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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	348	Press
B.P. No.		Mis.

Dated 16. 3. 1874 196 .

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
16th March 1874.*

No. 148. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 12th February 1874,
No. 302.

Read the following letter from Surgeon-Major W. R. CORNISH, F.R.C.S., Sanitary
Commissioner in charge of Census Office, Madras, to J. GROSE, Esq.,
Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 18th December 1873.
No. 381:—

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith, for submission to the Board of
Revenue and to Government, copies of my report on the census of the Madras
Presidency, with tables appended, framed in accordance with the standard forms
of the Government of India. These tables are complete, with the exception of
Form No. IV., the details for the completion of which have not as yet been
received from the Board.

2. A volume of supplementary tables, illustrating, in greater detail, some of
the results of the census, is now passing through the press.

3. The village statistics, showing the cultivated and waste land of every
village, the assessments on wet and dry cultivation, the population arranged from
the direct tabulation according to caste,
Ganjam, Vizagapatam, Tinnevely, and Trichi- and the occupations of the male inhabi-
nopoly. tants of each village, have already been

printed for the districts as per margin, and are in progress for the eight districts
noted below:—

Godavery.	Tanjore.	South Arcot.	Cuddapah.
Kistna.	Coimbatore.	Madura.	Chingleput.

The passing of the remainder of these lists through the press, as already arranged,
will be completed under the direct supervision of the Board. These village statis-
tics alone will occupy several thousand pages of print.

4. The work of the Census Office for the past fourteen months has engaged
my almost constant attention, and it is with no little satisfaction that I am able
to announce the speedy completion of this truly gigantic undertaking.

5. The organization of the tabulating establishment and the heavy labours
connected therewith devolved on the late Mr. C. E. Gover, and it is only due to
his memory that I should, in this place, acknowledge that the methods of tabu-
lation were initiated by him alone, and that whatever credit may attach to the
results is due mainly to Mr. Gover's foresight. That he should have died in the
midst of the work to which he had devoted his best energies, and that his large
and varied acquaintance with the social divisions, manners, and customs, of the
Indian people should have perished with him, are subjects to be deeply regretted
on public grounds.

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open to me, viz., either to publish the tables with a bare summary of the contents,
or to endeavour to put the results before the public in a readable form. My previ-
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figures are never read or digested by the general public, and I consequently
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within the comprehension of any one interested in learning the ascertained facts

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regarding our population. In the execution of this resolve I am but too conscious of many failings and imperfections; but the subject being one of high public utility, I have endeavoured to awaken popular interest in it, and thereby to facilitate the labours of those who, in future years, may be called upon to take a part in census operations.

7. In some portions of the report I have ventured, not without some hesitation, on intruding observations drawn from the data before me. All that I need say in reference to such commentaries is, that they are the personal views of the compiler of the report, and to be regarded only in that light.

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9. It is now my pleasing duty to acknowledge the aid I have received in this laborious task.

10. To Government and the Board of Revenue I have to tender my respectful thanks for the confidence they have reposed in me and for the ready and generous manner in which they have complied with all my requisitions for promoting and expediting the work. To Mr. J. Grose, Secretary to the Board of Revenue, I am indebted for advice and valuable aid on numerous occasions. Mr. Grose has throughout taken the strongest personal interest in the census work, and I am aware that the late Mr. Gover was equally indebted with myself to Mr. Grose for friendly counsel in regard to the direction of the work.

11. To the Collectors of districts and other Revenue-officials acknowledgments are due for their efforts to secure reliable returns, and for their reports on the census operations of their several districts. And for special information in reply to definite questions propounded by the late Mr. Gover regarding the history, customs, and occupations of the various Hindu castes, I am also under deep obligations to numerous Christian Missionaries and Native gentlemen holding official positions.

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14. The Manager of the Census Office, Mr. C. Clark, the Deputy-Manager and Supervisors noted in the margin have all done good service in their several capacities, and are entitled to my best thanks and acknowledgments.

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Supervisors.			
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Mahomed Ismail	...		
P. Sooba Row	...	Telugu	do.
T. Etirajulu Naidoo	...		
Seetharamiah	...	Canarese	do.
P. Ekambara Row	...		
V. Kistniah	...	Malayalum	do.
C. Ramasawmy Pantulu	...	Statistical	do.
C. N. Seshagiri Row	...		

15. To Mr. Keys, the Assistant Superintendent of the Government Press, I am indebted for courteous and willing assistance in the printing of the report and tables. The printing establishment employed in the census work has been so large as to temporarily disorganize the labour-market of this particular trade.

16. Lastly, there is one, whom, though holding no official position in connection with the census work, I trust I may be pardoned for publicly mentioning on this occasion. In the collation of evidence furnished by Missionaries and others regarding caste, customs, etc., in consulting numerous authorities, and making a précis of matters requiring to be noticed in the report, in the analysis and review of the district statistics, and in the revision of the proof sheets of the printed report, I have received for many months past the diligent and invaluable aid of my wife, who has spared no trouble or exertion in the drudgery so cheerfully undertaken, with the single object of lightening and sharing in the labours of her husband. While the work of the Census Office has been a heavy additional burden to me, it has been so far a pleasant task: in that I have met with nothing but cordial encouragement, counsel, and sympathy from every one interested or concerned in its progress.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.—Printed Report.

THIS letter, which announces the completion of the Report on the Census of 1871, will be submitted to Government. The Report itself is already before Government, and it would be a waste of time for the Board to notice it at length. They have found nothing which they could wish to see added to it or altered, and

the mention of any part of the statistics in these Proceedings would be simply a reiteration of something which is far better in its proper place in the volume. The undertaking was, as Surgeon-Major Cornish says, a truly gigantic one; but it has been thoroughly well executed, and the Report is so lucid, accurate, and complete, that it leaves nothing to be desired.

2. All that now remains to be done is to place the Report within the reach of the officers engaged in the administration of the country and the general public. An impression of 1,000 copies has been struck off. Some should be distributed and some kept for sale at a reasonable price, say, Rupees 10 for the two volumes.

3. It is satisfactory to find that the elaborate instructions for taking the Census, which were issued by the Board at the very beginning, though they set in motion a vast machinery, and called on it for work which was, to a great extent, novel, have served their purpose well; and it is but fair to state that the credit on this account is mainly due to the Board's Secretary, Mr. Grose, who had the entire management of the Census (so far as the Board were concerned) from the beginning to the end, and to the Collectors and their Subordinates who spared no time or trouble in securing success.

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5. When the time comes for taking the next Census, the suggestions for improved methods which are made in this report must be considered with reference to circumstances as they exist then. The enumeration of the female population, though far better done on this occasion than it ever has been before, is still unsatisfactory, and care will have to be taken that enumerators are appointed who will not shrink from going into Pariah hamlets, etc. It may then be possible to pay the enumerators, or the best of them, according to their results, to curtail the period allowed for testing between the preliminary and final enumerations, and to ensure correct tabulation in the districts; but this was impossible in 1871. Surgeon-Major Cornish thinks that it was a mistake not to allow employment in the Tabulation Office to count for pension (page 33), but the rules laid down by the Government of India put this out of the question.

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No. 149. ORDER THEREON, 16th March 1874, No. 348.

Miscellaneous.

THE main facts regarding the numerical distribution of the population of the Presidency, as disclosed by the census of 1871, have already been made public, and the details are now before the Government in the report submitted by Mr. Cornish, who, on the death of the late Mr. Gover, was entrusted with its preparation and the supervision of the tabulation. A careful digest of this lucid and valuable report will appear in the General Administration Report, and His Excellency the Governor in Council does not now propose to review it in detail.

2. The Government notice, with much satisfaction, that the census operations were throughout harmoniously conducted.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
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The regular quinquennial census had, as was anticipated, fully accustomed the people to inquiries of the nature instituted, and the village officials to the duties required of them, and, though the public utility of the work was, it is to be feared, but little understood, it met with a decreasing mistrust and with no active opposition.

3. The census of 1871 was based on a more elaborate and scientific plan than any hitherto attempted in this Presidency, but, by the adoption of the preliminary registration of the houses and enumeration, etc., of their inmates, the hurry of a single-day census was avoided, and time was afforded for the detection of omissions and correction of blunders. These preliminaries effected, the work of the enumerators on the final day was restricted to such trifling corrections as arose from the absence of an old, or presence of a new, inmate.

The result has been, not only a more thorough knowledge of the population, but the successful collection of a mass of statistics, which, though not yet so complete and accurate as could be desired, will still enable the discussion and solution of numerous social problems to be now proceeded with on grounds more substantial than mere conjecture.

4. Mr. Cornish bears hearty testimony to the energetic and intelligent labours of his predecessor, and attributes to them the successful organization of the establishment, and the methods of tabulation.

The pages however, in which the results of the census are recorded and illustrated in a manner that indicates the wide research and large views of the establishment, are all Mr. Cornish's own production, and the Government thoroughly appreciate their value.

They have not lost sight of the fact that this duty has been carried on simultaneously with that of Sanitary Commissioner, and, to mark their sense of the efficient manner in which Mr. Cornish has executed his joint functions, they have much pleasure in awarding him a honorarium of 5,000 Rupees as suggested by the Board.

5. His Excellency the Governor in Council desires, in conclusion, to convey the thanks of the Government to all concerned in the working of the census; to the Board of Revenue and their able Secretary who devised and supervised the general arrangements; to the district and local officers who gave practical effect to those arrangements; and to the Zemindars and gentlemen who cordially co-operated. It is rarely that the Government are able to accord, to the execution of any work, so large a measure of approval.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Board of Revenue.
,, the Financial Department
,, the Accountant-General.
,, Surgeon-Major W. R. Cornish, F.R.C.S.,
Sanitary Commissioner.

Exd. W. H. French.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 12th February 1874.

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Obt. of 1874 Madras.

REVENUE.

THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

Secy. Secy. Secy.

Dated March 16th.

Recd.

G. O., 16th March 1874, No. 318.

MARCH.

Nos. 146-149.

Census of the Madras Presidency in 1871.
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(A true Copy and Extract.)

H. H. H.
Acting Sub-Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department,
with five printed reports. (2 Vol. with follow)
„ Surgeon-Major W. R. Cornish, F.R.C.S., Sanitary Commissioner.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

148.

S.O. No. 348-16. Madras

Census of Madras Presidency in 1871.
Letter from Census officer Dr. Cornish forwarding copies of his report on—submitted to Government with remarks, and with recommendation that a honorarium of not less than Rupees 5,000 should be granted to Dr. Cornish.

FEBRUARY.
No. 302.

Received 23

Aug 21 1874

PROCEEDINGS, 12TH FEBRUARY 1874, No. 302

BOARD of REVENUE
MADRAS.

Passed 1874. Definite

Feb 19

Proposed in Council. No special grant necessary.

J.O. 10/08 d: 26/4/72.

J.O. 23/10/72 No. 1453.

No. 348 Revenue Department.

When first put in charge of the Census office H. Sundara Seth was allowed a deputation allowance of Rs 50 per mensem. Subsequently when appointed as District Commissioner Assistant a deputation allowance of Rs 100 per mensem was sanctioned.

Thus his case is different to that of Dr. Cornish who received nothing although he carried out

death of the late Mr. Sanyal, was entrusted with its preparation and the supervision of the tabulation.

29 March 1875
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S.O. No. 348-16. March 17/75

In the census
work in addition
to his own whereas
H. S. Betty was
relieved of his
regular work in
the Board's
office

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Misc

No. 348

Revenue Department.

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trusted with its preparation
and the supervision of the
tabulation.

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Revenue Department.

No. 348

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Under date the 16 March 1874.

READ the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue.

Submitting with remarks letter from Mr. Forthwick forwarding copies of his report on the funds of the Madras Presidency in 1871, and recommending that a honorarium of not less than 5,000 Rupees should be granted to Mr. Forthwick.

H. E. 12th February 1874 N. 302.

The main facts regarding the numerical distribution of the population of the Presidency, as disclosed by the census of 1871, have already been made public, and the details are now before the Government in the report submitted by Mr. Forthwick, who, on the death of the late Mr. Law, was entrusted with its preparation and the supervision of the tabulation.

Forthwick
1873

Note (4)

Deputation allowance
to Mr. Sundara Setti.

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S.O. N. 348-16 March 74

tabulation. A careful digest of this lucid and valuable report will appear in the general Administration report, and His Excellency the Governor in Council does not now propose to review it in detail.

2. The Government notes, with much satisfaction, that the Census operations were throughout harmoniously conducted.

The regular quinquennial Census had, as was anticipated, fully accustomed the people to inquiries of the nature instituted, and the village officials to the duties required of them, and though the public utility of the work was, it is to be feared, but little understood, it met with a decreasing mistrust and with no active opposition.

3. The Census of 1874 was based on a more elaborate and scientific plan than any hitherto attempted in this Presidency, but, by the adoption of the preliminary registration of the houses and enumeration of their inmates, the hurry of

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of a single day census was avoided, and time was afforded for the detection of omissions and correction of blunders. These preliminaries effected, the work of the enumerators on the final day was restricted to such trifling corrections as arose from the absence of our old, or presence of a new, inmate.

The result has been, not only a more accurate knowledge of the population, but the successful collection of a mass of statistics, which, though not yet so complete and reliable as could be desired, will still enable the discussion and solution of numerous social problems to be now proceeded with on ground more substantial than mere conjecture.

Mr. Larnish bearing testimony to the energetic and intelligent labors of his predecessor, and gratefully attributes to them the successful organization of the establishment, and the methods of tabulation

tabulation.

The pages however, in which the results of the Census are recorded and illustrated in a manner that indicates the wide research and large views of the writer, are all Mr. Farnish's own production, and the Government thoroughly appreciate their value.

They have not lost sight of the fact that this duty has been carried on simultaneously with that of Sanitary Commissioner, and to mark their sense of the efficient manner in which Mr. Farnish has executed his joint functions, they have much pleasure in awarding him a honorarium of 5,000 rupees as suggested by the Board.

5. His Excellency the Governor in Council desires in conclusion to convey the thanks of the Government to all concerned in the working of the Census.

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Census; to the Board of Revenue and their able Secretary who devised and supervised the general arrangements; to the District and local officers who gave practical effect to those arrangements; and to the Zemindars and gentlemen who cordially co-operated. It is rarely that the Government are able to accord to the execution of any work, so large a measure of approval.

J. W.

13 to Board of Revenue
5 to Actg. General
4 to Financial Dept.
1 to Sup. Major W. R. Farnish F.R.C.S.
Sanitary Commr.

Dec. 17-3-74

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