M.R.O. 14 - 5,460—22-10-2

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 3241 — Press Mis.

652. 653

Dated 27 — 11 — 1866.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 652. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 12th November 1866, No. 8,132.

Read the following letter from the Collector of Tinnevelly, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 13th October 1866, No. 443 :—

With reference to the Board's Proceedings, No. 7,080, dated the 3rd October 1866, I have the honor to inform you, that I can easily dispose of applications for land under ruined tanks in the course of settlement, in the manner proposed by the Board. There is, however, another subject alien (? akin) to the above, on which I request instructions. The small rain-fed tanks in the south of this district are a continual source of annoyance to the Revenue Officers, the soil is sandy, and the banks are always out of repair ; while the water supply is so scanty, that remissions are constantly granted. The assessment is usually from 8 to 10 Rupees per acre ; but if the average, paid on the ayacut during a series of years, be taken into consideration, the assessment is not more than three or four Rupees an acre, or about the sum chargeable on permanently improved dry land. To get rid of the charge of some hundreds of these small tanks, and to have done for ever with complaints of withered crops and insufficient water, would be a great saving to Government, and though the tanks are not ruined, but irrigate in good seasons 3, 5, 10, or 15 acres, I request to be allowed to treat them in the settlement in the following manner :—

"Ponakolam."

Where the irrigated area is held by one person, to offer him the bed of the tank, and all the land he now holds under it at one uniform dry rate, of course leaving it entirely to him to keep up the tank if he pleases, or to cultivate in the bed of the tank, or under the tank, or to raise wet or dry crops at pleasure ; and where the irrigated area is held by several persons, to offer them the entire ayacut under the tank at the "permanently improved" dry rate, on the understanding that the Government have nothing further to do with the repairs of the tank, which will be kept up by the ryots themselves if they think it worth while to do so. This arrangement does not apply to the ordinary tanks of the country, but merely to the small ponds known in different districts as "Tangal," "Kulam," "Orani," &c., which hold perhaps from ten days to one month's water supply. I cannot now state the number of these small tanks, or the extent to which the revenue would be affected by the proposed arrangement ; but if the Board generally approve of the project, I will submit detailed estimates when preparing a settlement scheme for each division of the district in turn.

The Board decidedly approve of the Collector's suggestion, with the stated limitation.

No. 653. ORDER THEREON, 27th November 1866, No. 3,241.

Land Revenue.

The Government concur with the Board.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. D. SIM,

Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

Pro 18 Oct 66 No. 435-6.

15-10-0 ✓

11-6-9 ✓

Rev: 1866. Department.
Pro of Govt for November

No. 4109.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

Dated 12th November 1866.

Rec'd 14-
Rec. 15-

No. 8,132.

A. 6524653

14 Copies Sent to Collr. of Tinnevelly

Approving suggestion of Collector of Tinnevelly in regard to treatment of small rain-fed tanks in south of the district.

Re. 32661-
The first cancan
with the Govt Pro
11 Dec 27 Dec 66