M.R.O. 14—18,000—27-9-84

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1971 Press ~~Mis.~~

452. 453

Dated 22 — 8 — 1867.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
22*nd August* 1867.

No. 452. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Public Department :—

Passing orders on the letter from Surveyor General of India on the subject of publishing a good and accurate Map of India. } (Here enter 14th August 1867, No. 932.)

No. 453. ORDER THEREON, 22nd August 1867, No. 1,971.

Miscellaneous.

Ordered to be recorded.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) F. H. WILKINSON,
Acting Under Secretary to Government.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

No. 95. Read the following letter from the Surveyor General of India, to the Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Calcutta, 26th June 1867, No. 809*c*.

Circular.

The publication of a good and accurate map of India being a great desideratum, and many attempts having been made with imperfect data and materials prior to survey, the pressing necessity for revising the old maps, as to the names of places, has long been apparent to this Department, and many maps of various descriptions have been issued from time to time, in the hopes of correcting glaring mistakes of orthography, and eradicating obsolete names, by the substitution of others of avowed importance at the present day.

2. The Survey of India has now made such progress as to warrant the attempt at constructing a new and revised general map of proper pretensions, suitable to the wants and demands of the present day. With the object, therefore, of obtaining in the first instance a useful map on a convenient scale, which, acting as a sort of skeleton standard, may be rendered available at all times for all general purposes of illustration and report for the public service in India, I have drawn up the sketch map,* lithographed copies of which have been forwarded to your address, and I have the honor to solicit the co-operation and support of His Excellency the Governor of Madras towards the correction of all local boundaries of Divisions, Districts, Sub-Divisions, Political Agencies, or other local territorial distinctions, by any competent Officers who may have the knowledge and means at their disposal to effect what is required. The return of one copy, or of either of the sheets of this map, with any alterations legibly noted, will be esteemed a great favor, and additional sheets can be furnished on application to this Office.

*Sketch Map of India, in 6 sheets, scale 32 miles = 1 inch.

3. In filling up maps of India on different scales and to different degrees, it is desirable to show only such names of places as are confessedly superior, in point of population or other intrinsic value from local associations and reputation, and to exclude those unimportant or mere village names, which ought not to be ranked with first or second class towns or stations, and are out of place in a general map of the description referred to.

4. To enable this Department to discriminate to some better extent than our means at present permit, in all those Districts which have not yet come under survey, or where, from the age of the last survey, great changes may be expected, I am anxious to obtain Tabular Statements, filled up by competent authority, of the leading or most conspicuous names in every District, embracing the chief Subdivisions, Tehseels, Thannahs or Police Stations, Bazaars, Markets and well-known or famed places, or villages of the largest population, somewhat in the form herewith annexed. If local Officers would furnish such information, which it is believed they possess and could render with very little trouble, I should have every hope of materially improving the maps of India which are constantly emanating from this office, and from the Geographer in England, and rendering them far more useful and correct for all local purposes.

5. In many instances, District and other maps of the Survey of India hav been published and issued from this office, and preliminary geographie information to a very great extent has been furnished of the Native States, an those parts of India which have not yet come within the scope of the regular surve operations. If any old copies of any of these maps, now in the possession of Civ Authorities, could be transmitted on loan to this office for a short time, with note and emendations clearly marked thereon, all important places underscored, an full directions noted as to particular changes which have arisen of late years, wit new roads, railways, or canals sketched in, the information so embodied could b speedily extracted into the original records of this office, and very valuable result might ensue.

6. It is not intended that the Tabular Form should be too strictly followed or that local officers should confine themselves to the specific information thereir referred to, but if the peculiarities of the several Districts and Provinces could b embodied in a somewhat similar manner, and the best names tabulated as briefly a possible, the assistance this Department would thus receive will be gratefully acknowledged.

Forms of names of Divisions, Districts, Sub-Divisions and important places, in

Divisions, Commissionerships, or Agencies.	Names of Districts.	Names of Sub-Divisions, Tehseels, Pergunnahs, or Talooks, or other local designation in each District.	Names of Thannahs or Police Circles and Stations in each District.	Names of Sudder or Civil and Military Stations.	Names of important Cities and Towns, Travellers' Rest-houses or Staging Bungalows, Places of note, large Bazaars or Markets, Post Offices, Telegraph Stations, &c., &c.	New Roads, or chief lines of communication, from and to	General Remarks.
							In this column may be entered any information as to the Physical Geography and Topography of the District, chief Rivers, names of Mountain Ranges, Lakes, Passes, Ferries, Fords, &c. with description of any alteration in the limits of the District, or its internal civil organization, subsequent to survey, Railways opened or in progress.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department,
14th August 1867.

No. 96. ORDER THEREON, 14th August 1867, No. 992.

Resolved that two copies of the Sketch Map referred to in paragraph 2 of the foregoing letter be furnished to the Board of Revenue, with a request that they will have the necessary corrections made in it, as desired by the Surveyor General.

2. Resolved, also, that copies of the letter and of the Return attached to it be forwarded to the several Collectors in the Provinces, who will, in communication with the District Police Officers, furnish the information requested in paragraph 4 of the letter.

3. A copy of the letter and of the Return will be forwarded to the Resident of Travancore, in view to the information regarding the Cochin and Travancore States being furnished.

4. With respect to the request contained in paragraph 5, the Collectors will send to the Surveyor General of India, for his use, any old maps which they can conveniently spare.

(True Extract).

Acting Chief Secretary.

To the Board of Revenue, with two Maps.
" Collector of
" Resident of Travancore and Cochin.
" Revenue Department.
" Inspector General of Police.

Exd. J. H. Burns.