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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 2033 Press ~~Mis.~~

258.259

Dated 10 - 8 - ~~19~~ 1866

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
10th August 1866.

No. 258. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 18th July 1866, No. 4,913.

Read the following papers:—

Letter from the Collector of Madura, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 24th January 1866, No. 23.

With reference to the latter part of paragraph 25 of the Honorable Mr. Pelly's letter, recorded in the Government Order, No. 2,184, dated 12th September last, I have the honor to submit, herewith, for the Board's approval and publication in the "Fort Saint George Gazette," a Draft Notification regarding the transfer of four hill villages from the Pulney Talook to the Periakolam Talook.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

ABSTRACT.—A Draft Notification regarding the transfer of four villages from Pulney to Periakolam Talook.

Endorsement of the Honorable Mr. PELLY, dated 21st March 1866, No. 1,908, transferring to the Board of Revenue the following letter from the Collector of Madura, dated 3rd March 1866, No. 428.

1. I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 1,893, dated 9th February 1866, and to inform you that it must have been an oversight, my not having mentioned the village of Perioor in my letter, No. 1,346, dated 8th November 1864, and recommended its being added on to the Periakolam from the Pulney Talook.

2. I cannot, after further consideration, alter my opinion that Kodikanel is the best and most central situation for the location of the Sub-Magistrate and Deputy Tahsildar of the hills; to place him at Poombarry would put him out of convenient reach of the villages on the lower hills. If he is not to be at Kodikanel, he should be at Vilpatty, and I am of opinion that, till a Cutcherry is built, he should remain at Vilpatty; when the building of a Cutcherry is sanctioned, the question of his locality might be finally settled, and till then, perhaps, the present arrangements of villages need not be disturbed, that question being then settled also.

3. I think it cannot but be admitted that the divided authority is bad; and the present Sub-Collector himself raised the question, by objecting to my sending an order to the Hill Sub-Magistrate to proceed to the lower Pulnies, to one of my villages belonging to Periakolam, to make a report to me on a subject on which this report was required, to answer a Proceeding of Government.

4. The disposal of all waste and forest land on the hills rests with the Collector, and, therefore, I think, the hill tract should more properly be under the Collector than the Sub-Collector, who has nothing to do with the disposal of those lands.

5. With regard to the distance of the villages from Periakolam and Pulney respectively, the upper hill villages are all nearer to Periakolam than Pulney, and the Nattamgar of Vilpatty, who has relations in all those villages, informed me that it did not signify to the villagers in the least, that it was all the same to them whether they paid their money at Pulney or Periakolam; as Periakolam was nearer, and as it was more convenient for Postal arrangements, I recommended their being joined to the Periakolam Talook.

6. With regard to the villages on the lower hills, there are two; Perioor, belonging to Pulney, and Tandigoody to Periakolam. Tandigoody is a very large village with a large number of out-lying hamlets; the distance from Perioor to Pulney, measured on the map in straight lines, is as follows:—

	Miles.
Perioor to Veroopatchy	
Veroopatchy to Pulney	7
	13
Total...	20

From Perioor to Periakolam is as follows:—

	Miles.
Perioor to Tandigoody	
Tandigoody to Davadanapatty	5½
Davadanapatty to Periakolam	11½
	8
Total...	25

From Tandigoody to Pulney the distance is 25½ miles; but I must admit that it would really be more trouble to the Perioor people to have to take their money to Periakolam, than it would be for the Tandigoody people to take their money to Pulney, because the Perioor people would have so much hill country to go over to get to Periakolam. But, with all that, if they were put under Periakolam, they would not have to go a greater distance to their cusbah, than many of the villagers in the plains have to go to their cusbahs; and a march over the hills to the hillmen is less troublesome to them, than a long journey in the heat in the plains is to the low country men; and, therefore, not considering the matter of distance as a great difficulty, and for the sake of getting rid of divided authority, I am inclined to recommend Perioor being transferred to Periakolam Talook; but, as I said before, the transfer might be put off till the site of the Cutcherry is fixed, and its erection sanctioned. But the Hill Sub-Magistrate and his establishment might be at once transferred, as sanctioned, from the Pulney to the Periakolam Talook.

Endorsement of the Honorable Mr. PELLY, dated 30th April 1866, No. 1,918, transferring to the Board of Revenue the following letter from the Collector of Madura, dated 18th April 1866, No. 673.

1. I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 1,916, dated 12th April, and to offer the following remarks on Mr. VansAgnew's letter, referred to in it.

2. I dissent from every thing the Sub-Collector urges against the transfer of the hill villages as recommended by me. When writing my letter of the 15th July 1865, I was not unmindful of my previous letter, and it is very certain, Sir, that when making the recommendation to Government you had it, and all I have written on the subject, under consideration.

Refers to paragraphs 4 to 10 of Sub-Collector's letter.

3. I am perfectly well aware that, on the upper hills, there are several scattered hamlets attached to the three villages, but they are exceedingly petty

Refers to paragraph 12 of Sub-Collector's letter.

places, containing scarcely about twelve houses each; the Ryots of those hamlets pay their kists to the Nattamgars at the respective cusbah villages to which the hamlets are attached, and it is as easy, or easier, for those Nattamgars to pay those kists at Periakolam, as at Pulney Treasury.

4. The transfer of the hill villages to Periakolam would in no way inconvenience the Tahsildar of that Talook; the Hill Sub-Magistrate and Deputy Tahsildar would, as he does now, dispose of all the work on the hills. The Periakolam Talook, though of great area, is, in fact, one of the easiest Talooks in the District; it is mostly Zemindary, containing the Zemindaries noted in the margin, and the Periakolam Tahsildar has the aid of a Sub-Magistrate and Deputy Tahsildar at Chinnamanoor, while the Pulney Tahsildar has no Deputy Tahsildar in his Talook in the plains; the Pulney Tahsildar, at present, has, undoubtedly, the most work of the two Tahsildars to do.

Paragraph 12.

Bodinaiknoor.
Tevanrem.
Erasckanaiknoor.
Gandamanaiknoor.

5. I am of opinion the Sub-Collector has not sufficient work to employ his establishment, which he tacitly admits, and that the restoration of the Periakolam Talook to the Sub-Division would in no way benefit the people of that Talook, who require a Magistrate with full powers within reasonable reach, instead of being obliged to go to Madura, or Dindigul, to find one.

Paragraph 15 of the Sub-Collector's letter.

6. The great want of the District is an increase of the Magistracy with moderate divisions, and not an overgrown Sub-Collectorate comprising two-thirds of the District, which this one would, if Periakolam Talook was added to it, leaving to the Collector and his Assistants a less portion of the District than that now under the Sub-Collector.

7. To satisfy the requirements of the Criminal Procedure Code, and to place the means of obtaining justice within reasonable reach of the people, there should be a Magistrate with full powers at Dindigul, and another at Periakolam; one Magistrate only at Dindigul at all times, or when moving about in the Talooks, for the three Talooks of Periakolam, Dindigul, and Pulney, would be, for the most part, out of the reach of the Police, or people, for the prosecution of cases requiring to be disposed of by a Magistrate having full powers; on this point I am sure the Inspector General of Police would agree with me. For the above reasons, therefore, I object to give the Periakolam Talook to the Sub-Collector, and intend sending one of my Assistants there when I get one qualified, or a Deputy Collector and Magistrate having general duties, when one is appointed in the District; and it is very certain that an officer located at Periakolam could more efficiently look after the hill villages, than one located at Dindigul.

8. The villages of Vilpatty, Poombarry, and Pootoor have Nunjah cultivation, and some dry grain cultivation on the slopes towards Pulney; but such cultivation is fifteen and twenty miles from Pulney, and such produce is all brought up to the villages and consumed on the hills; the wheat, garlic, &c., which is grown on

Paragraph 16 of Sub-Collector's letter.

the hills immediately around the villages, is all sold or bartered away to the low country traders, who come up from Periakolam and Davadanapatty. There is an incessant train of pack-cattle passing Kodikanel carrying on this traffic, and nothing of the sort on the Pulney side, because loaded animals cannot get up and down that way; a few head coolies may go that way, but nothing else, because the way is simply impracticable. The statement that Periakolam is a *terra incognita* is utterly inaccurate. I have, on many occasions, met scores of the hill people, men, women, and children, going down to, and coming up from, Periakolam; as to the two Pootoors mentioned by the Sub-Collector, I don't believe he was ever in either of them, while I know them well; one of them may contain five houses, the other about eight; the Ryots pay their dues to the Nattamgar at Poombarry, who remits it to the Talook Cusbah; the individual Ryots do not take their kists to the plains; if they go to the plains it is not on Government, but their own affairs; and if so, it signifies nothing to Government for what purpose, or to what part of the plains they go. The Sub-Collector is also inaccurate as to what he says about the visits of the inhabitants of the lower Pulneys to the plains; he must be ignorant of the large weekly markets at Davadanapatty, Nellacottah, and Iyempoliem, where the hill people are to be seen in large numbers.

9. By transferring the hills' villages to the Periakolam Talook, no one is compelled to go there any more than he likes; the only persons compelled to go to the plains are the Nattamgars and Tandalgars with the kists; they are not ignorant people, and could as readily go to Periakolam as Pulney. I have done all I can to prevent compulsory visits to the plains, by getting a well paid Deputy Tahsildar, Sub Magistrate of the first class, and Moonsiff appointed to the hills, and know that this appointment has prevented the bullying of the hillmen by low country traders, and thus prevented some compulsory visits to the plains: if any hill people now visit the plains, it is not by compulsion on Government service, but of their own free-will, and on such visits, it is immaterial for what purpose, or to what part they go.

10. I make it a subject of complaint against the Curnums that they don't live in their villages, or, at all events, visit them more than they do, and believe, if they were pressed to do so, affairs might be improved, and that if encouragement was held out to the hill villagers, some of them might be shortly found fit to hold the office of Curnum; certainly, it ought never to be permitted that the hill people should be under any necessity to seek an interview with their Curnum in the plains: as far as the Curnums are concerned at present, they are low country men, and they could live as readily at Periakolam as at Pulney or Balasamudram, and they could more easily, on pony-back, reach their hill villages from Periakolam, than they can from Pulney.

Paragraphs 18, 19, and 20.

11. The lower Pulneys are unhealthy, while the upper range is the reverse. I admit its climate is not liked by a native of the plains. My hope is to get an European or East Indian to fill the post of Sub-Magistrate, Deputy Tahsildar, and Moonsiff, and think one can shortly be found available.

12. Before I saw the Sub-Collector's letter, now under reference, Mr. Noyes objected to me at his name having been made use of as it has. I know that other

residents have wished for a Sub-Magistrate and Police station at Kodikanel, and think that Mr. Noyes has expressed the same sentiment to me. I know that the hill villagers don't want to have the Hill Sub-Magistrate in any of their villages, though they wish to have one on the hills, to whom they can resort as they require. They say that they may be troubled to furnish supplies, and another heavy tax they complain of is, that even if the Sub-Magistrate took nothing from them, they are obliged to exercise hospitality towards those who resort to his office, and I can understand such to be a serious tax on them, as there are no choultries and bazaars in the hill villages.

13. Kodikanel is more accessible than Vilpatty for the villagers of Manavanoor and Poombarry; if the Cutcherry was placed there a small bazaar would assuredly spring up, and I could get a chuttrum built, and there would be no great hardship to any one in having to remain there, for one or two days, while any inquiry was going on. I know that caste men do live and have lived for some time at Kodikanel; if its climate is so unfitted for them, the Sub-Collector's argument is a good one to advance to take the hills from under his charge, and to forbid his going there, or making any lengthened residence on them. He tells me he is going to reside there two months, for the Jummahbundy of the hill villages; he has Magisterial work to perform: if all he says is correct, it is unmitigated cruelty and injustice to cause complainants from the plains, in Magisterial and Police cases, to have to resort to his office at Kodikanel.

14. The Sub-Collector wants to make out Pulney is in every way more convenient than Periakolam for revenue connexion with the hills, and yet he has asked me to allow him to keep some of his establishment at Periakolam, whilst he is doing his two months' Jummahbundy on the hills.

Paragraph 22.

15. The Sub-Collector's hearsay remark about the Vilpatty Nattamgar is simply ridiculous, and was made, I believe, to the Sub-Collector to please him. I reiterate that, as far as Government work is concerned, a transfer of the villages in no way affects the convenience of the hill people, and would in no way affect their intercourse with the Pulney Samy. Periakolam has its favorite Samy and festivals also, and the hill people are to be seen at them in numbers.

16. I did not send copies of what I had written on the subject of the transfer to Mr. VansAgnew for the following reasons: He was in Australia when I wrote my first letter; before leaving for that place he told me he did not care for the hills, that he thought them too cold; he has since changed his mind, so that when I first proposed the change, I was clearly under the impression he was indifferent in the matter. I did not give him a copy of what I wrote in July 1865, because I thought most likely printed spare copies of correspondence would be published, and that he would thus get a copy; but I wrote him a note at the time telling him what I had said.

(*Copy.*)

From the Sub-Collector of Madura, to the Collector of Madura, dated Battalangoondoo, 21st March 1866.

Extract from a letter from the Collector of Madura, to the Honorable Mr. Pelly, dated 8th November 1864, No. 1,346.
Extract from a letter from the Collector of Madura, to the Honorable Mr Pelly, dated 15th July 1865, No 1,197.
Do. from the Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, dated 12th September 1865.
Letter from the Honorable Mr. Pelly, to the Collector of Madura, dated 9th February 1866
Do. from the Collector of Madura, to the Honorable Mr. Pelly, dated 3rd March 1866.

1. I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt, on the 18th instant, of copies of the correspondence noted in the margin.

2. I shall simply state, without comment, that the receipt of those papers has afforded me the first official intimation I have had of an important change materially affecting the constitution of the Sub-Division, of which I have had charge for the past three years : a change regarding the expediency of which I might, therefore, be reasonably supposed to have been in a position to offer an opinion at least deserving of consideration.

3. Being of a very decided opinion that the transfer of the hill villages, from the Pulney to the Periakolum Talook, was recommended by the Honorable Mr. Pelly under considerable misconception, and on imperfect information, and that the sanction of the Government thereto was, consequently, obtained without their having been placed in a position fairly to decide on the merits of the question, and being further of opinion that the transfer is in itself wholly unnecessary, and highly inexpedient, I take this first opportunity that has been afforded me, of recording my views upon the subject, and of requesting that you will do me the justice, even at the eleventh hour, of submitting, to the Honorable Mr. Pelly, this my protest against the carrying into effect of a measure, which I will now undertake to demonstrate to be of the character I have above attributed to it.

4. In your letter to the Honorable Mr. Pelly, dated 8th November 1864, you certainly proposed the transfer, of what you termed "the three Pulney Talook villages on the upper hills," from the Pulney to the Periakolum Talook, consequent on the proposed location of the Sub-Magistrate at Kodikanel, instead of Vilputty. This letter was however written, and this proposal made, solely with reference to the District Tappal arrangements, at a time when there were tappal runners established between Pulney and Kodikanel, but none between the latter place and Periakolam, and your main object was to have these runners transferred to the Periakolum side ; no doubt a great boon to the District Officers and other visitors to the Hills.

5. Otherwise, the only argument you urged in favor of changing the head quarters of a Sub-Magistrate from Vilpatty to Kodikanel was the anxiety of all the Europeans to have a Magistrate at Kodikanel ; an argument upon the value of which I shall have something to say presently.

6. Here the matter dropped : the tappal arrangements were settled without any sort of reference to the proposed transfer, by all the runners being transferred to the Periakolam side, where they were most wanted, with the exception of one who carries the tappal regularly twice a week between Kodikanel and Pulney, at a charge of Rupees 5 per mensem : an arrangement which, I make bold to say, should be allowed to hold quite irrespective of the location of the Sub-Magistrate, or of the transfer, should it really be carried into effect, of the hill villages to Periakolam Talook.

7. On the 15th July 1865, you came forward with an entirely new proposition, viz., to constitute the hills a separate Talook. In no part of that letter did you propose that, if so constituted, the hills should be transferred from the Sub to the Principal Division.

8. The Honorable Mr. Pelly in his letter thereon to Government, dated 30th August 1865, negatived your propositions ; but reverting to your old letter about the District Tappal recommended, on grounds which, with the exception of the argument about the anxiety of the Europeans to have a resident Sub-Magistrate, I have shewn to have previously ceased to exist, that the hills should be transferred to Periakolam Talook.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 10th August 1866.

9. I believe you will admit that, when writing your letter of the 15th July 1865, you had, the occasion that called it forth having passed by, no recollection of your first proposal, nor any intention to recommend the transfer of the hills from the Sub to the Principal Division.

10. Under the above circumstances, I submit that I am correct in stating that the Honorable Mr. Pelly's recommendation was made under a misconception.

11. I shall now proceed to state some facts, by way of perfecting the information which the Honorable Mr. Pelly had at its disposal, to lay before the Government.

12. In the first place, I demur to your description of the Upper Hills as containing but three villages. It is but a technical description : I know of twelve, none of which can, in my opinion, be lumped up, in fact, with any of the others as hamlets. You count Ettoor as one village. The very name implies that there were eight villages, not hamlets. Of the original eight villages, six are now in existence.

13. The result of mentioning the Pulney Hill villages in such terms has, doubtless, been to elevate, in Mr. Pelly's eyes, the one Periakolam village of Tandigoody in comparison with the others, the fact being that Tandigoody comprises but a very small extent of the hills in comparison with the many Pulney villages, and that, if undivided authority be required, it would be a far more reasonable and easier operation to obtain it by handing over Tandigoody to the Pulney Talook and the Sub-division, than by attaching the whole of the rest of the hills to Periakolam and the Principal Division : Periakolam being as it is, the reverse of Pulney, an enormous overgrown Talook.

14. In reference to this matter of divided authority, and the instance of its evil effects given by you in paragraph 3 of your letter to the Honorable Mr. Pelly, of the 3rd instant, I may remark, that what you term "my raising the question," was a pure accident. It occurred the first year, as far as I remember, that I joined the District. I then found in operation a system of constant unauthorized interference with my subordinates on the part of your office, against the continuance of which I felt myself forced to remonstrate, and you yourself eventually admitted the justice of my doing so. As it happened, singularly enough, I hit upon the order you refer to addressed directly to my subordinate, the Hill Sub-Magistrate, as the foundation of a remonstrance. The answer I received thereto, was the first intimation I had that Tandigoody was not under my administration, together with the rest of the hills. Neither before, nor since, has the slightest practical inconvenience resulted from this "divided authority ;" nor, if the system continued, would there be any likelihood of its ever doing so. When, therefore, you are driven to rely on such an argument in support of the necessity of the transfer, I submit that it exposes, in the strongest light, the exceeding weakness of the case you are endeavoring to make out.

15. It should be here considered, that, in your letter of the 15th July, you gave it as your opinion, to the Honorable Mr. Pelly, that the Sub-Collector had not sufficient work to employ his establishment. It would be more in consistency, certainly, with this opinion, to refrain from introducing a change that must still further reduce his work. If the whole of the hills must be transferred to Periakolam, simply because the comparatively small extent of them comprized in Tandigoody is nominally attached to that Talook, it would then become a question, worth the Honorable Mr. Pelly's consideration, whether the newly constituted Talook of Periakolam should be restored to the Sub-Division.

16. I believe, however, that I can supply the Honorable Mr. Pelly with ample, good, and sufficient reasons why the hills, including Tandigoody, should be attached, as at present, to Pulney. It is impossible for any one, with any truth, to deny that, geographically, their connexion with the plains is on the Pulney side. The greater part of the upper hill villagers' cultivation is on the slopes down towards Pulney. Their avocations take them down on that side ; a trip to Balasamudram, on this side of the Pulney, or to Pulney itself, is nothing very terrible to them. On the other hand, Periakolam is a *terra incognita* to them. I confidently assert, after careful inquiry, that the Kodikanel and Periakolam Ghaut is used only by Kodikanel people, and Periakolam merchants never, almost by the hill villagers. What possible connexion can there be between the two Poottoors and the villages on the other side of the Poombarry valley and Peria-

kolam? whereas, they are naturally connected with Pulney. Similarly, the only connexion, maintained with the plains, in the majority of the villages on the lower hills, is on the Pulney side. Such is the case in respect to Tandigoody. Mere distance is not so much what they care about; but to be compelled to visit a part of the plains quite unknown to them, and to change their old habits, would, undoubtedly, be deemed a great hardship by these simple people.

17. Their Curnums, with the single exception of the Tandigoody one, live on the Pulney side, mostly at Balasamudram, and only occasionally visit their villages on the hills. This cannot be helped: persons fit for the office are not to be found on the hills, and these Curnums will not permanently reside there; nor do I believe any amount of increased remuneration, that is ever likely to be offered them, would induce them to retain their offices under the necessity of permanently residing in their villages. When the Hill Ryot, therefore, does visit the plains, he goes to Balasamudram, or to Veroopatchy, and he is quite alive to the advantage of being able to combine a business visit to his Curnum with the other pleasure or business which took him down.

18. Another valid reason against the transfer is this. It is very difficult either to get, or when we have got to keep, a Sub-Magistrate in the hill appointment. Frequent interregna have occurred in my time, and may be expected continually to recur in future, when, sometimes for considerable periods, the hills are without a Sub-Magistrate. Hill Sub-Magistrates make a point of taking every day's leave they are entitled to. During these interregna the Tahsildar of the Talook assumes charge, and it is certainly desirable that he, and his subordinates, should know something of the villages and people liable so frequently to come under their administration. This knowledge is possessed by the Pulney Tahsildar and his office, whereas, the hills might be as far as Madras from Periakolam for all that the Periakolam Tahsildar and his subordinates know about the locality or people, who, as I have above stated, never resort to Periakolam. In proof that they do so to Pulney I may mention that, when last there, about a month ago, the Pulney Nattamgar from the upper hills, and several others were there on their own business.

19. I will now touch on the question of the most desirable location for the Sub-Magistrate. I cannot agree with you that Kodikanel should be the place. It cannot have been; indeed, I may safely say, it was not the intention of Government, in appointing a well paid officer of that grade, that his services should be principally devoted to the handful of Europeans and their retainers resorting to the hills. Why, there are not half a dozen regular European residents, and as there are only about a dozen small houses, the number of visitors, during the few hot months, can never be very great. Yet, if the Sub-Magistrate were stationed at Kodikanel, it would be solely for the benefit of these few Europeans, or rather I would say the supposed benefit; for I entirely disagree with you as to the existence of any anxiety for a resident Sub-Magistrate on their part. It was only the other day that, on remarking to the Reverend Mr. Noyes, the principal resident, that we had no Police at Kodikanel, and that we really wanted none, he laughed and cheerfully assented.

20. As regards the hill people proper, in whose interests I submit that the Sub-Magistrate was realy appointed, his location at Kodikanel would almost wholly neutralize the value of his appointment, for not one of them would ever go near him at Kodikanel, if he could possibly avoid doing so. Kodikanel is one of the highest and coldest points on the hills. Compelling the Sub-Magistrate to reside there, would materially increase the difficulty already experienced in procuring the services of a suitable officer for the post, and in keeping him in it afterwards; while the very same reason, together with the total absence of accommodation for them, would most effectually deter the hill villagers from resorting to his office if at Kodikanel. The natives at this station are almost all Christians, or people of no caste. I do not believe there is a house in the place that a hill villager would enter, however, inclement the weather might be. These people, when they do come to Kodikanel, which is of very rare occurrence, are always to be observed standing out in the cold, and, however late in the afternoon, it may be when their business is finished, and whatever distance they may have to go, they invariably quit Kodikanel. At Vilpatty, on the contrary, they are almost certain to have relatives and can find accommodation, at all

events, among their own caste people. On the other hand, in the exceedingly rare instances in which a European or one of his retainers may have a complaint to prefer, it is no great trouble to him to go three miles to Vilpatty for the purpose, or it is quite easy for the Sub-Magistrate, should his presence be necessary at Kodikanel, for a part of a day to come over.

21. For the proper supervision of so extensive a range of hills, there ought really to be two separate officers; one stationed on the upper hills, in which case Manavanoor or Poombarry should be his head-quarters; and the other on the lower range, say at Tandigoody. Government could hardly, however, be expected to go to this expense, nor would I consider it worth while to propose such a measure. To my mind there cannot be a doubt, but that the only proper station for one Sub-Magistrate is Vilpatty.

22. I will now return to the subject of the contemplated transfer. It is totally opposed to the wishes of the people. They feel strongly on the subject. I have heard of their complaints about it from independent sources. You quote the Vilpatty Nattamgar, one of the chief hillmen, as your authority for stating that the people are indifferent on the subject. The same man came to me about a month ago, opened the subject without a word from me, and bitterly complained of the measure, and told me that the people intended to petition against it. Soon afterwards I received a petition, translation of which I annex. Observing that my friend had not signed it, I subsequently inquired the reason after all he had said to me, and I was credibly informed that, although his heart was in it, he was afraid to sign it for fear of incurring your displeasure.

23. The hill people are votaries of the great Pulney tutelary deity, whose hunting grounds the hills are supposed to be, and there is no doubt that they firmly believe he will resent the transfer on their persons and property. I think it may fairly be asked, is it worth while to trouble the minds of these simple people for any reason that has yet been advanced in favor of the transfer.

24. I believe I have now said enough to shew that the measure is both unnecessary and inexpedient, and I confidently appeal to Mr. T. Clarke, than whom one knows the hills and their inhabitants better, to confirm every statement I have made.

25. In his letter to your address of the 9th ultimo, the Honorable Mr. Pelly evinces, as indeed he well might do, considerable doubt as to the real necessity or advisability of the measure recommended in his former letter to Government, and he requests you carefully to re-consider whether it would not be better to subject the whole of the hills to the Revenue jurisdiction of the Pulney Tahsildar, and also whether, after all, Kodikanel is the most appropriate place for the head-quarters of the Sub-Magistrate.

26. Still, neither by the Honorable Mr. Pelly, nor by you, am I paid the courtesy of being consulted. In your reply, dated the 3rd instant, you do not attempt to point out, to the Honorable Mr. Pelly, that he has been acting under a misconception, in that the transfer of the hills, from the Sub to the Principal Division, formed no part of the proposal embodied in your letter of the 15th July 1865, in reference to which alone it was, at the time you wrote it, your intention that he should go up to Government; but you shift your ground, and accept his idea, that at that time you still had in your mind your old proposition, the principal grounds for which, as I have above shewn, had then ceased to exist with reference to the transfer; and on the ground of the argument about "divided authority," an argument which I have already characterized as but simply exhibiting the inherent weakness of your position, you finally proceed to reiterate the proposition which you had long since abandoned and lost sight of, and you conclude with a suggestion, the purport and meaning of which I must confess I am unable to comprehend, viz, that "the transfer might be put off till the site of the Cutcherry is fixed, and its erection, sanctioned; "but the Hill Sub-Magistrate and his establishment might be at once transferred, as sanctioned, "from the Pulney to the Periakolam Talook."

27. Not till the 18th instant did I receive, for the first time, copies of the correspondence, and, therefore, very probably an important measure in which I am naturally, as Sub-Collector of

this District, deeply interested, and on which it will not now be denied that it was in my power to throw a very considerable deal of light, has been finally settled behind my back. In that event, I venture to appeal to the Honorable Mr. Pelly's sense of fairness and justice to submit this letter for the consideration of Government, and with the object, I trust a pardonable one, of decreasing the likelihood of such a contingency, owing to the delay which must occur in passing this letter through your office, I beg to inform you that I shall take the liberty of at once forwarding a copy of it directly to the Honorable Mr. Pelly. He will, of course, be prepared for the receipt of any further remarks thereon which you may wish to offer.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) G. VANS AGNEW,
Sub-Collector.

ENCLOSURE 1 in No. 1.

To the Sub-Collector of Madura, dated 2nd March 1866.

The Humble Memorial of Kooppamannady, Semmannady, Velamannady, Tirnekankarigownden, Periamannady, Vethiyandy, Peyantaganathy, and other undersigned inhabitants of Vilpatty, Poomiarry, and Yettoor villages, situated on the upper Pulney Hills.

We hear that our villages, which have from the beginning been attached to the Pulney Talook, are to be transferred to the Talook of Periakolam. Should such transfer take place, we, the inhabitants of the hill villages, will suffer very great trouble and loss.

All the Curnums of our villages live in Pulney, and occasionally visit the hills. If we have any business with them, we easily go to Pulney to see them.

Not only are the villages of the upper Pulneys nearer to the Pulney Talook, but we obtain our household supplies from P[illegible]ndram, Ayagoody, and other villages, situated at the foot of these hills.

Poor people as we are, we carry on all our traffic with Balasamudram, Ayagoody, &c.

We repair to Pulney and perform to Dandayuthpany, the deity of the Pagoda rock there, all our ceremonies and festivals due to him as our tutelary deity, according to the custom of our Hindoo caste. Thus we, the original inhabitants of these villages, have been living happily. By the transfer to Periakolam of the villages wherein (while attached to Pulney) we have lived auspiciously, we will not only suffer in all the above said matters, but we greatly dread, utterly ignorant hill people as we are, that calamities may happen to us hereafter (in consequence of the transfer).

The whole of our Nunjah fields lie on the Pulney side, five miles from our villages, and ten from Pulney.

Under these circumstances, as we and our Curnums will be greatly troubled, should the transfer of our villages to Periakolam Talook take place, we crave your honor that they may either remain attached to Pulney, as they have done from generation to generation, or that a separate Talook of all the hill villages may be formed. Thus we should experience great happiness in our villages.

Here follow thirty signatures.

(True translation.)

(Signed) G. VANS AGNEW,
Sub-Collector.

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1. Ordered that the foregoing papers be submitted for the orders of Government.

2. In paragraphs 24 and 25 of the Honorable Mr. Pelly's letter to Government, dated 30th August 1865, regarding the final closing of the revision of the

Revenue Establishments, a proposition of the Collector of Madura to form the hill villages of Pulney into a separate and distinct Talook was reviewed. The proposition was negatived by Mr. Pelly; but another proposition of the Collector to transfer the hill villages, which were comprised in the Pulney Talook, to the Periakolam Talook, and so to place all the hill villages within the jurisdiction of one, instead of two Talooks, and under the supervision of one, instead of two European Covenanted Officers, was approved of and recommended for the sanction of Government.

3. The Government, in their Order (dated 12th September 1865, No. 2,184), on Mr. Pelly's letter, sanctioned this with other changes in the establishments advocated by him; and it is with reference to this Order that Mr. Levinge, with his first letter recorded above, submits for the Board's approval and publication in the "Fort Saint George Gazette," a Draft Notification for the transfer of the villages of Poombarry, Yettur, Vilputty, and Virupatchy from the Pulney Talook to the Periakolam Talook, both in the Madura District.

4. The Collector's second letter was transferred by the Honorable Mr. Pelly to the Board. In it Mr. Levinge states that, by an oversight, he omitted to add the village of Perioor to those recommended by him for transfer from the Pulney to the Periakolam Talook; and he reiterates his opinion, the correctness of which he had been requested to consider, that Kodikanel is the best and most central situation for the location of the Sub-Magistrate and Deputy Tahsildar of the hills, and that to place him at Poombarry, which had been suggested as a more convenient locality, would put him out of convenient reach of the villages on the lower hills; and that if this officer is not to be located at Kodikanel, he ought to be placed at Vilputty, where he might remain until the building of a Cutcherry is sanctioned, when the question as to his permanent location and the arrangement of the villages might be finally settled. In the meantime the Hill Sub-Magistrate and his establishment might be at once transferred from the Pulney to the Periakolam Talook.

5. In the last letter recorded above, Mr. Levinge offers some remarks on a protest of the Sub-Collector against the transfer above alluded to.

6. In submitting these papers for the orders of Government, the Board observe that the arrangement, originally recommended by the Honorable Mr. Pelly, for transferring the Pulney Hill villages to the Periakolam Talook, and which was sanctioned by Government, having come under that gentleman's re-consideration, he desired to lay the subject before the Collective Board, before finally disposing of the question of transferring the villages, the expediency of doing so having been questioned. The Board have given it their careful consideration, and are of opinion that, in the interests of the people, it is not expedient to make the transfer proposed; but they have resolved to recommend that a change be made in the present arrangements of establishment now employed. Mr. Clarke, Member of the Board, has an intimate acquaintance with these hills, and he is strongly of opinion that the people cannot be adequately supervised, and justice done to them by a single Sub-Magistrate and Deputy Tahsildar. The villages are far apart and difficult of access, and in lieu of transferring the villages of the Pulney Talook to the Periakolam Talook, he thinks it would be preferable to place all in the Pulney Talook;

but at the same time to give two Sub-Magistrates, instead of one as at present sanctioned. The one Sub-Magistrate with the powers of District Munsiff to exercise jurisdiction over the lower hills, and the villages of Tandigoody and Perioor and their hamlets; and the other Sub-Magistrate with similar powers over the upper range of hills embracing the villages of Poombarry, Vilputty, and Yettur, and their hamlets. This was the old arrangement previous to the introduction of the new Police, and the recent changes in establishments. This division of the hills between two officers, Mr. Clarke (whose experience in those hills is great, and whose opinion is, therefore, the more valuable,) believes would be a far more satisfactory arrangement than the present one. The Board, therefore, beg to recommend it for the consideration and orders of Government; and should it be adopted, the transfer of the Pulney four villages to the Periakolam Talook will not be carried out; but it will be necessary to transfer the village of Tandigoody, with its hamlets and lands now in the Periakolam Talook, to the Pulney Talook and then both the Sub-Magistrates will be attached to the Pulney Talook, the Cusbah of which is more convenient, when occasion arises, for the people of the hills to resort to than that of Periakolam.

7. The changes, therefore, which the Board would recommend are:

An Establishment costing Rupees 248 per month, instead of the present Establishment costing 204 Rupees, as follows:—

Present Establishment.	RS.	*Proposed Establishment.*	RS.
1 Sub-Magistrate, Deputy Tahsildar, and Munsiff	150	1 Sub-Magistrate, Deputy Tahsildar, and Munsiff	70
1 Gumastah	20	1 Gumastah	20
1 Do.	15	1 Do.	15
2 Peons at 7	14	2 Peons at 7	14
1 Masalchi	5	1 Masalchi	5
Total	204	One Establishment	124
		Another	124
		Total..	248

Increase, 44 Rupees per month.

One Sub-Magistrate, with the powers of a Deputy Tahsildar and District Munsiff, to have his head-quarters at Tandigoody with jurisdiction over the country belonging to that village and the village of Perioor with their hamlets in the lower range of the hills, and the Zemindary hill villages belonging to the Kangundy Zemindary; and the other Sub-Magistrate, with like powers, to have his head-quarters at Poombarry with jurisdiction over the country belonging to Poombarry, Vilputty, and Yettur with their hamlets in the upper range of the hills, and the hill villages belonging to the Zemindary of Ayacoody and the Muttah of Neikaraputty, and that either should be invested with such further jurisdiction over adjoining Zemindary estates as the Collector might assign to them: the two Sub-Magistrates and the whole area of the hill to be included in the Talook of Pulney.

8. This arrangement, the Board consider, would, on the whole, be the best. It would, however, place the hills entirely under the control of the Sub-Collector

and Joint Magistrate, instead of under the Collector; but the Board see no objection to this being done. It will not in any way operate to exclude the Collector from visiting the hills when he wishes to do so. Neither will it necessitate an undue residence of the Sub-Collector on the hills, whose duties elsewhere will necessarily occupy the greater part of his time in the low country. The evil in the change is the lower salary that will be given to the two Sub-Magistrates and Munsiffs than was allowed for the single man; but for the work to be done, it does not seem necessary to recommend a higher rate of pay than 70 Rupees each.

No. 259. ORDER THEREON, 10th August 1866, No. 2,033.

Miscellaneous.

1. Before deciding this question the Government wish to have a statement of the area, population, and revenues of the Sub-Division when constituted, as proposed by the Board, and of the rest of the Government Talooks of the District, in order that they may judge how far the duties of the Province are fairly divided among its Officers. The Board can doubtless furnish this from their own records.

2. With reference to paragraphs 13 and 14 of Mr. Levinge's letter to Mr. Pelly, dated 3rd March last, the Government desire that the Board will call upon Mr. Agnew to report how often, and how long, on each occasion, he has been on the Pulneys since he has held charge of the Sub-Collectorate, and the reasons of his visits.

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

Notification

Fort Saint George Gazette. Jan.y 1866

The Governor in Council

directs to be notified that the 4

villages, named below, have been,

with reference to the Govt. Order

No. 2184 dated 12th September last,

transferred from the Palany Talaq,

Madura District, to the Perua-

: cala[illegible]

The transfer will

effect from and after the 1st February

1866.

Names of the villages

Púmbárai

Jettúr

Vellputti

Tiruppátchi.

A. Cumyn

Collector

Rev.ue Department

No. 2033.

Proceedings of the Madras Government

Under date the 10th August 1866.

Read the following

Proc.s of the Board of Rev.ue

Objecting to the transfer of Pulney Hill villages in Madura district to Periakolum taluk, as originally recommended by Mr. Pelly, & recommending a change in present arrangements of establishment em- in Pulney villages.

(Here enter 18th July 1866 No. 4913

The Government have carefully considered the papers submitted with these Proceedings and are disposed to regard the Board's proposal to divide the charge of the Pulney Hill between two Deputy Tahsildars

Before deciding upon the particular

I am directed by the Board of Revenue to forward the accompanying letter from the Collector of Madura, dated 28th ult.o, No. 23, with its enclosures, and to request that the Board may be favored with the orders of Government thereon.

To

The Secretary to the Government of Madras, Revenue Department.

Dated 28th July 1866.

Rec.d 2nd January 1867.

No. 23.

From H. Wilkinson Esq.re Collector of Madura.

To the Board of Revenue, Madras.

Dated Madura Cutcherry 28th July 1866.

Sir,

I have the honor to forward herewith a petition addressed to the Government by the Tahsildar of Periakolum, praying that the Pulney Hill villages may be transferred to his taluk, and that a Deputy Tahsildar may be appointed to the Pulney Hill.

On the 6th Sept.r

and to attack the whole range to the Sub-Division, as on the whole the best arrangement

~~They wish however~~ ~~first~~ to have a statement of the area-population and revenues of the Sub-Division as they constituted and of the rest of the Govt Talooks of the District, in order that they may judge how far the duties of the Province are fairly divided among its officers. The Board can doubtless furnish this from their own records.

With reference to paras: 13 and 14 of Mr. Levinge's letter to Mr. Pelly, dated 3d March last, the Government desire that the Board

I am desired to withhold an opinion on the point in the present while the matter at once called for we recommend the reference from the Bd & Mr. Agnew whether we shall be able to buy waram is that Sombet get two Sub Mag's each on only 70 Rs. to retain them officers per: manully. Inferior men will accept them & others will not them on chauds will be petitioned by ~~be~~ come chauds be effected by a higher rate than 70 Rs. may be appeal to the officers.

Yes will - This call before - Mr Mood any opinion GP.

Board will call upon Mr. Agnew to report ~~on~~ how often ~~many occasions~~, and how long on each occasion, he has been on the Pulneys since he has held charge of the Sub-collectorate and the reasons of his visits.

14 Bd of Revenue. Dec 11 August
4 Hon: Mr. Pelly
Acct Graves b

Revenue 1866 Dep.
Pros of Govt for Aug.

No 2033.

Pro of the Madras
Government
Dt 10th Sept/66.

From
Secretary Bd of Revenue
Dated 14th September/66 C. No 3213
~~From Dt 26 Sept/66 C. No 3211.~~

With reference to the
proposed transfer of the
Pulney Hill Villages to
Purely Kolum Taluk R Bd
to submit statements of
the area &c of the Pudukota
sub: Division when
Constituted.—

Circ

No 258-259