Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 9th January 1872.

No. 90. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 10th August 1871, No. 3,369:—

Read the following letter from C. T. LONGLEY, Esq., Collector of Salem, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 5th July 1871, No. 1,833.

I HAVE the honour to reply to paragraph 23 of the Board's Proceedings of the 3rd April last, No. 1,460.

2. It appears from the records that when we acquired the country known as the Baramahal, Talaghat, and Balaghat, during the years 1792 to 1799, there were six classes of village servants as shown in the margin, and their remuneration was partly in land and partly in fees. This system continued in the talooks known as Talaghat up to Fusly 1211 (1801), and in those known as Baramahal and Balaghat up to Fusly 1213 (1803), when a change was introduced by Colonel Reid, by which the maniems and merahs of all but the last two classes, Nercutties and Nottakarars, were *resumed*, and a money-payment substituted.

1. Maniagars.
2. Kurnums.
3. Thandalgars.
4. Toties.
5. Nercutties.
6. Nottakarars.

3. The enclosed abstract statement will show that the value of the resumed Inams amounted to Rs. 97,285, and the resumed merahs to Rs. 30,100, or Rs. 1,27,385 in all.

4. I have not been able to trace the mode in which the merahs were collected. No regular accounts appear to have been kept of these merahs, and the amount shown in the old accounts, prepared for the information of the Board and Government, was based on inquiry made of the old inhabitants, and upon accounts which the Kurnums themselves kept, regarding the practice prevailing in their different villages. I think, however, that payment of the merah was probably fixed by a rate on the extent cultivated in the same manner as the Sothunthrum fees are still paid in the villages irrigated by the Cauvery channels in the Namcul Talook, where $4\frac{1}{4}$ Pies in the Rupee is paid on the acreage. These merahs were not included in the puttahs, but were left to the village-officers themselves to collect, and this they did in grain at harvest time, exactly as the Sothunthrum fees are collected now-a-days in Namcul. The amount set down in the old accounts under merahs, namely, Rs. 30,100, is, I should think, far below the mark. For under Native Rulers these allowances must have formed the greatest, if not the only inducement for office.

5. The records do not show whether in settling the district Colonel Reid made any deduction in the gross produce on account of these merahs or not. I am, however, inclined to think that no such deductions were made, for the remuneration to village-servants is shown in the old accounts as a charge on the Government revenue. It is, therefore, to be presumed that the resumed merahs were included in the assets, upon which the revenue to Government was calculated, and the amount must, therefore, be *still* considered a charge on Government revenue.

6. In lieu of the resumed maniems and merahs a certain percentage on the revenue was fixed as remuneration for the Kurnums and Maniagars. The allowance varied every year with the fluctuations in the revenue. In Baramahal and Balaghat the allowance was fixed at a uniform rate of $2\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. in the case of

Kurnums, and $1\frac{3}{4}$ per cent. in the case of Maniagars. In the Talaghat Division the percentage is not uniform, but was fixed at higher or lower rates according to the beriz of each village. If the beriz was small the percentage was fixed at a proportionately high rate, and *vice versa*. The percentage in the Talaghat varies from Rs. 6-11-7 to Rupee 0-8-4 in the case of Kurnums, and Rs. 4-15-9 to Rupee 1 in the case of Maniagars.

7. Each Toty and Tandalkaran was allowed pay equal to the amount of the assessment of his Inam land, which was from its resumption entered in the accounts as puteut.

8. The last two classes of servants, namely, Nercutties and Nottakarars (very few in number) were, for reasons which cannot now be ascertained, allowed to retain their Inam lands, which they do to this present time.

9. The deductions made from the gross revenue on account of village servants for the past Fusly (1279) amount to Rs. 1,11,390.

10. This sum does not embrace the Cauvery channel establishments in the Namcul Talook, for which a separate organization will be necessary, and an Act to commute the fees into a money-payment will be required. I purpose visiting these channels next month, when I shall address the Board on the subject.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

Statement of Village Officers.

VALUE OF MANIEM LANDS AND MERAHS OF VILLAGE-OFFICERS RESUMED IN FUSLIES 1211 AND 1213.

Village Officers.	Value or Assessment of Inam lands.			Amount of Merahs.			Total.			Remarks.
	RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.	
1. Monegars	29,229	3	2	607	2	2	29,836	5	4	
2. Kurnums...	25,507	9	8	18,203	12	2	53,711	5	10	
3. Thandalkars	4,050	7	6	1,686	4	1	5,736	11	7	
4. Toties	28,497	10	11	9,603	2	0	38,100	12	11	
Total ..	97,284	15	3	30,100	4	5	1,27,385	3	8	

SALEM,
5th July 1871.

(Signed) C. T. LONGLEY,
Collector.

THIS letter will be submitted to Government with reference to paragraph 23 of the Board's Proceedings disposed of in Government Order, 2nd June 1871, No. 978.

2. Since Fusly 1211 in the Talaghat and since Fusly 1213 in the Baramahal and Balaghat, the salaries of village heads and Curnums in Salem have been paid from the land-revenue. The amount of the payment is fixed at a proportion of the land-revenue which varies in different parts of the district. It has gradually increased with the increase of revenue, and in Fusly 1279 amounted to Rs. 1,11,390.

	RS.
Fusly 1275	1,08,074
,, 1276	1,08,219
,, 1277	1,08,755
,, 1278	1,10,958
,, 1279	1,11,390
	5)5,47,396
	1,09,479·2

3. The allowance was granted in lieu of resumed Inams and merahs. The resumption of the Inams was effected by charging them with full assessment and that of the merahs by including them in the assets (or in other words by excluding them from the calculation) when the assessment which is now being revised was fixed. As the Inams have not been restored nor the merahs taken into consideration in the introduction of the new settlement, Government are under an obligation to continue the allowance. The annual value of the resumptions was Rs. 1,27,385.

4. The Board think it best that the allowance should be a fixed sum and not vary with the revenue, for, when the village establishments are re-organized, their salaries will be fixed amounts. It should be settled soon, in order that the Collector may have the data necessary for preparing his scheme for the re-organization.

5. As the land-revenue demand is increased by 9 per cent. in the new settlement, it may be calculated that under the present system, the allowances will be increased to Rs. 1,20,000 on the average. The Board recommend that this sum be granted as an unvarying contribution to the Salem Village Service Fund. It is less than the value of the resumptions by Rs. 7,385.

	RS.
Average allowances for five years ending with Fusly 1279	1,09,479
Nine per cent. on do.	9,853
Total...	1,19,332

6. In paragraph 10 Mr. Longley states that a new Act will be required for the commutation of the Couvery channel grain-fees. The Board await his promised report on the subject which should be in full detail.

No. 91. ORDER THEREON, 9th January 1872, No. 47.

Land Revenue.

THE Government admit the fixed annual charge of Rs. 1,20,000 on the land-revenue of the Salem District, instead of the percentage charge hitherto calculated annually, as the amount due to the Village Service Fund of the district in lieu of the resumed Service Inams and merahs, the full assessment or value of which is included in the land-revenue, and aggregates Rs. 1,27,385.

2. The actual rate of Village Service Cess within 1 Anna in the Rupee to be assessed on the ryots under the Act will be determined with reference to the demands on the fund for the re-organized service after crediting it with the above fixed amount.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
Secretary to Government.

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

Rxd. F. R. Bantleman.

6-7-03

Original

Revenue Department.

No. 47.

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Under date the 9th day December 1871.

Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue

Recommending that Rs 120000 be granted annually ~~as an~~ answering Contribution to Village Service Fund on account of Salaries of Village Head-men & Curnums. in Salem Dt.

H. S. 10 Aug. 1871, No 3369.

The Govt. admit the fixed annual charge of Rs 1,20,000 on the Land Revenue of the Salem District, in lieu of the percentage charge hitherto calculated annually, as the amount due to the Village Service Fund of the District, in lieu of the Resumed Service Inams

and

and Meras; the full assess-
-ment or value of which is
included in the Land Rev-
-enue and aggregates
Rs. 1.27.385-

2. The actual rate of
Village ~~the~~ Service Cess within
one anna in the Rupee
to be assessed on the Ryots
under the Act, will be de-
-termined with reference to
the demands on the fund
for the reorganised service
after crediting it with the
above fixed amount.

J.B.

14/6 To Board of Revenue - Desp. 10 Jany
" Acct. General

1872

Ent. [illegible]

16-06 ēt

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 9th January 1872.

No. 92. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 3rd January 1872:—

Read the following:—

Statement showing the prices of the principal articles of food at several stations in the Ganjam District.

Week ending.	Articles.	North.			Centre.					South.				Average.	Remarks.
		Gumsur or Russelcondah.	Surada.	Aska.	Berhampore.	Purshottapore.	Ganjam.	Itchapore.	Sompetta.	Tekkali.	Purlakimedy.	Narasanapettah.	Chicacole.		
		Seers per Rupee at 80 Tolas a Seer.													
2nd Dec. 1871.	Paddy, 1st sort.	32	...	38	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	35	1. *Articles of food.*—Well supplied in all stations. 2. *Prices.*—The price of raggy has slightly fallen at Berhampore. Owing to the increased demand from other places, the price of rice has slightly risen at Purlakimedy. 3. *Water-supply.*—Scanty even for domestic purposes in some of the villages of the Purshottapore Division of the Berhampore Talook. In Purlakimedy large tanks contain half of the usual supply of water, while the small ones contain but little. 4. *Diseases.*—None. 5. *Rain.*— Do. 6. *People.*—Certain poverty-stricken people emigrate elsewhere from the Berhampore Talook. The Tahsildar of Berhampore states that works of public utility, if taken on hand, would relieve poorer classes from starvation. 7. *Crops.*—Inferior paddy is being cut in Surada. Superior paddy is ready for sickle in Surada, Purshottapore and Purlakimedy. Paddy is being stored in Tekkali. Paddy crops in the lands depending on rain in Surada have almost withered away while those in the wet lands which have means of irrigation have yielded. Nijir, mustard, tobacco, and oil-seed were sown in Surada but are withering away on account of drought. For want of rain these were not sown in Purshottapore.
	Do., 2nd ...	36	42	...	36	48	42	34	36	31½	28½	...	27	36	
	Rice, 1st ,,	13	...	16	13½	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14	
	Do., 2nd ,,	14	18	...	...	21	18	13½	16	13½	12	...	12	15	
	Raggy	27	30	37	25½	42	33	30	31	27	28½	...	25½	30½	
	Cumboo	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	39	36	...	...	27	34	
	Cholum	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
	Chamalu ...	...	54	...	...	...	...	...	45	36	...	..	...	45	

(Signed) T. SEVARAMIAH,
Acting Deputy-Collector for *Acting Collector, Ganjam.*

CHETTERPORE,
16th December 1871.

STATEMENT showing the prices of the principal articles of food at several stations in the Ganjam District.

Week ending.	Articles.	NORTH.			CENTRE.						SOUTH.			Average.	Remarks.
		Gumsur or Rus-selconda.	Surada.	Aska.	Berhampore.	Purshottapore.	Ganjam.	Itchapore.	Sompetta.	Tekkali.	Parlakimedy	Narasanapetta.	Chicacole.		
		Seers per Rupee at 80 Tolas a Seer.													
9th Dec. 1871.	Paddy, 1st sort.	32	...	38½	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	35	1. *Articles of food.*—Well supplied in all stations.
	Do., 2nd do.	36	42	...	36	48	42	33	36	31½	28½	..	27	36	2. *Prices.*—The price of raggy has slightly fallen at Berhampore while it has risen at Tekkali, owing to the absence of fresh supplies from other places.
	Rice, 1st dc.	13	...	16¼	13½	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14	3 *Water-supply.*—Diminishing in the tanks of Purshottapore. In Parlakimedy large tanks contain half of the usual supply of water while the small ones contain but little.
	Do., 2nd do.	14	18	...	16½	21	18	13½	16	13½	12	...	13	15½	
	Ragy	27	30	38	27	42	33	30	31	25½	28½	...	25	30½	4. *People.*—The Berhampore Tahsildar considers that if works be found the poorer classes would be relieved from starvation.
	Cumboo	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	39	...	...	...	24	31	5. *Diseases.*—None.
	Cholum	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6. *Rain.*—On the 3rd instant there was a slight drizzle at Berhampore and Purshottapore.
	Chamalu	...	54	...	...	...	...	...	45	...	...	...	...	40	7. *Crops.*—Superior paddy is being cut in Parlakimedy and Surada. Paddy is being stored in Tekkali. The reaping of paddy is about being completed in some places in Purshottapore. The dry lands in Purshottapore are laid waste on account of drought. The sugarcane in those places where there is no means of irrigation in Purshottapore is being cut and milled. Paddy crops in the lands depending on rain in Surada have almost withered away, while those in the wet lands which have means of irrigation have yielded. Nijir, mustard, tobacco, and oil-seed, were sown in Surada, but are withering away on account of drought.

CHITTEPORE,
16th December 1871.

(Signed) T. SEVARAMIAH,
Acting Deputy Collector, for Acting Collector, Ganjam.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
9th January 1872.

SUBMITTED to the Board of Revenue, with reference to their Proceedings dated 21st November 1871.

ORDERED that the foregoing statements be submitted in original for the information of Government.

No. 93. ORDER THEREON, 9th January 1872, No. 48.

Miscellaneous.

ORDERED to be recorded.

(True Extract.)
(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.
,, G. Thornhill, Esq.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

Revenue Department

36

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue dated 3d January 1872.

Read Statements from the Acting Collector of Ganjam, dated 16th December 1871, shewing the prices of the principal articles of food at several Stations in the Ganjam District, for the weeks ending 2d and 9th December 1871. Vide Boards' Proceedings dated 21 November 1871.

Ordered that the foregoing Statements be submitted in original for the information of Government.

True Extract

J Grole
Secretary

To
The Secretary to Government
Revenue Departt
with 2 Statement in original.

No. 92-93
Stamps

No. 94. Read the following letter from the Government of India, Financial Department, to the Secretary to the Government of Fort St. George, Separate Revenue—Stamps,) to the Board of Revenue, Madras, dated Fort William, 18th December 1871, No. 3,119 :-

I AM directed to request that it may be reported to the Government of India what arrangements are in force in the Presidency towns for the sale of stamps, both General Stamps and Court Fee labels, and whether the system of vend by licensed vendors prevails in these towns. It is believed that the system of sale by licensed vendors involving unnecessary expense to Government; and if there be no other circumstances involving unnecessary expense to Government; and if the case, I am desired to request that it may be considered whether a system of Official vend should not be substituted.

2. So far as regards Court Fee labels there appears no reason for applying a different system of vend from that which is applicable to places in the interior; but in the case of General Stamps there must be in and near the Presidency towns some centres where the amount of sale of old is very large indeed, and where therefore it would be much cheaper for Government to sell through a salaried vendor than to remunerate one or more licensed vendors on the discount system.

3. The appointment of salaried vendors at such places does not, I am to observe, involve the entire supersession of licensed vend in Presidency towns. Licensed vendors might be continued in all parts of the town where the sale was not sufficient to remunerate a salaried vendor, and, indeed, it is advisable they should so continue, in order that generally stamps might be everywhere conveniently accessible to the public. But there seems no obstacle to salaried vendors and licensed vendors subsisting in the same town, provided that their stations are not too close, and that the terms allowed to the licensed vendors are not such as to enable them to under-sell the salaried vendor.

4. The above remarks apply to other large towns besides the Presidency towns.

No. 95. ORDER THEREON, 9th January 1872, No. 49.

REFERRED to the Board of Revenue for report.

Separate Revenue, No. 2.
Stamps.

(True)

( ) W. HUDLESTON,
Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

14. To Board of Revenue. Dated 10 Jany/72
1. G. Thornhill Esqr

Revenue 1872 Jany
No. 32.
Proceedings of the
Board of Revenue

Dated 3 January 1872
Read 3 ——
Recd 4 ——
Jan 2. 1872

Returning for the information of Govt, the original Statements received from Collectors of the Revenue Districts of the Presidency & the Commissioner of the Land Revenue & Settlement.

Dated 9th Jany/72

Original

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT.

SEPARATE REVENUE.
Stamps.

To

No. 3119.

Dated, Fort William, the 18*th December* 1871.

Received 2 January 1872.

Requesting to report to what extent the arrangements are in force in the Presidency Towns for the sale of General Stamps & Court Fee Labels.

O. S. G. P.—No. 7088 C. F.—18-12-71.—54.