Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 18th January 1873.

Read the following papers :—

No. 133. From Colonel F. J. B. PRIESTLEY, Superintendent of Revenue Survey, to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Fort St. George, dated Chepauk, 5th December 1872, No. 2,669-72.

THE Board of Revenue having communicated to me their Proceedings dated 25th November, No. 2,270, requesting sanction for an establishment of Rupees 1,163 per mensem for the Revenue Settlement of the Checkady Jaghire in South Arcot, I have the honour to point out that in reality this is for the purpose in the first place of demarcating and surveying this Jaghire and that the means for that purpose are unusual and inadequate.

2. It will be seen that during my absence on leave last year, the Director of Revenue Settlement sought the opinion of Colonel Hessey, who was acting for me, on the subject of the possibility of making use of the survey performed by the tentative survey establishment under the Collector of South Arcot in 1854-55, and that Colonel Hessey in his letter of the 11th August 1871 was adverse to the attempt, and in the final paragraph remarked that Mr. Puckle, when Deputy Director of Revenue Settlement, actually excluded from Settlement large portions of the Tengricotta taluq, Salem district, which were certainly not more wild and neglected than the Checkady Jaghire is. Mr. Goodrich, Deputy Director, Salem district, in a letter, dated 5th August 1871, No. 132, also points out numerous difficulties and objections to the undertaking.

Proceedings of Board of Revenue, 13th September 1871, No. 3,938.

3. Although I fear it may be considered that the subject is one on which I have no claim to offer an opinion, I venture to remark that if these excluded tracts in Salem are not deemed worth settling, it does not appear that the certainly not less wild and neglected Jaghire of Checkady should imperatively require it, or at any rate that the revised rates which were believed sufficient for the rest of the district of South Arcot should not suffice for a small out-of-the-way and poor locality such as Checkady without having recourse to the elaborate operations of the Settlement Department.

4. If, however, it is thought necessary to revise the Settlement of the Jaghire, I would also advocate a re-survey and demarcation in the regular manner. There are 30 or 40 Amins in the Madranticum taluq which borders the South Arcot district, who will be about completing their work at the close of the year. These men with suitable supervision might without difficulty be detached for the purpose of performing demarcation and survey on the combined system under which they are at present working.

5. In my letter of the 28th October No. 2,269-60, referred to the Board of Revenue in G. O., 23rd November 1872, No. 1,613, I have made application to

have the services of Messrs. Cook and Baber restored to the Survey. In my last annual report I brought to notice the very small number of officers present with the Survey; since then Colonel Hessey and Captain Sargeaunt have applied for leave to England, and Mr. Wright is about to obtain a second extension of leave on account of ill health. Including Colonel Hessey and Captain Sargeaunt no fewer than 8 out of 18 officers will be absent. Unless therefore the services of Messrs. Cook and Baber are restored to the Survey, very serious embarrassment is likely to occur. I mention this as the Director of Revenue Settlement's arrangements are in a great measure built on Mr. Baber's superintendence of what has hitherto been considered survey work, as he will be set at liberty by Mr. Mayer's return from leave.

Paragraph 199. The Superintendent would not be doing justice to the zeal of the officers now present did he not put on record his obligation to them for the cheerful performance of duties rendered more onerous by the numerous casualties which have lately taken place in the department. Two officers have been transferred to the Settlement, three have left the Survey Department, and five were at the end of the official year absent in Europe on sick leave; (a sixth has since obtained a sick certificate).

6. I have addressed this letter to you as the Board's Proceedings, No. 2,270, have been submitted to Government. A copy is also furnished to the Secretary Revenue Board.

P.S.—A topographical map of the Checkady and Sankarapuram Jaghires on the 2 inch scale accompanies this letter. By it the extent of wet cultivation is estimated at 4,400 acres.

Copy to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue.

CHEPAUK, 9th December 1872.

(Signed) F. J. B. PRIESTLEY, Colonel,
Superintendent of Revenue Survey.

No. 134. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 8th January 1873.

Read copy of letter from the Superintendent, Revenue Survey, dated 5th December 1872, No. 2,669-72, to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, forwarding a Topographical Map of the Checkady and Sankarapuram Jaghires, etc.

THE cases of the Checkady Jaghire and of the excluded tracts in Salem are very different. The "Ear and Pod," "Ubbady" and other anomalous assessments of the former have no parallel in the latter. The Board consider Colonel Priestley is right in doubting his claim to advice as to whether a new settlement is necessary or not.

2. It would have been better if Colonel Priestley had forwarded his letter to Government through the Board. Some difficulties have already arisen and more may be expected to arise hereafter from the disposition which has been shown to separate the Survey from the Revenue Department.

3. The feasibility of the particular arrangements advocated by the Director of Revenue Settlement is a proper subject for discussion. If the rough Paimash now in existence is sufficient, it may be possible to entrust the settlement to Stri

Baliah, under the orders of the Collector, but it is very desirable to endeavour to recover the areas determined by Colonel Priestley's Survey, otherwise the Survey will have been labour thrown away.

No. 135. ORDER THEREON, 18th January 1873, No. 66.

Land Revenue.

RECORDED, with reference to G. O. No. 38, dated 11th January 1873, passed on Board's Proceedings No. 2,270 of 25th November last.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) D. F. CARMICHAEL,
Secretary to Government.

To the Superintendent of Revenue Survey.
,, the Board of Revenue.
,, the Director of Revenue Settlement.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

Revenue Department.

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue

Dated 8th January 1873.

Read Copy of letter from the Superintendent Revenue Survey dated 5th December 1872 No 2669/72 — to the Secretary to Government Revenue Department forwarding a Topographical Map of the Chekady and Tankarapuram Jaghires &c.

— The Cases of the Chekady Jaghire lands of the Enclosed tracts in Salem are very different. — The "Eat and Pod; Abbady" and other anomalous assessments of the former have no parallel in the latter. The Board consider in Colonel Priestley is right in doubting his claim to advise as to whether a new Settlement is necessary or not.

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True Extract

J Grote
Secretary

To
The Secretary to Govt
Revenue Department

Revenue 1872. No 1st
From
No. 3906.
The Superintendent Revenue Survey.
To
The Secretary to Govt
Dated 5th
Despatched 6th
Received 9th December
General No. 2669 Enclosure No. 1 & 2
Departmental No. 72
Subject
~~REFERENCE.~~ Forwards a Topographical Map of the Checkady & Sankaraporam Jaghires with reference to the proposal by the Director Revenue Settlement for the revision of settlement of the Jaghirs, advocates a re-survey and demarcation in the regular manner.

No. 66.
Recorded, entries in
the G.O. No 38 of 11 Jany.
No. passed on Bds Rr. No 2270
of 25th November last.
18 Jany 73

Nos 133-135

1st Fold Survey Sketches
14. Do Copies of Documents
15. Do Original Letter

13th Jany 73 R No 8

Revenue 1873 Dept
No. 59

Proceedings of the
Board of Revenue

Dated 8th January 1873
Desp^d. 8 —— " —"
Rec^d. 9 —— " —

S.O. 66 - 18 January 1873

Passing remarks on
letter from Supt^te Rev. Sur-
=vey forwarding topogra-
=phical Map of Cheeka-
=dy & Soukarapuram
Jaghires & submitting opi-
=nion regarding their sur-
=vey & demarcation.

Ltr 133-135

C. 13th Jany/73 R 14th Jany