No. 107. Read the following letter from the Officiating Junior Secretary to the Government of Bengal, to the Secretary to the Government of Madras, dated Calcutta, 5th August 1872:—

I AM directed to forward for the information of the Government of Madras a copy of some remarks recorded by the Lieutenant-Governor, relative to a correspondence on the subject of the Ryotwar System in Madras, which he has seen referred to in the public prints.

2. Although Mr. Campbell was alluded to in the correspondence in his private capacity, still, as the matter was made the subject of an official correspondence and published, His Honour thinks it fair to set himself right.

---

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

I HAVE noticed with surprise in the public prints an official correspondence between the Governments of Madras and the North-Western Provinces, in which the latter Government give me up to the former as their authority for statements discrediting the ryotwaree system of management prevailing in Madras, and in which I am put before the public as the originator of remarks reflecting unjustly on that system. Such a view is so contrary to my opinions, and I am so little responsible for the remarks of which the Madras Government complains, that I think it fair to set myself right.

It is admitted that I was misquoted in the publication of the Government of the North-Western Provinces which gave rise to the discussion; but the passage is said to have been based on my statements, and it is said that it was by a typical error that the whole passage was not shown as a quotation from my Essay. It would have been more correct to have said that the whole passage was a quotation from the report of a Madras Revenue-officer of high rank, specially deputed by the Government of Madras to report on the subject, and re-printed in my Essay in inverted commas as a quotation from that report. What is still more important, in order to set me right, is that though I quoted, as I was bound to do, the latest official reports furnished to the Secretary of State by the Government of Madras, still, far from endorsing these reports, I twice described them as *pessimist*. I began by saying that the recent Madras reports went "to *the extreme of pessimism*," and ended by saying, "I believe that, notwithstanding the pessimism of the reports which I have quoted, there has been of late years a considerable increase of prosperity and wealth in Madras."

The truth no doubt is that in Madras, as in most Indian provinces, there is much division of official opinion, and while sum officers hold optimist views, believing that the administration can hardly be improved, others think that everything is bad. At the time when I wrote reports in the latter view were supplied to me from the India Office as the latest official information, and I published them with the fullest caution regarding the pessimism of their character.

G. CAMPBELL.

*29th July* 1872.

---

No. 108. ORDER THEREON, 14th August 1872, No. 1,199.

Miscellaneous.

COMMUNICATED to the Board of Revenue.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
*Secretary to Government.*

To the Board of Revenue.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

Revenue 1872 Sept.
No 2659.

From
The Govt of Bengal

Dated 5th
Rec'd 12th } August 72

Forwarding copy
of some remarks recorded
by the Lieutenant Governor
relative to a correspondence
on the subject of the Ryotwar
System in Madras.

No 1199
Com'd to the Bd of Revs.
14 Aug 1872

Bd's Proc 20 Aug 72

Rec'd 14 August 72

W Hudleston

Pp 107-108