on the enfranchised Inâms being relinquished, and the condition of service re-imposed; the grouping of villages or "union" as Mr. Robinson styled it, being abolished as a failure; and the Collector was desired to submit his opinion on this proposal.

3. Mr. Minchin (see paragraphs 18 and 39 of his letter) most strongly deprecates a return to the old system in Kurnool, and trusts that Government will see no reason to alter the system which has now been organized for four years, and is working most efficiently as a Village Revenue Service. The Village Police, which has not been touched in the revision of the Village Establishments, is admitted to be bad, and could, in Mr. Minchin's opinion, be improved by putting it on a stipendiary footing.

4. Mr. Minchin in paragraphs 1 to 18 gives a short history of the causes which led to the adoption of the revised Revenue Village Establishments; but it is unnecessary for the Board to review this portion of his letter, as the subject has been repeatedly before Government in their Proceedings noted in the margin. It will suffice to draw attention to what the Collector says on the component parts of the new system :—

Order of Government, dated	22nd	March	1861, No.	673
,, ,,	26th	April	,, ,,	969
,, ,,	18th	May	,, ,,	1,018
,, ,,	15th	,,	,, ,,	1,054
,, ,,	19th	Nov.	,, ,,	2,180
,, ,,	25th	June	,, ,,	1,398

1. The grouping of villages.
2. The office of Reddy or Potel.
3. Do. of Curnum.
4. Do. of Vettyan.

5. While admitting (paragraph 24) that the clubbing up of villages was not a popular measure, and that in the Police point of view, the want of a resident Reddy

in the smaller hamlets is a loss, yet, for the purposes of Revenue administration Mr. Minchin is clearly of opinion (paragraph 15) that the clubbing is advantageous, as it provides a well-paid responsible Curnum in place of several whose pay is not sufficient for their subsistence. He would remedy what he considers the chief defect in the new system (paragraph 26), if funds are available, by appointing a sufficient number of additional heads of villages; in other words (as the Board have ascertained to be his meaning) by increasing the number of villages with complete establishments where the necessities of the Revenue or Police Departments seem to require the addition. It may be useful here to shew the actual extent to which the grouping has been carried out in Kurnool—

	Villages.
The number of former villages was	1,112
The number as at present is	713
Of which the number not grouped including also large villages split into two or more	438
Number which contain grouped villages	275
To which 275 principal villages, were added small villages	456

The size of added villages was as follows :—

			No.
Under	50	Rupees revenue	60
,,	100	,, ...	26
,,	250	,, ...	120
,,	500	,, ...	168
,,	750	,, ...	65
,,	1,000	,, ...	13
Above	1,000	,, ...	4
			456

6. REDDIES OR HEADMEN.—The Board have already drawn attention to the opinion expressed by the Collector that it would, in some of the villages, be desirable, for the purposes of Police, to have more than one Reddy. They understand that Mr. Minchin's original plan was to make the post of Head of the Village purely honorary, and in every instance to appoint a second paid Reddy to be in special charge of the Village Police. This plan was not adopted, and Mr. Minchin now acknowledges (paragraph 21) that had it been, there would have been difficulties in filling up the posts of the honorary incumbent. Mr. Minchin (paragraphs 19 to 24) shews that the office has not (as supposed by Mr. Robinson) fallen into dis-esteem, but that, on the contrary, it is eagerly sought after and is filled by the most respectable of the former men who held office before the change of system was carried out, and that the change of system has not, and will not, necessarily lead to any change in the appointment of the old hereditary Mirassidars to the office, who are remunerated by an annual deduction in their Puttah, a mode of remuneration which the Collector approves. The evils anticipated by the Inspector General of Police in

respect to the Reddies of Kurnool, have not followed from the change. The Board agree, however, with the Collector that if funds are available, it will be desirable to increase the number of Reddies giving the additional men distinct territorial charges, Revenue and Police.

7. With regard to the Curnum, Mr. Minchin (paragraphs 27 to 29) speaks most unhesitatingly of the success of the new measure. Notwithstanding the disadvantageous circumstances at the time when the new system was introduced, and the great pressure thrown upon the single Curnum owing to the operations of the Inám Commission, the Survey, and the Settlement, all at the same time demanding this officer's attention, it has satisfactorily borne the trying test, and has proved that one decently paid public servant is better than half a dozen hardly paid at all, who had to extort a subsistence by intrigues and combination. Mr. Minchin, however, points out that there are a few, and he has submitted a list of three very large villages in which the services of an Assistant Curnum are necessary, as the work is quite beyond the scope of one man however efficient, and the pay inadequate to enable him to provide a Gumashta; and he accordingly recommends the employment of an additional Assistant Curnum on 8 Rupees a month, or 96 Rupees per year, in each of these three villages, which are :—

	Area.	Population.	Revenue.	Annual pay of Curnum.
	Acres.	No.	Rupees.	Rupees.
Maddikerra	22,262	5,012	16,174	180
Nundial...	9,693	8,219	14,437	180
Paniam	11,866	2,728	9,570	180

8. It was a standing rule of the Revision, that "there shall never be more "than one officer of each class (Potel, "Curnum, and Shroff,) in a village; but in "the rare cases, in which the duties shall "be too much for one person, the office-"bearer shall engage the necessary assistance on his own responsibility." The Board learn from Mr. Pelly, that in large villages the pay was accordingly increased to such an amount as would enable the Curnum to provide himself with such assistance as he needed, leaving the selection of his assistant to himself. The Board see no sufficient reason for departing from this principle in the new village system, but if, in a few exceptional cases, it has been found that the remuneration allowed has been fixed too low, it can be increased, and in the two first villages on the list the Curnum may be allowed 240 Rupees per annum on the understanding that his own pay is only 144 Rupees, and that he gives 96 Rupees to the assistant, who should in that case be appointed by, and on the responsibility of the Curnum, subject to the approval of the Collector, and be duly registered as Assistant Curnum. In the third village, Paniam, the necessity for an increase is not so apparent. But as the Collector strongly recommends it, the Board would allow 204 Rupees as the full amount, giving 144 only to the principal, and 60 to the assistant.

Proceedings of Government, Revenue Department, dated 3rd September 1859, No. 1,187 paragraph 5, Rule 4.

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

9. As regards the lower class of village servants called Vettyans (paragraphs 30 to 32), the Collector remarks that the office is occupied exclusively by the hereditary Mirassidars, except in a few instances where refusal to accept the post by properly qualified men has made it necessary to appoint other men. Mr. Minchin proposes no change, but he would wish to increase the pay of the office from three Rupees per month, the rate fixed for Vettyans, to four Rupees a month. This proposition will require further consideration by and bye. Three Rupees a month for this class of village servants is considerably more than they were accustomed to get, but the great demand for labor in the District, and the high rate of wages that can be obtained at present, may possibly, if these causes continue to spread, make it necessary to increase the remuneration of these servants; but as the Collector observes, men of this class will work in their own homes for a mere pittance, and as there has been no absolute failure in filling up the vacancies, the Board are not prepared at present to recommend an increase above the sanctioned rate.

10. As a Village Revenue Service the new system is thus reported to be working "most efficiently." And under these circumstances, the Board are not disposed to advocate a return to the former system even were there not the additional difficulty in the Kurnool District resulting from the fact adduced by Mr. Minchin, that the Revenue Service Ináms have been all enfranchised, and have constantly passed into other hands, and that their resumption now as Service Ináms is impossible.

11. As to the expediency of extending the experiment to any other District, the testimony borne by Mr. Minchin of the results of the measure in Kurnool is valuable. He says (paragraph 18) "except as regards the Curnums, I would not "advocate carrying out such changes in other Districts, as, with the exception of "those servants, the advantages hardly counterbalance the opposition of native "prejudice excited at first by the change." An improvement of no small importance has at least been effected in the administration of Kurnool by the revision, viz., that alluded to by Mr. Minchin in paragraph 7 of his letter. The service emoluments which were frittered away among 24,000 sharers have in great measure been restored to their legitimate purposes, and a host of 17,000 needy persons, who professed to perform village duties, have been got rid of, and their place supplied by a small body of better remunerated men.

12. But the scheme as a Village Service is defective in the Police Department The Village Police remains as it always was, (paragraph 39) bad. The Police Taliaries are inadequately, and in some places not at all, remunerated for the services they are expected to render. The revision of the Police was no part of Mr. Pelly's special duty. The Inspector General had not then determined on the course he intended to pursue with respect to this important branch of the village service, and to the present day it remains apparently on its old footing, paid by the service Ináms and fees. Mr. Minchin is of opinion (paragraph 39) that it could be improved by putting it on a stipendiary footing, though three years ago in a letter to Mr. Pelly, he expressed himself "doubtful whether a small stipendiary constabulary would work so satisfactorily

Letter to Mr. Pelly, 17th January 1863, paragraphs 16 and 17.

"as the far larger body of men who now perform the duty in return for the enjoy-
"ment of their Inàms and customary fees;" and he pointed out that "native feeling
"was particularly adverse to any change in the Village Police system."

13. There cannot be a question that the Village Police needs considerable amendments. The Government in the correspondence now before them, contained in the Proceedings, Judicial Department, dated 10th October 1865, have Mr. Minchin's scheme for placing the Village Police on a more efficient footing, with Mr. Robinson's objections to that proposition, and Mr. Minchin's reply now submitted with these Proceedings of the Board. On the decision of Government must depend the future consideration of the whole Village Service in Kurnool.

14. It will be only necessary for the Board to remark, that there, apparently, are sufficient funds available for correcting both the defects in the Revenue portion of the Village Establishment, and also for giving an adequate remuneration to the Police Taliaries on Mr. Minchin's plan. The existing establishmentof Reddies, Curnums, and Vettyans, costs Rupees 1,52,634, and this sum is provided from the fund derived from the enfranchisement of the Revenue Service Inàms alone, and there is a surplus of 20,524 Rupees from this fund.

Collector's letter, 2nd May 1864, No. 21, and Memorandum therein, paragraph 20, and Statement B.

The Police Inàms would produce a sum of about 74,738 Rupees.

Proceedings of Government, 19th November 1861, No. 2, 180.
Mr. Pelly's letter to Government, dated 19th June 1861, No. 913, paragraph 13.

The Fee Cess for the whole District, including the portion entered in the land assessment of the newly settled four Talooks, may be estimated to produce, at six and a quarter per cent. on the land assessment, about 1,14,875 Rupees. So much of this amount as has been collected under the revised assessment in the four Talooks into which the new assessment has been introduced, should of course at once be credited to the Village Service Fund. The Board are somewhat surprised to perceive, from paragraph 35 of Mr. Minchin's letter, that this has not yet been done. Thus the whole annual amount of assets still available for improving the Revenue and Police Establishments would be—

	Rs.
Revenue Inàms fund surplus	20,500
Police Inàm fund	74,700
Fee Cess	1,14,800
	2,10,000

Memorandum in Collector's letter, 2nd May 1864, paragraph 24.

The Collector estimates that a lac of Rupees would suffice for the Village Police. The assets as given above would have to be verified by the Collector, but apparently there are ample funds for putting both Revenue and Police Village Establishments on a thoroughly efficient footing.

15. There is one point, however, which requires to be yet noticed by the Board. It is the questioned legality of utilizing the cess imposed in lieu of fees, and the legality of the measure already carried out of grouping the villages and enfranchising the Service Inàms. It has been objected that the cess in lieu of fees can be levied only under Madras Act IV. of 1864, and must be applied to the remuneration of village servants employed in the village in which the cess is collected and that, therefore, the fund created by the levy of this cess cannot be generally, used for village services, and consequently that its utility is greatly circumscribed. The Board, however, while admitting that only under the Act could the customary grain fees be abolished, and a money cess and cash payment substituted for them, still observe that the wording of Section 5, Act IV. of 1864, allows the cess levied "to be applied towards the remuneration of the village servants employed on "Revenue and Police duties in the village, or group of villages, or township in which "the cess is raised." The Board are not aware what meaning was intended to be attached to the phrase, "group of villages or townships," but it is evident that the language of the Act does not "bind down the expenditure of the sums raised to the "village in which it is collected" as objected by Mr. Minchin.

16. But the legality of enfranchising the Inàms and grouping the villages has also been questioned. Although it may be questioned whether the prohibition in Section 2, Regulation VI. of 1831, against alienating the emoluments derived from lands, &c., would prevent the Government from resuming and re-appropriating for similar purposes these emoluments, the intention of the Regulation being perhaps rather to prohibit the holders of the offices from making any transfer of these emoluments; still in the Cess Act, alluded to above, it has been deemed expedient, (while legalizing the imposition of a cess in lieu of fees, and enacting that fees shall cease,) to anticipate any objection that might arise from Regulation VI. of 1831, and insert the precautionary words, "any provision or declaration in Regulation "VI. of 1831, to the contrary notwithstanding," in Section 1 of the Cess Act.

17. The Service Inàms in Kurnool have in fact, however, been enfranchised, and have, it seems, been actually transferred by the holders. This has been done with the knowledge of Government, though the Regulation in question opposes a legal obstacle to these transfers by the holders; and to give the sanction of law to these transactions, a Bill is now before the Legislative Council, the provisions of which probably provide all that it is necessary to enact for giving legal power also to the Government to deal with the Service Inàms as they have done in Kurnool. The consideration of this Bill in the Council has been deferred pending the decision of Government on the question now before them.

Bill No. 6, of 1865.

18. The Board recommend that the Act IV. of 1864, the Village Cess Act, be declared operative in Kurnool, and they also recommend that the Collector be instructed to ascertain carefully what amount of available assets he can command, and to submit in detail his scheme for the improvement of the Village Police, and where most required for the other village servants. In doing this he should be at liberty, if he thinks it expedient in any case, to modify the existing groups of village, and to provide an entire separate establishment for the new village so con-

stituted. The annexed Memorandum shews the comparative size, in a revenue aspect, of all the villages as they now stand :—

Revenue.		Number of villages of each class.
Villages under 1,000	Rupees	184
From 1,000 to 1,500	,, ...	170
Do. 1,500 to 2,000	,, ...	105
Do. 2,000 to 3,000	,, ...	151
Do. 3,000 to 4,000	,, ...	54
Do. 4,000 to 5,000	,, ...	26
Do. 5,000 to 6,000	,, ...	9
Do. 6,000 to 7,000	,, ...	8
Do. 7,000 to 8,000	,, ...	1
Do. 8,000 to 9,000	,, ...	1
Above 9,000	,, ...	4
	Total ..	713

No. 117. ORDER THEREON, 1st June 1866, No. 1,346.

Miscellaneous.

1. These papers relate to the Village Establishments of Kurnool.

2. In 1859 the Government ordered the revision of all the Revenue Establishments of the Presidency, including the Village Establishments.

3. The revision of the Village *Revenue* Establishments of Kurnool was carried out in July 1862, under the express orders of Government, the Village *Police* Establishments being left to be dealt with by the Inspector General of Police.

4. In May 1864 the Collector, Mr. Minchin, addressed Government on the unsatisfactory state of the Village Police of Kurnool, and urged its reformation on the same principles as had been applied to the Revenue Establishment.

5. The Inspector General of Police, Mr. Robinson, urgently remonstrated against this step, and recommended that all the measures adopted in regard to the Revenue Establishments should be cancelled.

6. The Government referred the subject to Mr. Minchin and the Board of Revenue for report, and the replies to this reference are recorded above.

7. The subject is naturally one on which much difference of opinion may be expected, but there can be no reasonable doubt that the two leading principles of the reform carried out, viz., the employment of no more village servants than the village service requires, and the payment of fair wages to these, are correct. Mr. Minchin states that in Kurnool more than 17,000 persons professed to perform village duties, and that the average pay of the Taliaries in one Talook is still but Rupees 3 per annum. It is obvious that the State can neither afford to retain so many persons on adequate wages, nor, equitably, render their maintenance obligatory on the people, and equally obvious that nothing deserving of the name of "service" can be expected for such a pittance as a very large proportion of the servants now receive.

8. The measures taken to provide funds for the proposed reform in Kurnool comprised the enfranchisement of the Ináms ; the substitution of a cess in lieu of fees; and the grouping together of villages.

9. The first measure was forced on Government by the minute sub-division of the Ináms in Kurnool. Mr. Minchin states that these were partitioned among nearly 24,000 persons : so that any other plan would have involved the dispossession, wholly or partially, of nearly 20,000 persons from lands, which, however improperly, had come to be regarded in much the same light as private, heritable, and transferrible property. The enfranchisement of the Ináms under such circumstances was both necessary and judicious ; so far as the State is concerned, it supplied funds nearly sufficient for the re-organization of the establishments ; and so far as the Inámdars are concerned, it involved no disturbance of possession, and substituted valid for insecure titles.

10. The substitution of a cess for fees was necessitated by the increasing difficulty which the village officers notoriously experienced in levying their dues from influential ryots; the opening for oppression towards the poorer ryots, which the system afforded; the extraordinarily miscellaneous character of the fees; and the inexpediency of rendering public officers dependent for their remuneration on those with whom the proper discharge of their duties might bring them into collision.

11. The grouping of villages was necessary, as a measure of economy, and within due limits is proper enough. It would be quite out of the power of the State to keep up suitable establishments at every so-called village, seeing that in Tanjore (for instance) there are hundreds which do not contain a single house, and many in every District which yield less revenue than would properly pay a single policeman. On the other hand, the grouping must not be carried too far ; but this is a matter of detail, within the easy control of the Government.

12. The Government are satisfied that these principles are sound, and contain the elements of success.

13. The decadence of the village municipalities cannot be attributed to the measures taken for the revision of the village establishments. It commenced before those measures were adopted: has been gradual; and is, in reality, to be ascribed to the altered state of society; the increasing wealth, intelligence, and independence of the people; changes in the system of revenue administration, and the enforcement of law and order. It was not to be expected that these primitive institutions should alone remain unchanged as society progressed.

14. In Kurnool, the measures adopted cannot now be reversed. The Ináms have been enfranchised, the fees have been abolished, and the Government can neither disenfranchise the former nor re-impose the latter. The Collector reports that the new system, so far as it has been carried out, has been fairly successful, and merely requires certain improvements in its details, for which means are available.

15. Prior to the re-organization there were 1,112 villages in the District, the present number is 713, as 456 have been absorbed into the new "groups." Mr. Minchin is evidently apprehensive that the grouping may have been carried too far, and taking police as well as revenue requirements into consideration, the Government are of opinion that the number of villages should be increased. The 456 absorbed villages comprise 250, the revenue of each of which is above Rupees 250, and generally a Moonsiff might be attached to each of these, as well as to any of the remaining 206, which from locality, populousness, or any other special circumstance, may require to be exceptionally dealt with. The expense of this

measure, viz., 7,500 or 8,000 Rupees per annum, can be met from the surplus of the enfranchised Inâms, which amounts to Rupees 20,500. The Government do not see that there is any necessity, as a general rule, for attaching Curnums and Vetties to these villages; the object of having a Moonsiff is only to have a representative of the Government resident in the village.

16. Mr. Minchin wishes a slight addition to some of the villages for Assistant Curnums. This is permitted, on the understanding that these Assistants are not, merely as such, to succeed to the Curnumships when vacancies occur.

17. Mr. Minchin wishes to raise the pay of the Vetties from 3 to 4 Rupees per mensem. The Board would reserve the question for future consideration. The measure will cost Rupees 20,988 per annum. The Government consider the present rate of pay too small, and, as without fair pay good service is not to be expected, they sanction the proposed increase.

	Rs.
Present cost...	1,52,634
Moonsiffs, about	8,000
Curnums do.	500
Vetties do.	20,988
	1,82,122

18. The total cost of the Village *Revenue* Establishments, as now revised, amounts to Rupees 1,52,634 per annum. The additions now proposed will raise it to Rupees 1,85,000 in round numbers, or within 10,000 Rupees of the annual proceeds of the Inâm enfranchisements, which yield Rupees 1,75,631.

19. The Village Police, however, have to be provided for.

20. Mr. Minchin states that their Inâms will yield Rupees 74,700 per annum when enfranchised, and the Board estimate the proceeds of the cess, if introduced at 6¼ per cent., at 1,14,800 Rupees. The aggregate of these sums is Rs. 1,89,500. But supposing that even so many as 3,000 Taliaries are required, the pay of these at 48 Rupees per annum would be Rupees 1,44,000, so that only Rupees 1,54,000 would be needed for Taliaries and Vetties combined, instead of Rupees 1,89,500, the estimated assets. Calculating on the Board's data, a 5 per cent. cess would yield ample, and this is the rate adopted in the revised assessment.

21. The Board raise three questions in paragraphs 15, 16, 17, and 18 of their Proceedings.

22. In paragraph 15, the Board discuss the meaning of Section 5 of Act IV. of 1864. The Board consider that though the phrase "group of villages or townships" is not defined, the language of the Act "does not bind down the expenditure of the sums raised to the village in which it is collected," as supposed by Mr. Minchin. The term "group of villages" clearly was intended to mean the union of villages, (as proposed in these revisions,) hitherto having a separate existence, but now united or grouped together for administrative reasons under one set of village officers. But the fund provided in Kurnool by the enfranchisement of the Service Inâms, affords Government the means of meeting the difficulties which Mr. Minchin anticipates from the restrictive operation of this Section. This fund may be employed in supplementing the cess in those villages in which the receipts from the latter source may be insufficient; in other words, the cess will be taken advantage of, so far as it goes, and the balance made good from the enfranchisement fund.

23. In paragraphs 16 and 17, the Board discuss the question of the legality of the Inâm enfranchisements and grouping of villages, with reference to Regulation VI. of 1831. This law clearly relates only to the holders of hereditary offices, who cannot alienate the emoluments of their offices. A Bill,* however, is before the Council, which will remove all doubts on the subject.

* No. 6 of 1865.

24. In paragraph 18, the Board recommend the introduction of Act IV. of 1864, the Cess Act, into Kurnool.

25. In Kurnool *proper* the revised assessment now being introduced *includes* the cess at 5 per cent. In this part of the District, therefore, the introduction of this Act is unnecessary, and in fact impracticable, except at great inconvenience.

26. In the other parts of the District the Act can be introduced as soon as the question of the Village Police is settled in the Judicial Department, to which the present decision regarding the Revenue Establishment will now be communicated.

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

1st Enclosure

No. 1346.

These papers relate to the Village Establishments of Kurnool.

In 1859 the first (took in hand the revision of all the Revenue Establishments of the Presidency, including the village Establishments.

The revision of the Village Establishments of Kurnool was carried out in July 1862 under the Express orders of Govt. the Village Police Establishments being left to be dealt with by the Inspector General of Police.

In May 1864 the Collr. Mr. Minchin addressed Govt. on the unsatisfactory state

of the Village Police
of Clairmont & urged
its reformation on the
same principles as
had been applied to
the Rest. Establishments.

The Inspector Genl
of Police - Mr. Robinson -
reviewed the whole (Mr. Reg)
Regulations & against the
step and recommended
that all that had
been done for the Rest.
Establishments should
be done away with
States: functionaries re-
lected to.

That it proceed the
subject to the Municipal
& the Bd of Rest for
report - and the replies
to the references are
herein to be invited
for final orders.

The Mayor left
the Council

The subject is one on which much difference of opinion exists - but there can be no reasonable doubt but that the leading principles of the reforms carried out - viz the employment of none save village servants for the village service required and the payment of fair wages to these - are correct - his Worship states that at the Rest. there are 17 persons professed to perform village duties - and that the average pay of the Talaries is one Talook - is still but Rs 3 per annum - It is obvious that the state

neither
could not afford to
retain to many per-
sons on adequate
wages - and now, espe-
cially, to render their
maintenance depe-
ndent on the possi-
bility of their
finding employment
of the same de-
"service" can be
expected for such
a pittance as a
very large portion
of the remainder
receive -

The measures
taken to provide
funds for the pro-
posed reform, in-
cluded - comprised
the employment
of the servants - the sub-
stitution of a forces
in lieu of fees -

the principal towns &
villages -

The first measure
was founded on just
by the minute pro-
vision of the regime
in this work - that thing
this state - that there
are retained among them
24000 persons: to that
among other places with
have not served - the
wholly or partially
dispossessed some of nearly
20000 persons - firm
branch, a rich, liberal
unprejudiced man
come to be regarded in
much the same light
as private. (in) here little
Letters ferried thousands yearly
The enforcement
of the decrees under
such circumstances
was both necessary &
judicious - so far as
the State is concerned

it is supplied from funds
raised by the circulation for other re-
organisation of the
Establishment so far
far as the Guardians
are concerned, it in-
-volved no disturbance
of possession and
substituted valid
for existing titles.

The substitution of
a city for fees has
necessitated by the
increasing difficulty
which the village officers
notoriously experienced
in levying their dues -
from powerful rights -
the opening for oppression
towards the poorer rights
which the system af-
-forded - the extraor-
-dinarily miscellaneous
character of the fees -
and the inexperience
of residents in public
officers dependent for

their remuneration on
those with
whom they had a chance
interests & feelings
the less discharge
of their duties might
bring them into collis-
-ion.

The grouping of
villages was necessary
as a measure of econo-
-my, and within the
limits was generally
satisfactory. It would be quite at
of the power of the State
to which the table
let at this ment at every
so-called village -
-ing that in Ireland
there are hundreds
which do not contain
a single house - and
many in every district
which could not
have more than twenty per-
-sons pay a single
policeman. The tax

found d- subsumed
that these principles
also found: and
contain the elements
of success: -

So far as principles
I do not see why
not should be interfered
the application of the
principle needs care
& prudence: - but
this is true in
every thing
else.

As much the
same law and
the decisions of the
Village Institutions -
Time works changes
in Institutions as
in other things and
by it should be
suffered that Village
municipalities should
join or exception
is not clear. Surely it

Cannot be a fair ruling
to the Constitution of
the Village Institutions
should be found -
Indeed not be found
Institutions have
Rendered in the

only find that the
Village Institutions are
failing because they
are unsuited to the
present state of
society. Since
they flourished times
have altered - the pat.
has the power & the
will to protect life
& property - wealth
& intelligence have
lessen inequality
rich & poor stand
on the same footing
in our Courts - and
there is no thing to
induce the people
to corrupt or intimidate them
in their civil rights
& interests & "free
old Republics" or other
relics of the past. -

But are the principles
that these should
be inserted Institutions

are so much below
expected at this sale?
Some of us know how
they really worked when
in full vigour - but
we do know that for
the last 50 years they
have been continually declining
some proceeds of late years
slowly - not exactly
retrieving - for instance
Since we were in London
tell us how we are to
set about reviving
them - Mr Robinson
says "we must com-
fort & strengthen them"
them - but how is
that to be done.

In framework
the measures adopted
cannot now be re-
versed. The frames
have been cut from
children - the fees
have been abolished

15

and the cost neither
diminished or franchise
the farmer now re-
ceive the latter.
The Collector reports
that the year by year
so far as it has been
carried out is a
success & can be really
depended upon
details for which
means are available.

Plan of the fi
reorganisation there
were 1112 villages in
the District - the
present number is
713 - as 456 have been
absorbed in to the
new "groups." Mr Wm
Chin is inclined to ob-
the opinion that the

Exceptionally dealt with. The Expenditure of the measure of Rs ~~(illegible)~~ 7500 or 8000 Rs: per annum: can be met from the surplus of the confiscated Income which amounts to Rs 20,500.

The first Objection: Lee. But if there is any necessity as a general rule for attaching Circumstances & Vettiers to these Villages. A Taliary will be duly be given of the object of the Movement. ~~may~~ have a representative of the first residents in the Villages

Mr Murchison
wishes a slight ad-
dition to Lower Pa-
-rel Circular Road
& the Village portion adjoin-
-ing it is to be permitted
on the understanding
that these additions
are merely to make up
& succeed to the Cur-
-rimshahs when vacan-
-cies occur.

Mr Murchison
wishes to raise the
pay of the Velties
from 3.6.34 Rs per M:
The Road reserve
the question for future
consideration. The
Machine will cost
Rs 20,988 per an:
As we have the Money
I should give the ad-

I would join the whole
and not split the expen.

+ by Sanction
Road income

	Rs
Present Cost	152,634
Municipal Amt	8000
Carriage Do.	500
Veltiers Do.	20,988
	182,122

Mr Murchison wishes to raise the pay of the Veltiers from 3.6.34 Rs per M: The Road reserve the question for future consideration. The Machine will cost Rs 20,988 per an:

The first consideration is present rate of pay to small and a-

17

dition - or at least
half of it - for his Annual
fair pay for work
need not be expected
The total cost of
the Village Improve-
Establishments, as
- now revised, amounts
to Rs 152,634 - per an.
The additions now
proposed will raise
it to Rs 185,000 in
round numbers. If
only half the proposed
addition be at once
made to the Veltiers, the
cost will be about
Rs 175,000 - or just
within the annual
proceeds of the Im-
provements
which yield Rs 175,631

The Village Pha
Engineer has to pro-

vided for.

Mr. Mc Michael
(Calcutta)
says that income
will yield Rs 74,700
per ann: when encrea-
ched - and the Rs
estimate the proceeds
of the Cess - if inter-
riced at 6½ per
cent - at 114,800 Rs.
The appropriate of these
sums is Rs 189,500 -
But as there is not
even so many as
3000 Talaries are
required - the key Rs
these @ 48 Rs per ann:
would be 144,000 - &
that we should only
need 154,000 for
Talaries & Vetties
combined: instead of
Rs 189,500 our esti-

but in the revised estimate
of Rangoon provision is
made for 5 per cent

154,000 - for Vetties
10,494
164,494

4 Rs per mensem for
the Vetties adopted - Hence

	Rs
5 p.c:	= 9,840
Income	= 74,700
	164,540
Wanted	154,000
Surplus	12,540
	10,494
	2,046

mated assets - Calcu-
lating in the 18th data
a 5 per cent cess would
yield ample - and
this is the rate adopted
in the revised est-
imate. ~~of the Hon'ble~~

Matters then stand
thus -

The village Revenue Es-
tablishment - comprising
the Moonsiff -
the Curnum & the
Vetty - has been revised
and as the Collectorate
is formed. The establish
cannot be retrenched -
for the emoluments
in their original form
are gone beyond power
of recovery -

The Talaiary has not
been revised and all
unite in declaring
this

him with the Collectors Finds are available for levying the effect of Broken pays- Would it not be well to try this- instead of defining a state of things- of which we know nothing of our own knowledge & which at all events cannot be defined?-

The Bd 2 asks 3.

questions in paras 15. 16. 17. & 18 of their proc:

The first - para 15- (a) the meaning of Sect V of Act IV of 1864. The Bd consider that the phrase "group of villages or townships" is not defined, the language of the Act does not "bind down the Expenditure of the Sums raised by the Village

You try it- I will do on a small scale & consult make the improvements you suggest

The Bd 18 Oct 91

"The proceeds of the Cess hereby authorised to be levied shall be ~~collected~~ applied towards the remuneration of the Village Servants employed on Revenue & Police duties in the Village or group of Villages or township in which the cess was raised."

no doubt the phrase meaning [illegible] special reference to such cess [illegible]

in which it is collected" as explained by the Committee- The term "group of villages" clearly was intended by the union of villages- for purposes connected with these services- hitherto to have been separate & distinct now united or grouped together for administrative purposes along under one set of village officers. But the simple form provided for in the Act work by the enforcement of the service by the Magistrate for the means of the meeting the difficulties which the Committee anticipates from the

him restrictive effect which
are a
ing t
pay
be re
stead
a sta
which
of pr
which
at all
being

of this Section of the
fund may be em-
ployed in building the Cess
in the Chittagong Hill-
Tracts from the Cess
ceipts from the
same region be em-
ployed in Chittagong

Cess in the Chittagong
age of the Cess
Tracts from the Cess
franchisement fund.

Under section 16 of Act
for as it prescribes
the balance made
from the Cess
franchisement
fund. It also provides
in para 16 & 17 of the
Act that the Pres-
ident of the Legislative
Council may exempt
ments & distribute the
revenue of the
Cess in the
Chittagong Hill-
Tracts from the
operation of the
Act. This is
1831. This law clearly

a village with a
revenue of 500 Rs
would at 5 per cent
yield 25 Rs - its es-
tablishment would
cost 10 Rs - the
10 Rs would be
subtracted from the
franchisement
fund.
A village of 1000 Rs
would similarly
yield 50 Rs - its es-
tablishment would
cost 18 Rs - and the
supplementary
grant would be 13 Rs.
But this arrange-
ment is only feasible
in the Settled Districts
where the Incomes are
very large.

certainly

No 6 of 1865.

provided
with

relates only to the
children of hereditary
officers - who cannot
alienate the emolu-
ments of their offices
The Bill is before the
Council which will
receive all. Sir M.
Lushington recommend the
Act of 1864 the Cess Act
to be worked further
the revised assess-
ment now being intro-
duced including the
Cess at 5 per cent. The
first part of the Dis-
trict where first the
Act is to be enforced
Act is unnecessary
and in fact im-
practicable

just as

at present in consideration

We should not be [illegible] to reduce all the rates of assessment to 5 per cent — converting them from even into odd sums — & gain nothing by the process.

In the other parts of the District, the Act might be introduced — as soon as the question of the Village Police is settled — in the Judl. Dept — and Govt are placed in a position to determine what rate of cess it will be expedient & necessary to

Yes

Await the [illegible]
present decision regarding the [illegible] Estt. with [illegible] be com[illegible]

1/6

18

In Judl. Pros:
10 Oct 1865.

raise. From the 18th figures, a cess at the rate of 5 per cent will suffice — but it will be safer to get full information.

Orders requested

J.D.I.

P.S.

I have not attempted any criticism of Mr. Robinson's letter — which would be a lengthy process — but to show how it is open to criticism I beg to note one point — the point in fact of his letter —

In para 8 he says "I admit that the novel changes" introduced have entirely failed to improve the ancient

Village Police xxxx
Ladmit that sickness present altered conditions, little or no aid can be obtained from the Village ~~Police~~ Watchers - for the means of Efficient working of the only channel thereby which they can be reached - the true Head of the Village is no longer Existence "Again (para 17) "the Village Watchers dreams of Resigning or generally Acting on outside xxxx nor is he required by law so to do - for the Regulations Clerk of him as acting under his own legal Head Again (para 18) "the local Watchers xxxx is practically the Right legal Head." Again Many hint that the Head of the town is that he Same left the Village like the Clerk Police of Summer.

Now Read it and the Case - Sect IV Reg XI of 1816 declare that "Heads of Villages shall be Ex-officio heads of the Police of their respective Village." This law - the only one which gave the Village Head any legal power over the Village Watchers is annulled by the Madras Police Act (No 24 of 1859) which Mr Robinson himself drew up!

So that if the ~~Village~~ Village Of-

I am afraid that on consideration of the Minutes papers - see 50 10 Oct 65 R O No 1443 - in have been too much influenced by Mr Robinson's pamphlets or proceedings - and time honored institution of a country & that to make ready further deliberation -

per has no "legal head" it is the Revision which he determinated this - but the power whether Revision has not only no "legal head" but no legal body as a Village whether he is now one of the General Police - the superintendence of which" shall vest in him" Executed by the Govt in Council" and such Assistant as he may delegate to his powers to - and hereditary rights all saved as far as can be appointed only by the Inspector for the time being and may be fined suspended or dismissed by them if they think him negligent or unfit -

Village Police Act - but the Revision & Chief Constable are to be appointed by the Govt in Council. and removable by the Govt -

Forwarded to Bombay, observations Village Police

Bycullah 26th May 1866

Mr

Any careful attention has been given to the papers accompanying this memo and to this memo itself: and it seems to be perfectly clear, under the statements made, & the arguments used by Mr. Lewis, that we must continue to advance. We cannot take a retrograde step in all that has been done & completed and should now withdraw the Police from the arrangements which the Revenue Establishment of the villages.

26.5.66

I fully concur - and think for the

1st To Board of Revenue 10th June
2d Chief Secretary Govt
3d Judicial Dept
4th Inspector General Madras Police

18-9-12

5-12-12.

2-12-1

21/12/-3-1

23/11/12

Pro. No. 353.54 dy. 10. 65-
to 651 - d. 30. 6. 65-

Revenue 1866 Deptt
Pr of Govt for June

No 1346.

Pr of the Madras
Government
dy 1st June/66.

Certain modifications
suggested by Mr Munchin
in the Kumool Village
Establishments sanctioned

No 116-117-