

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 906	Press
<u>8-81</u>	<u>Mis.</u>
Dated 5 th April 1869	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
5th April 1869.*

No. 80. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 18th February 1869, No. 1,108 :—

Read the following letter from the Collector of Kurnool, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 8th December 1868, No. 421.

I HAVE the honor to request the Board's instructions regarding disposal of the walls of small forts, scattered about this district.

2. I can hardly think that, with reference to Proceedings of the Board, dated 29th September 1868, No. 6,911, it is necessary, in every case of application, to trouble them for their opinion ; for applications are very constant, and there is a fort in almost every village in the district.

3. The usual course hitherto adopted is, to put up the walls, which are only sold for the sake of their stones, to auction, and sell them to the highest bidder.

4. The immediate cause of my now addressing the Board is an application, received from the Superintendent of Police, requesting permission to use some of the stones of the fort walls at Govardhanagiri, in the Ramallakota Talook, and Kotakonda, Chennampalli, and Tsanugondla in the Pattikonda Talook, for the erection of Police Station-houses. I see no objection whatever to this application being granted.

In their Proceedings, 28th August last, No. 6,180, the Board requested Government to lay down orders regarding the custody and, if necessary, demolition of abandoned forts from which Military Forces or employes are withdrawn.

2. On this Government were pleased to direct* that such works should be regarded as in the custody of the Collector ; that special sanction of Government should be obtained for their demolition, or for the appropriation of their material ; that such demolition, when sanctioned, should be carried out, by the Department Public Works, according to the wishes of the Collector ; and that the material should be held available for Government, Local, and Municipal works, on payment of cost of extraction, the surplus being sold and surplus proceeds applied, with sanction of Government, to local purposes.

3. The Collector of Kurnool states, in the letter recorded above, that there is a fort in almost every village in his district, and wishes to know whether the orders above quoted are to be held applicable to them.

4. The Board are of opinion that the Government, in their Order, contemplated, (as did the Board in their Proceedings on which it was based,) only Military works of a more or less Imperial character.

5. There are, however, scattered over the country numerous works of the description referred to by Mr. Chase, which the Board would characterise rather as village-keeps ; and it seems desirable that Government should lay down the principle on which such are to be dealt with.

6. These village-keeps are Municipal property, and their speedy removal, more especially on sanitary grounds, is now most necessary, as well as to admit of extension of villages and give room for the construction of better houses.

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Resd. Secy. to Govt. / District Commr. / Secy. to Govt.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
5th April 1869.

7. The Board suggest that they should be authorised to require Collectors to submit proposals for removing all such works and throwing open village sites; the space so acquired being laid out in the best manner, with a view to cleanliness and ventilation of the village generally. It should, as a rule, be reserved for general purposes or recreation, and planted with useful or ornamental trees.

8. Wherever there are stone-gates or the like they should be sold, and the proceeds applied to these purposes, and Public Departments requiring them should pay for them. Mud walls should be removed and thrown down in communication with the villagers, a small sum being voluntarily subscribed for this purpose.

9. Having before them a short statement of what was proposed to be done by the people and by the Collector, and the funds available, the Board might be empowered to sanction the scheme, applying to Government for a moderate grant-in-aid when required.

No. 81.

ORDER THEREON, 5th April 1869, No. 906.

Miscellaneous.

THE Right Honorable the Governor in Council concurs in the observations of the Board of Revenue, and authorises them to call upon Collectors to submit proposals for the removal of village forts wherever such a course is desirable on sanitary or municipal grounds. Grants-in-aid may be occasionally sanctioned for the purpose from the District Local Funds.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) R. A. DALYELL,
Acting Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.

Ed. F. R. Bantleman.

*Rs 21 Sept 1869 301-3.
- 12 November - 214-215*

*Revenue Dept.
No. 384*

BOARD OF REVENUE, MADRAS.
1869.

PROCEEDINGS, 18TH FEBRUARY 1869, No. 1,108.

Depd 23 3
Received *21* Encl

FEBRUARY.
No. 1,108.

Said 5 Feb 1869

Works of description of Forts—such as those scattered over Kurnool District.—Recommendation to Government to authorize Board to require Collectors to submit proposals for removal of,— Certain suggestions on subject.

224 March 1869 R.H.H.

80.

By order
Govt. of (1869) Madras.

REVENUE.

THE BOARD OF REVENUE

Dated April, 5th.

Recd.

G. O., 5th April 1869, No. 93C.

APRIL.
Nos. 80-81.

Village Forts.—Board of Revenue directed to call upon Collectors to submit proposals for their removal wherever such a course is desirable on sanitary or municipal grounds.

No 906
 Pro: of the Madras Govt.
 Under date the 5th April 1869
 Read the following Pro of
 the Bd. of Rev.
 (A.E. 18th Feb 1869 No 1108)
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W.D.
 A.S.