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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
21st August 1871.*

Read the following :—

No. 209. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 28th March 1871,
No. 1,345.

Read the following letter from the Collector of Malabar, to the Acting Secretary
to the Board of Revenue, dated Calicut, 3rd February 1871, No. 25.

In paragraph 7 of Government Order dated 10th August 1870, No. 1,225,
~~I am directed to report as to certain grave strictures~~ passed by Major Hessey
on the Wynaad demarcation in paragraphs 13, 14, and 15 of his letter of 31st
August 1868.

2. The 15th paragraph, however, does not refer to Wynaad, but is devoted
to a cursory but sweeping condemnation of the demarcation of Godavery,
Cuddapah, Kurnool, Nellore, Salem, Coimbatore, Trichinopoly, and Tinnevely.
I shall therefore restrict my observations to paragraphs 13 and 14 which are
as follow:—

“13. The demarcation began under Mr. E. C. G. Thomas with a large
“establishment. His men went about the district demarcating as they called it,
“sticking in little twigs as demarcation marks; afterwards they advanced so far
“as to put in stones varying from the size of a man's fist to the size of a man's
“head; in rare instances the stones were a little larger.”

“14. Where these marks are neither the men who made them, the surveyors
“who observed them, nor the planters who neglected them, can say.”

3. It appears to me that these paragraphs embody two charges scarcely
consistent with each other; for, if the demarcation marks were mere twigs and
pebbles, no amount of attention, on the part of the planters could have prevented
their disappearance in ten years.

4. The demarcation of Wynaad was undertaken by the Special Department,
and was carried out by Mr. E. C. G. Thomas, under the instructions of the late
Mr. Newill, the then Director of Revenue Settlement. The scheme drawn up by
the latter gentleman is printed with, and approved of in, Government Order dated
16th May 1860, No. 739. In paragraph 29 Mr. Newill points out that it will be
impracticable to perpetuate all the minor marks, and provides for their being
temporarily indicated for the survey by means of small stones and mounds. In
paragraph 2 Mr. Newill proposed that when natural divisions existed in properties,
as by ridges of hills, streams or other naturally defined features, these were to be
approximately laid down, and further stated that without these the Survey map
would be wanting in what appeared to be necessary topographical detail. In
paragraph 15 he describes the plan proposed for connecting the Revenue Survey
by a system of triangulation with the Great Trigonometrical Survey, all objects of
topographical interest being fixed by a series of minor triangles.

5. The survey so far as it has gone does not result, as I think it ought to do,
in an annual map of the talook; each year increasing our knowledge of the details
as new areas are surveyed. It is therefore difficult to know how far the plan
above sketched has been carried out. Judging, however, from the lithographed
map of the talook in which large blocks of surveyed estates are represented miles
away from their true position, I infer that topographical details have been hitherto
neglected as well as the task of connecting all work with the Great Trigonometrical
Survey. The scheme, however, which has now been decided on, will remedy all

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this, as it provides for indicating roads, rivers, streams, rocks, and ridges, and these permanent demarcation marks are so plentifully distributed over the talook that it is never necessary to go many yards in search of one of them.

6. I do not see that any good object will be gained by any further inquiry into the character of the demarcation, first by a special and then by the regular Revenue Department. The results have been admitted to be unsatisfactory, and the work has been handed over in Wynaad to the Survey Department. Settlement officers, as a rule, consider temporary demarcation sufficient, the object being to get correct areas and maps containing such details as will admit of the ground being at any future time compared with the maps. Survey officers alone can be got to regard 24x6x6 of grey granite with that species of veneration which the heads of the department demand for it.

REFERRED for the remarks of the Director of Revenue Settlement.

No. 210. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 17th July 1871, No. 2,968.

Read again letter from Collector of Malabar, dated 3rd February 1871, recorded in Board's Proceedings dated 28th March 1871, No. 1,345.

Read also the following letter from the Acting Director of Revenue Settlement, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Madanapally, 17th June 1871, No. 1,212-39.

In reply to the Board's Proceedings dated 28th March last, No. 1,345, regarding the faulty demarcation in Wynaad which took place eleven years ago, I have the honour to remark that I am unable to say much more than has been already stated by Mr. Macgregor in his letter embodied in the Proceedings under reply. The demarcation in former years was not carried out in the permanent and finished manner since arrived at; permanency was not then insisted upon, as earthen mounds were allowed to be used. Moreover, the outlay since incurred for the shapely stones would in those days have been considered a complete barrier to the introduction of this better style of work. Thus mounds and ordinary stones were employed. In fact, the demarcators, I take it, acted up to the orders and system then in vogue, and experience has shown that the former were unsatisfactory and the latter inefficient. The Board take this view of the earlier demarcation question in their Proceedings dated 28th March 1870, No. 2,020, in which they state, "The Board are willing to accept Mr. Master's assurance as to the care employed, and it is admitted that the present unsatisfactory state of matters is attributed to the orders formerly in force as to the material to be used."

2. Nothing is now used for field-marks but stones quarried by heat and roughly hammer dressed; they are well buried in the ground, and should remain for years and years. Mr. Randall has commenced the Chendragherry Talook under Government Order dated 23rd April 1871, No. 754, and is using stones with the broad arrow similar to those put down by the Survey Department in Chingleput and elsewhere.

3. I have not my records with me, but can remember having noticed that, although in the present correspondence Major Hessey condemns the former

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demarcation in a most wholesale manner, there are opinions of his to a contrary effect to be met with, and that he consented to Mr. Master undertaking the demarcation of Cunbun and Markapur, although strictly speaking it then appertained to the survey. I may also add that the officer who conducted the survey of the latter talook told me quite *sua sponte* when I was last in Kurnool how good he had found the demarcation in that portion of the district.

In the concluding paragraph of Government Order dated 10th August 1870, No. 1,225, the Government brought to the notice of the Board, and desired that the opinion of the Collector might be obtained regarding certain strictures passed by Major Hessey on the nature of the demarcation of Wynaad in a letter dated 31st August 1868.

2. The Collector of Malabar was called on for his opinion, and his reply dated 3rd February 1871, when received, was referred to the Director of Revenue Settlement for remarks. The letters of these officers will now be submitted to Government. They both of them point out that, in the early times of demarcation, everything was performed in a much more temporary and inexpensive manner than has since been required. It was then considered sufficient if the boundaries were laid down with sufficient permanency to enable the Surveyors who followed to recognize the marks and perpetuate the boundaries in the maps, connecting the different points with either a few permanent marks or some well-defined physical features of the country.

3. It is possible that the demarcation of Wynaad may have been done in a more than usually perfunctory manner, but it is impossible after this lapse of time that any good result can follow from further inquiry. Major Hessey's strictures are as indefinite as severe; the course of procedure now is essentially different, and the danger is rather that demarcation will be made in a manner unnecessarily expensive in its details.

No. 211: ORDER THEREON, 21st August 1871, No. 1,427.

Miscellaneous.

THE above papers will be recorded, as the Government concur with the Board in opinion that no good will

result from further discussion of demarcation performed several years ago on a now condemned and abandoned method.

2. The Government, however, desire to know what map it is to which Mr. Macgregor alludes in paragraph 5 of his letter dated 3rd February 1871.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) A. DEC. SCOTT, Captain, R.E.,

Under-Secy., P.W.D.,

for Secy. to Govt.

To the Board of Revenue.

„ the Director of Revenue Settlement.

„ the Superintendent of Revenue Survey.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

Per 1871. Sept
Board of Revenue,
MADRAS. No. 2417.

PROCEEDINGS, 17TH JULY 1871, No. 2,968.

Desp^d - 26 July/71

Encl.

Received

JULY.

No. 2,968.

Demarcation of Wynad in Malabar District.—
Letters from Collector and Director of Revenue
Settlement, regarding certain strictures passed
by Major Hesse on nature of, submitted to
Government.

10 May - 21 August 1871
Middle London

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