

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	1895.A	Press Mis
1434 , 1435. Dated	8 - 7 -	19. 1868.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
8th July 1868.*

No. 143A.

Read the following :—

MINUTE BY THE HONORABLE A. J. ARBUTHNOT.

1. As the question which has been raised in connexion with the revision of the assessment of the Land Revenue of the Salem District, in regard to the duration of the settlement in money of that assessment and of the other assessments which have been recently revised, or are now in course of revision in the Ryotwari districts of this Presidency, is about to be referred for the orders of the Secretary of State, I wish to say that, since writing my Minute of the 30th November last, I have had an opportunity of reading the Parliamentary Blue Book containing "the correspondence between the Secretary of State for India in Council and the Government of India in 1865, 1866, and 1867, on the subject of the permanent Settlement of the Land Revenue in India," which shews that, in dealing with the various questions which have been mooted since the receipt of Sir C. Wood's Despatch of the 19th July 1862, regarding the re-settlement of the districts forming the North-Western Provinces, Her Majesty's Government have continued to adhere to the decision conveyed in that Despatch in favor of the adoption of a permanent money assessment, so soon as certain conditions, which they regard as essential preliminaries to a permanent settlement, shall have been fulfilled. Under these circumstances, and adverting to the apparent concurrence of all the authorities in the north of India, from the Governor General downwards, in regarding this question as finally and conclusively settled, I should have scarcely felt myself justified in adhering to my previous recommendation, that the question, as it affects the Revenue Settlement now in progress in this Presidency, should be again referred to the Secretary of State, if it had not been necessary to represent the grave objections which attach to the adoption, under a Ryotwari system, of the measure which is apparently contemplated in the Despatch of 1862, of throwing the adjoining waste land into the holdings on which revenue is paid, whenever it may be deemed proper to declare the assessment permanent.

2. It is clearly essential that the utter inapplicability and inexpediency of such an arrangement in connexion with a "Field Settlement" should be represented to the Home Government, and that if the principle of a permanent settlement is to be adhered to, we should be furnished with more explicit instructions in regard to the conditions which in this Presidency must precede its imposition; and under this head, it is desirable that we should be informed whether the second of the two rules laid down in Sir Stafford Northcote's Despatch of the 23rd March 1867, that "no permanent settlement shall be concluded for any estate to which "canal irrigation is, in the opinion of the Governor General in Council, likely to "be extended within the next twenty years, and the existing assets of which would "thereby be increased in the proportion of 20 per cent.," is to be deemed applicable to the Madras Presidency.

3. The course which, under the orders of the Secretary of State, has been followed in this Presidency in dealing with lands irrigated from the canals which have been recently constructed, has been to levy, in addition to the assessment imposed upon the land with reference to its productive properties, irrespective of irrigation, such a water-rate as is deemed sufficient to yield a fair rate of interest on the capital expended in the construction of the works. Hitherto it has not

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
8th July 1868.

been contemplated to demand from the land-holders obtaining water from such works, any addition to what I may designate as the dry assessment of the land, beyond the price of the water; and I cannot but think that this is the policy to which the Government ought to adhere; but as it is apparently inconsistent with the rule which I have quoted, it seems desirable that we should obtain some more definite and express instructions on the subject, and in referring this question, as well as the other to which I have alluded, I think that we are at liberty to state the opinion which the present members of this Government entertain as to the expediency of restricting the permanent settlement of the land revenue to the assessment in grain, and of limiting the duration of the assessment in money to a period of thirty years.

4th July 1868.

(Signed) A. J. ARBUTHNOT.

No. 143B.

ORDER THEREON, 8th July 1868, No. 1,895A.

Land Revenue.

Ordered to be submitted to the
Right Honorable the Secretary of State,
together with the Proceedings of Gov-

ernment, dated the 20th May 1868, No. 1,427.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) R. A. DALYELL,

Acting Secretary to Government

Acting Secretary to Government.

My dear Dalzell

My notes on this minute
should be
advised to be returned that it

the 1st of the Secretary of
State together with the proceedings
of Govt. dated the 20th May

It is altogether unnecessary to send
home with a despatch dated the
16th a proceeding dated the 16th.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

I have after this in order that the minute
may be sent with the despatch from A.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

I wish to see
minutes with
the papers

W. 1963

14th July/68

Minute

As the question which has been
raised in connection with the
revision of the appointment of
the land revenue of the Salween
District, in regard to the duration
of the settlement in view of
that appointment and of the
other appointments which have
been recently revised or are
now in course of revision in the
Khyatari Districts of this
Province is about to be
referred for the advice of the
Secretary of State, I wish to
say that since writing my
minutes of the 30th November
last, I have had an opportunity
of reading the Parliamentary
Blue Book containing "the
Correspondence between the
Secretary of State for India in
Council and the Government

of India in 1865, 1866 & 1867
on the subject of the Permanent
Settlement of the Land Revenue
in India", which shows that
in dealing with the various questions
which have been mooted since the
receipt of Sir C. Wood's despatch
of the 19th July 1862, regarding
the resettlement of the Districts
forming the North Western Provinces,
the British Government have
continued to adhere to the
decisions conveyed in that
despatch in favor of the adoption
of a permanent survey agreement,
so soon as certain conditions
which they regard as essential
preliminaries to a permanent
settlement shall have been
fulfilled. ~~Under~~ ^{Under} these
circumstances and adhering to
the apparent concurrence of all
the authorities in the North of
India, from the Governor General
downwards, in regarding this
question as finally and conclusively

settled, I should have ~~felt~~
scarcely felt my self justified
in adhering to my previous
recommendation but the
question, as it affects the
Permanent Settlement now in progress in
the Punjab, should be
again referred to the Council
of State, if it had not been
impossible to represent the
grave objections which attach
to the adoption, under a
Regulation system, of the measure
which is apparently contemplated
in the despatch of 1862 of
throwing the ^{adjoining} land into
the holding on which Revenue
is paid, however it may be
desired proper to declare
the agreement permanent.
It is chiefly essential that the
utter inapplicability and
impossibility of such an
arrangement in connection with
a "Fixed Settlement" should be

represented to the House for,
and that if the principle of a
permanent settlement is to be
adhered to, no doubt is furnished
with a more ^{explicit} ~~definite~~ ^{statement} instructions
in regard to the conditions which in this
provision must precede its
imposition, and under this
head it is desirable that we
should be informed whether the
second of the two notes laid
down in Sir Stafford Northcote's
dispatch of the 23rd March 1865
that "no permanent settlement
"shall be concluded for any estate
"to which Canal Irrigation is in
"the opinion of the Governor General
"Council likely to be introduced
"within the next 20 years, and
"the existing apportionment of which would
"thereby be increased in the
proportion of 20 per cent" is to be
demanded applicable to the houses
provisionary.
The course which under the
action of the Secretary of State

has of late years been followed
in this Province in dealing
with lands irrigated from the
(canals which have been
recently constructed, has
been to levy in addition to
the apportionment imposed upon
the land ~~owner~~ with reference
to its productive properties,
irrigation of irrigation,
such a water rate
as is deemed sufficient to
yield a fair rate of interest
on the capital expended in
the construction of the works.
It must be true that it has not been
contemplated to demand
from the landholders, obtaining
water from such works, any
addition to what I may
designate as the dry apportionment
of the land, beyond the
price of the water; and I
cannot but think that this
is the policy to which the
Government ought to adhere;

but as it is apparently inconsistent
with the note which I have
forwarded, it seems desirable
that we should obtain some
more definite & express instructions
on the subject, and in referring
this question, as well as the
other 2 which I have alluded
I think that we are at liberty
to state the opinion which the
present members of this Government
entertain as to the expediency
of restricting the permanent
settlement of the land revenue
& the appointment in service, and
of limiting ^{the duration of} the appointment in
service to a period of 30 years.

G. J. Cunningham

4th July 1868.

Ordered to be recorded with reference to
the despatch to the Hon. Secy of State dated
8 Dec 1866.

R. H.

20/17

Revenue 1868. 6/6 1/2
 No. of 6 and 6a only
 97. 2403

Minute by the
 Hon. Sp. Commr.
 not

Plated 4th 3 July
 Received 13th 1868

No 1895d. 8 July

According to view
 on the subject
 of the movement
 to the north of the
 River Revenue
 in 1868

We have ordered
 8 July 1895 A

26/5/22 ✓
 17/7/99 ✓
 23/3/59 ✓
 7-11-90 ✓
 9-11-93 ✓
 17-7-99 ✓
 28-4-83 ✓
 5-1-84 ✓
 27-11-07 ✓
 23-10-13 ✓
 9-5-14 ✓
 26-1-17 ✓
 28-6-23 II ✓

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