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Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
28th August 1871.

No. 305. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 9th August 1871, No. 3,349 :—

Read the following letter from the Superintendent of Revenue Survey, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Chepauk, 23rd May 1871, No. 1,146-34.

As the alleged small excess over Curnums' areas, disclosed by survey in the Patticondah Talook of the Karnool District, appears to be the chief reason for deferring the demarcation and survey of the Bellary District, I have the honour to append copy of letter from Captain Cloeté, from which the Board of Revenue will observe that the increase shown by survey in the talook is 8 per cent. on the cultivated area of nearly 500 square-miles, or that an actual increase of 24,027 acres paying rent to Government is the result of survey.

2. The Acting Director's letter No. 996-27 of the 13th July 1870, representing that there is no necessity for being in a hurry about Bellary either in a Revenue or Settlement point of view, was first communicated to me in Government Order No. 754 of the 28th ultimo, and I had therefore no opportunity to submit any remarks on the subjects treated of in it previous to the disposal of the question by Government.

3. There are therefore in addition to the erroneous statement above noted one or two other points on which I beg to afford information, although unfortunately the arguments and statements of the Director of Revenue Settlement have been accepted, and have apparently [illegible] the ground-work of the [illegible] tion and of the decision of Government.

"Coimbatore"....." where settlement operations cannot be commenced although the Survey have been in the district for nine years." I cannot say that this statement is not true, but nevertheless it gives a very unfair account of Survey progress.

Mr. Banbury's letter, paragraph 2.

During the years 1861 to 1863 survey work such as it was, was performed by a small detachment employed in Wynaad during the working season on the west coast, afterwards until 1866 by a small detachment from Salem. In 1866 the head-quarters of the party were moved from Salem to Coimbatore, and as only 1,771 square-miles had been surveyed up to that date, almost the whole of which was resurveyed on account of *defective demarcation*, I think the commencement of survey work in the district might almost be said to date from 1866. To the Coimbatore Survey party under Major Hessey, moreover, was assigned the duty of surveying the settlements on the Neilgherries, coffee estates in Wynaad, etc., a duty which of course considerably interfered with the progress of the Coimbatore Survey proper.

In September 1866.

1,571 square-miles in fields.

Referring to paragraphs 6 and 7, I beg to refer to my letter addressed to Mr. Banbury, No. 3,076-97 of the 21st December last, which I requested him to communicate to the Board of Revenue. This, I presume, has been done. I, however, append a copy for reference. In it they will observe that the points noticed in

these paragraphs have been discussed. When touching on the complaint made by him of having been kept in ignorance of the subject of a letter, I pointed out to him that a copy of his letter to Government had not been furnished me.

If what Mr. Banbury says regarding the exceptional increase to the pay of certain Uncovenanted Survey Officers is meant to connect it with the transfer of demarcation, he is in error. At present his Uncovenanted Deputies draw Rs. 787-8-0, but when or how their pay was augmented by Rs. 287-8-0 is unknown to me. No order on the subject that I am aware of has been communicated to my Office.

I was not aware that it is usual or necessary to disclaim personal motives for recommending any particular measure to Government. Under the circumstances I may perhaps be permitted to state that the motives by which I was actuated in combating the retransfer of demarcation to settlement were that it appeared to me to be for the interest of Government, that the arrangements best calculated to aid and strengthen the survey should be adopted. The survey is the most expensive, and the slowest process of the resettlement scheme; it is therefore reasonable to suppose that it might be considered good policy to endeavour to hasten its progress. I cannot see any advantage to Government to be derived from keeping on foot a larger settlement establishment than that for which there is work, when, by not doing so, the survey might be greatly benefited.

Should explanation on the many other points touched on in Mr. Banbury's [illegible] since the issue of the Government Order dated 28th April 1871, No. 754, it would not appear necessary.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

Copy of a letter from the Acting Deputy-Superintendent, No. 2 Revenue Survey, to the Superintendent of Revenue Survey, dated Kurnool, 12th May 1871, No. 616-108.

WITH reference to the decision of Government, conveyed in their order No. 754, dated 28th April 1871, I have the honour to lay before you a few remarks for submission should you deem proper.

2. The main and apparently only valid reason for deferring the demarcation and survey of the Bellary District is given in Mr. Banbury's letter No. 719-16, dated 19th May 1870, paragraph 5; it is that "wherever Sir Thomas Munro's settlements were carried out the increase gained by the present correct survey is comparatively small;" this statement seems to be based on experience of the Pattikonda Talook (transferred from Bellary to Kurnool) in which the Director says "the increase by survey over Curnums' areas is not 1½ per cent."

The Board of Revenue in reviewing the Director's letter repeat[illegible] statement that the excess area discovered by the Survey Department in Pattikonda Talook is only 1½ per cent., and considering therefore in a financial point of view the survey of Bellary not to be immediately necessary recommend that it be deferred. Now the increase shown by survey in Pattikonda is 8 *per cent.*; on a *cultivated* area of nearly 500 square-miles, the exact figures are given in the margin; on demi-official application from the Director, I supplied him with these areas.

No. of Villages.	Area of cultivation by Curnums accounts in Acres.	Same area by Survey in Acres.	Difference in Acres.
74	3,02,977	3,27,005	24,027

3. The next point on which I feel constrained to remark is the eventual increased cost to Government that will result if the demarcation of Bellary be not now commenced; the Director truly says "unless we show a good amount of actual field-work, our expenditure per square-mile mounts up erroneously, and the financial view of the question at the year's end is melancholy;" this remark applies with greater force to this department in proportion as survey is a more costly operation than settlement; the postponement of the question of providing fresh work for this Survey Party has already borne fruit, inasmuch as in order to prevent the possibility of the whole of the field hands being suddenly thrown out of employ, vacancies have during the past eighteen months not been filled, and the strength of the field establishment has thus been allowed to fall to nearly one-half of the sanctioned number: the outturn during this period has been less in proportion, and the cost consequently greater for the European supervision. Head or Office and many other expenses would have remained the same had the *full* strength been kept up.

4. I am not aware of the exact extent of country demarcated in Cuddapah and not yet commenced by the survey; but from what Captain Clay told me a few months ago, I believe that were two full Survey Parties to work in that district, the demarcation would be overtaken within a year, and then unless wholesale reductions are made in the Survey Department, the Government will be very great losers.

5. On this point as well as on the numerous objections to the transfer of a portion of my party to the southern talooks of Cuddapah, while my office is at Kurnool, I beg to be allowed to make personal representation, should the opportunity occur and you think it desirable.

Copy of a letter from the Superintendent of Revenue Survey, to the Acting Director of Revenue Settlement, dated Chepauk, 21st December 1870, No. 3,076-97.

I HAVE received a copy of the Board's Proceedings of the 10th instant, No. 7,043, and have the honour, with reference [illegible] system of pushing on settlement operations before the completion of the survey, to state that of course I d[illegible] within my own province. I would, however, point to the letter of the Director of Revenue Settlement, dated 9th October 1868 (No. 1,222-38), paragraph 3, in which he opposes this system, and Government, in their Proceedings dated 19th November 1868 (No. 2,900), fully concur in Mr. Master's views. In his letter to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, written so lately as 24th August 1869, paragraphs 59 and 60, Mr Master recurs to this subject, and in paragraph 72 of this letter, points out the true source from which all the differences between the settlement and survey have sprung, viz., that the former department was organized five years too soon. Having been set on foot, it was necessary to find employment for it. Thus demarcation was assigned to it, and the natural consequence ensued of entrusting to it a work of which it did not know the value, and in performing which it neither understood nor consulted survey requirements. The same necessity of finding work for the Settlement Department appears again to exist, and it is proposed again to meet it by giving back to that department the purely survey detail of demarcation. Believing that doing so is sacrificing the Survey Department, I am altogether opposed to the measure.

2. As pointed out to you personally yesterday, you have been misinformed regarding the origin of the order of Government, directing that the Superintendent of Revenue Survey should receive direct copies of all orders, etc., concerning the two departments, and that he should correspond direct with Government on all matters connected with his department. At the same time, I explained that the arrangements proposed by the Deputy-Superintendent in charge of Chingleput Demarcation and approved of by me, were purely departmental, and therefore (in accordance with the order quoted by you) not communicated to you.

Government Order, 21st September 1860, No. 1,673, paragraph 15.
Do. do., 23rd April 1861, No. 918, paragraph 2.
Extract Minutes Consultation, 15th August 1855, No. 951, paragraph 41.

3. This is the first occasion since the departments have existed on which any complaint of being kept in ignorance by me has been made by the Settlement Department, and I shall be glad

of a more specific statement of the subjects on which you have received no information. To my knowledge there is none. In several of the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, reference is made to a letter addressed by you to the Secretary to Government, dated 13th July 1870, on the subject of my proposal to demarcate Bellary. I may remark that it has not been communicated to me.

4. I address this letter to you instead of to the Board direct, as this course appears agreeable to you, and request that you will communicate it to the Board yourself.

ORDERED to be recorded.

No. 306. ORDER THEREON, 28th August 1871, No. 1,474.

Miscellaneous. ORDERED to be recorded.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
Secretary to Government.

Rev 1871. Dep.
Board of Revenue,
MADRAS.
No 2676

PROCEEDINGS, 9TH AUGUST 1871, No. 3,349.

Dep.t 18 Aug.t 1871. Encl.

Received 21 Aug.

AUGUST.

No. 3,349.

Demarcation and Survey of Bellary District,—Letter from Superintendent of Revenue Survey forwarding copy of one from Deputy Superintendent, Captain Cloete, submitting remarks relative to postponement of, as directed by Government recorded.

No 1474

28 Aug 1871

No 305-306

Sobt. of 1871 Madras.

REVENUE.

To

THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

Dated August 28th.

Read.

G. O., 28th August 1871, No. 1,471.

AUGUST.

Nos. 305-306.

Demarcation and Survey of Bellary District.—Revenue Board's Proceedings submitting letters from Survey Department relative to postponement of —, recorded.