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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	323.	Press
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	7. 3. 1874	196 .

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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323

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
7th March 1874.*

No. 97. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 11th February 1874, No. 292:—

Read the following letter from J. H. GARSTIN, Esq., Collector of South Arcot, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Cuddalore, 5th February 1874, No. 52:—

I HAD the honour to receive yesterday a telegram from the Board requesting me to send in the name of an experienced officer to be vested with powers as a Deputy Collector for the purpose of inquiring into the necessity for dry land remissions throughout the district, and I sent in accordingly the name of the officer of the greatest experience that I could think of; and to-day I have received the Board's Proceedings of the 2nd instant in manuscript declining to give me the

* In my letter recorded in these Proceedings. wide discretion I asked for* in dealing with the matter, in which it is pointed out that "the several localities in which the remissions will have to be given must be specified after they have been inspected by some responsible officer, and the maximum percentage which will have to be remitted in each must be specified."

2. I beg respectfully to point out to the Board that I doubt whether it will be possible for any single officer to do this before many of the lands on which Shavi may now have occurred are broken up for the next harvest and all evidence of its occurrence thus destroyed, and, therefore, would suggest that a temporary addition be made to the staff of each Divisional Officer to enable them to have the inspections made under their orders and to record their opinion as to the percentage which should be granted where necessary.

3. If four active, intelligent officers on 150 Rupees a-month are appointed at once to act under the orders of the Collector, Sub-Collector, Head Assistant, and General Duties Deputy Collector, and each given two taluqs within which to go about, inspect, make rough sketches, and record statements where necessary, every part of the district might be inspected in a month or six weeks, at a less cost probably than would be entailed by appointing a Deputy Collector with the usual establishment; and the Settlement Officers would thus have their hands strengthened by having accurate and reliable information furnished to them during the jummahbundy, and could then record their opinion in the case of each village or tract as to the percentage to be given.

4. I enclose a copy of the jummahbundy circular dated 3rd instant, No. 90, which I sent to all Divisional Officers at the same time that I applied to the Board. It was necessary to issue some sort of orders at once about punjah remissions as the settlement has actually commenced in some parts of the district and is imminent everywhere and some of the Divisional Officers requested orders as to how to deal with the matter. I trust, therefore, the action taken will be approved.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

No. 90.

CIRCULAR MEMORANDUM.

THE Collector having reason to believe, from the reports which he has received of the probable nature of the dry grains harvest, that there will be a necessity for remitting portions of the

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
7th March 1874.*

punjab assessment, has applied to the Revenue Board for permission to give percentage remissions, or, where necessary, to remit the whole assessment on punjah lands.

2. He, therefore, requests that all Divisional Officers conducting the settlement of this fasli will, pending the orders of the Board, direct that the demand for such percentage of the punjah assessment as should, in their opinion after careful inquiry, be remitted, shall be held in abeyance.

3. He also requests that particular inquiries may be made, as each village comes up for settlement, from the Village Officers as to the supplies of food in it and as to the probability of the supply becoming exhausted during any portion of the next four or five months, and the result recorded and reported in due course.

4. The usual inquiries regarding vaccination, cattle disease, the state of the village tanks and channels, and outstanding arrears of former faslis should be recorded in the jammahbundy diaries.

Cuddalore,
3rd February 1874.

(Signed) J. H. GARSTIN,
Collector.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) P. VARADI CHARI,
Deputy Collector, for Collector.

The Board approve of the circular issued by the Collector, but do not think it necessary to increase the staff of the Divisional Officers as he proposes.

2. A bad season in which large remissions have to be given is a crisis which imposes heavy work on the revenue officials of the district, but the ordinary staff has hitherto been equal to such emergencies and now is to be aided by a Special Deputy Collector.

3. The inspections must be undertaken by the Tahsildars and the Deputy Tahsildars under the supervision of the Divisional Officers and the additional Deputy Collector, how must, of course, see as much as they can for themselves.

No. 98.

ORDER THEREON, 7th March 1874, No. 323.

Land Revenue, No. 5.

The Government agree with the Board.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) C. G. MASTER,
Acting Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

Remission of Assessment in South Arcot District.—Consents with Board's Proceedings on the subject of —

MARCH.
No. 97-98.

G. O., 7th March 1874, No. 323.

Dated 7th March.
Recd.

THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

To

REVENUE.

Govt. of 1874 30/10/73.

No. 292.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 11th February 1874.
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wide discretion I asked for* in dealing with the matter, in which it is pointed out that "the several localities in which the remissions will have to be given must be specified after they have been inspected by some responsible officer, and the maximum percentage which will have to be remitted in each must be specified."

2. I beg respectfully to point out to the Board that I doubt whether it will be possible for any single officer to do this before many of the lands on which Shavi may now have occurred are broken up for the next harvest and all evidence of its occurrence thus destroyed, and, therefore, would suggest that a temporary addition be made to the staff of each Divisional Officer to enable them to have the inspections made under their orders and to record their opinion as to the percentage which should be granted where necessary.

3. If four active, intelligent officers on 150 Rupees a-month are appointed at once to act under the orders of the Collector, Sub-Collector, Head Assistant, and General Duties Deputy Collector, and each given two taluqs within which to go about, inspect, make rough sketches, and record statements where necessary, every part of the district might be inspected in a month or six weeks, at a less cost probably than would be entailed by appointing a Deputy Collector with the usual establishment; and the Settlement Officers would thus have their hands strengthened by having accurate and reliable information furnished to them during the jumma-bundy, and could then record their opinion in the case of each village or tract as to the percentage to be given.

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3. The inspections must be undertaken by the Tahsildars and the Deputy Tahsildars under the supervision of the Divisional Officers and the additional Deputy Collector, who must, of course, see as much as they can for themselves.

(True Copies and Extract.)

J. H. Garstin
Secretary.

To the Collector of South Arcot.

Copy to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

Exd. A. S. Rodgers.

Remissions of Assessment—in South Arcot District.—Jummahbundy circular issued by Collector to Divisional Officers regarding grant of etc., approved. Tahsildars and Deputy Tahsildars to undertake inspection of localities in which remissions will have to be given under supervision of Divisional Officers and additional Deputy Collector.

FEBRUARY.
No. 292. 1874

Received 24/2

20/2/74
Encl.

PROCEEDINGS, 11th FEBRUARY 1874, No. 292.

BOARD of REVENUE,
MADRAS.

2/2/74

1874. 2/2/74