

12

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
31st March 1871.*

Read the following:—

No. 492. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 12th November 1870,
No. 6,621.

Read the following letter from the Collector of Salem, to the Acting Secretary to
the Board of Revenue, dated 27th October 1870, No. 210.

I HAVE the honour to submit a copy of the reports received from the divisional
officers on the state of the records in their divisions for the past year.

2. As regards the records in the two taluqs of Althoor and Salem, I must
defer reporting on them till I have had an opportunity of inspecting them.

3. As regards the records in the Huzur, pharists have been written up to
1862, and those for 1863 and 1864 are in progress. A list has also been prepared
in English of all the papers, and proposals will be submitted shortly as to those
worthy of retention and those to be destroyed.

4. I beg to add that the Board's Circular Orders have been brought up and
corrected up to date. The Acts are also being brought up.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From the Acting Head Assistant Collector, to the Collector of Salem, dated Tripatore; 18th
October 1870, No. 334.

With reference to your letter, dated 15th September 1870, No. 801, I have the honour to
report on the state of the records in my division.

1. HEAD ASSISTANT COLLECTOR'S OFFICE—*Revenue Records*.—All the useless records up to
1865 have been destroyed, since then the records have been stamped "keep and destroy." The
former and the latter are now being separated.

Magisterial Records.—These have been destroyed up to 1867. Calendars only have been
kept. Acts, Gazettes, File books, are in good order.

2. TRIPATORE TALUQ CUTCHERRY—*Revenue Records* up to 1866 have been destroyed.

The Cash Accounts have been arranged. The Tahsildar has been directed to keep and
destroy such records as stated in the Board's Circular under date 20th June 1870, No. 487.

The Pymash Accounts are preserved in a sealed box.

Magisterial Records of cases destroyed up to 1866; Calendars only have been kept. All
useless *Magisterial Urzees* and *Takids* up to 1869 destroyed.

3. UTTENGHERY TALUQ CUTCHERRY—*Revenue Records*.—Account papers of correspond-
ence from 1821 to 1868 have been sifted, and the useless papers destroyed. Other miscellaneous
useless records up to 1868 have been destroyed. The Pymash Accounts are kept in a sealed box.

Magisterial Records of cases up to 1866 have been destroyed, Calendars excepted. Other
records to be preserved are neatly kept.

4. VANIEMBADY DEPUTY-TAHSILDAR'S CUTCHERRY—*Revenue Records* up to 1863 have been
sorted, the work of sorting the subsequent years' records is progressing.

Magisterial Records of cases after 1863 (Calendars excepted) have been destroyed. The
subsequent *Takids* and orders will be sorted. Before that date the elimination has been completed.

5. HARUR DEPUTY-TAHSILDAR'S CUTCHERRY—*Revenue Records* up to 1866 have been sorted.
Orders have been issued for the separation of useless subsequent papers.

Magisterial Records.—These have been sorted from 1866. Orders have been issued to the
Deputy-Tahsildar to separate the documents which should be respectively kept and destroyed.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
31st March 1871.*

ENCLOSURE No. 2.

From the Acting Head Assistant Collector in charge, to the Acting Sub-Collector in charge of Salem District, dated Royacottah, 17th September 1870, No. 496.

With reference to Mr. Pochin's letter, dated 19th ultimo, No. 735, I have the honour to submit the report called for on the state of the records in this division.

2. Not having had an opportunity of inspecting the records in the Taluq Offices, except Kistnagherry, personally, I can only base my remark on the Tahsildar's reports.

3. The records of this office, however, which I have inspected, are neatly kept, and are well arranged. Registers have been nearly completed up to 1869; useless and unnecessary records are being eliminated and destroyed.

Oosoor.—The records of this taluq are stated to be in good condition, and to have been arranged and sorted up to date. Lists have been prepared, and useless records destroyed.

Dharampury.—Records up to April 1870 have been arranged and sorted, but no lists prepared. Useless records have been destroyed up to 1869. The arrangement and condition stated to be good.

Kistnagherry.—The records have been mostly sorted, and useless records, as far as possible, destroyed. But Registers have not been completed. The Tahsildar says that the necessary steps have been taken to ensure proper arrangement for the future.

Denkencottah.—The state of the records is said to be good, and Registers, etc., completed up to 1866.

Pennagaram.—The records up to 1865 sorted, and lists completed to that date. The subsequent records are in course of arrangement.

ENCLOSURE No. 3.

From the Assistant Collector in charge of Namkul Division, to the Collector of Salem, dated 17th February 1870, No. 34.

I HAVE the honour to submit my report on the state of records in the Namkul Division for the year 1869.

2. Deputy-Collector's Office.—The Revenue and Magisterial correspondence has been properly sorted and tied in dufters for each year from 1861 up to 1869. No pharists, however, were ever made or maintained in this office, and prior to the year 1867 there were not even any registers. No papers have been destroyed; I think it due, however, to the subordinates to remark that since October 1863 the establishment has hardly been, till now, for any considerable time, resident at head-quarters. Should you now think it desirable that pharists be prepared, I shall be glad, on receipt of your orders, to try and have the work put in hand.

3. Namkul Taluq.—I had an opportunity of inspecting the records in the month of October last. I then examined some of the pharists, comparing their numbers with those given on the documents, and found them to correspond.

There are in all 1,017 dufters containing Revenue and Magisterial correspondence, village and Nagady Accounts and miscellaneous papers. Of these, 967 dufters contain papers sorted and arranged, with pharists prepared. There are still 110 dufters unarranged. Particulars of the dufters sorted and pharists prepared during the year under report are shown in the margin.

Revenue correspondence	...	...	...	...	6
Magisterial do.	...	...	...	...	5
Darkhast...	...	...	...	...	4
Accounts of Taluq Mannual	...	...	...	...	5
Village Accounts...	...	...	...	...	332
					352

4. Trichengode Taluq.—I did not inspect the records in 1869, but saw them this year. They are now tidily kept, but the majority of the dufter cloths seem very old and dirty. The record-room itself is excellent. There are 562 dufters, containing papers of Revenue and Magisterial correspondence, and Nagady Accounts, and Miscellaneous. Of these, only 178 have as yet been arranged and pharists prepared. During the year under report 29 dufters were sorted, for

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19 of which only pharists have been prepared. The Tahsildar has been called on for an explanation as to why so little work was done. I may add that I observed that the papers destroyed were torn into very small fragments and sold to the paper-contractor for a comparative trifle. I have directed that it should be tried whether their sale by auction would not realize more, if the papers were simply torn into two pieces.

5. Senkerridroog Sub-Magistrate's Office.—I examined the records in the month of August 1869. I found them properly arranged and cleanly kept. There are 56 dufters of Magisterial, Revenue, and Taluq tappal correspondence. Of these, 41 dufters have been arranged, for 38 of which pharists have been prepared. During the past year, 3 dufters were sorted, with pharists, and a like number without pharists.

6. Paramathi Sub-Magistrate's Office.—I have not inspected the records. There are 28 dufters of Magisterial correspondence; 25 dufters have been arranged and pharists prepared, of which 3 were done during the year.

THE Board await the Collector's further report. The use of the word *pharist* (or *parist*) is quite unnecessary.

No. 493. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 11th February 1871, No. 657.

Read again Board's Proceedings, dated 12th November 1870, No. 6,621.

Read also the following letter from the Collector of Salem, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 4th January 1871, No. 6.

I HAVE the honour to submit the proposals referred to in paragraph 3 of my letter of the 27th October last, No. 210, relative to the Vernacular Records of my Office.

2. Enclosed are ten lists of records with which I propose to deal.

3. 1st. *Pymash Accounts on paper*.—There are 398 dufters of these accounts, and I propose to let them lie over till the new Settlement is fully introduced, when I shall again address the Board as to which may be preserved and which destroyed.

4. 2nd. *Jamabandi Accounts*.—There are 2,555 dufters of these. For many of these Accounts there are English translations and Abstract Statements. I have shown in the remark-column of the statement such of the accounts I propose to preserve. The rest may be destroyed, as they are not now required for reference.

5. 3rd. *Cash Accounts*.—There are 448 dufters containing these accounts. Those it will be advisable to retain are shown in the Statement. The rest may be destroyed.

6. 4th. *Inam Records*.—I would allow these records (134 dufters) to remain untouched, pending the final completion of the Inam Settlement, when they may be destroyed.

7. 5th. *Mootah Records*.—There are 60 dufters containing these records, and I would let the whole remain intact, as they are important and constantly required for sub-divisions of estates and for production in Civil Suits. I propose, however, to have these re-arranged, and a more detailed list than the one now existing prepared.

8. 6th. *Maramut Records*.—There are 234 dufters, and a few of these should be preserved. These I have noticed in the remark-column of the statement.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
31st March 1871.*

9. 7th. *Stamp Department Records*.—None of these need be retained; they consist of 36 duffers to be destroyed.

10. 8th. *Huzur Miscellaneous Records 632 Duffers*.—Containing Miscellaneous papers (Accounts, Proceedings, etc.,) under this head. I have marked all those that I consider should be retained. The rest may be destroyed. Some of those retained may also be destroyed after the new Revenue Settlement is completed, for instance, the 26 duffers containing the Rent Rolls (No. 176 in the list) which were obtained for the preparation of Mr. Brett's report on the general reduction of assessment carried out in 1859.

11. 9th. *Miscellaneous Records of the old Sub-Division, 195 Duffers*.—There are very few of these that need be retained, and they are marked in the statement.

12. 10th. *Correspondence, Revenue and Magisterial*.—There are 1,317 duffers containing this correspondence. Out of the above, 457 duffers have been arranged with reference to the standard lists, sanctioned in the Board's Proceedings of the 9th July 1862, No. 4,410, and the rest have to be done. I find that in No. 2 (list of papers to be reserved) there are several papers, the permanent retention of which appears to me unnecessary. Many of them may be destroyed periodically, and I have shown the same in the list which is herewith submitted for sanction.

13. The sorting, arranging, and preparation of lists of the papers to be preserved is a very tedious work, especially that of separating the papers to be retained from those to be destroyed. It is work which cannot possibly be done by the ordinary Record Establishment of the Collector's Office, and I therefore beg to solicit the sanction of the Board for the entertainment of an extra establishment, consisting of eight Gumastas on 10 Rs. each a-month, for the space of six

Probable number of duffers to be destroyed
4,585.

Average weight of each dufter 750, estimating
the sale-proceeds of each dufter at 2 Annas,
the amount for 4,585 duffers will be Rs.
573-2-0.

months, within which I hope to complete the work. The cost of the eight Gumastas for the six months will amount to Rs. 480, and I estimate, as per margin, that the sale-proceeds of the destroyed papers will be rather over this amount.

14. I propose to have an Index made of all that is preserved which will form a permanent record and immeasurably facilitate reference.

15. The mass of record now existing is useless and bewildering, and with the limited space at our disposal a revision of the records and a re-arrangement of the record-room is a matter of pressing necessity. Many of the records will never be required, as the information contained in many of them can be obtained from the English records. They over-crowd the room, and make reference to any document a most tedious and tiresome undertaking. Under these circumstances I trust that the proposals I have now submitted will meet the Board's approval.

16. There are 5,435 rolls of cadjan leaf records in the Huzur, consisting entirely of Pymash, Olongoo, and Putcut Accounts. They have been transcribed into Register A. which is kept according to the Village Manual; but they contain other information than that compassed within the narrow limits of the Manual form. It is, however, a question whether they will be required after the new Settlement is finally introduced, when I will again address the Board. In conclusion, I beg to request the Board's early orders on this letter.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
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ENCLOSURES Nos. 1 to 11.—Lists of Records.

THE Board approve the Collector's proposals, and resolve to request the sanction of Government for the entertainment of the temporary establishment recommended by him.

2. When the work of sorting is completed abstract lists of records to be kept and destroyed should be submitted to the Board before any are destroyed. The Collector should be guided as far as possible by the list circulated to Collectors with official memorandum, No. 487, dated 2nd June 1870.

No. 494. ORDER THEREON, 31st March 1871, No. 597.

Miscellaneous.

SANCTION is accordingly granted for the entertainment of the temporary establishment for six months at a cost not exceeding Rs. 480 in all. The supervision of the arrangement of the records should be entrusted to some responsible and intelligent incumbent on the permanent establishment.

2. There is no provision for the charge in the Budget for 1871-72, and the Board will be requested to state how they propose to provide for it.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.
,, the Accountant-General.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

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Madras Govt 17/12/72

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Revenue Department
No 597

Proceedings of the Madras Government
Executed date the 31st March 1871

Read the following Pro-
ceedings of the Board of Revenue

Requesting to sanction
entertainment of an extra
establishment for six months
at a total cost of Rs 480 for sorting
and arranging records to be
preserved in Salem Collector's Office

H. E. 11th February 1871 No 657

N:
L. P.
A

Sanction is accordingly
granted for the entertainment
of the temporary establishment
for 6 months at a cost not
exceeding Rs 480 in all. The
supervision of the arrange-
ment of the records should
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responsible and intelligent
incumbent on the perma-
nent establishment

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Madras Govt 17/12/72

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Revenue Department

No 597

Proceedings of the Madras Government

Executed date the 31st March 1871

Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue

Requesting to sanction
entertainment of an extra
establishment for six months
at a total cost of Rs 480 for sorting
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preserved in Salem Collector's Office

H. E. 11th February 1871 No 657

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ment of the records should
be entrusted to some
responsible and intelligent
incumbent on the perma-
nent establishment

N:
L. P.
A

There

2. There is no provision
for the charge in the budget
for 1871-72, and the board
will be requested to state
how they propose to provide
for it.

L.B.

Admitted that the
admission of a small sum
to the budget is a
disadvantage to the
State, but the question is
whether it is a disadvantage
to the State or to the
individuals.

To The Board of Revenue, Depto
Accountant General ✓

40/4

Wm. H. Motley

Ms. A.9.2.493

178
Dunbar & Ester
Whitcomb for the
County of Madison
State of Mississippi

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178