617
7

M.R.O. 1—20,002—12-8-65.

(1) Number of Pages 16

(2) Date of repair 3/9/66

(3) Initials of the Referencer Cle

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Rev DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. B.P. No.	617	Press ~~Mis.~~
Dated	21 - 5 - ~~196~~ 1874	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 21*st May* 1874.

No. 201. Read the following letter from W. S. WHITESIDE, Esq., Collector of North Arcot, to the Hon. D. F. CARMICHAEL, Acting Chief Secretary to Government, Fort St. George, dated Palmanair, 8th May 1874, No. 36:—

I HAVE the honour to report, for the information of Government, that the whole of this district, on the 5th and 6th instant, came under the influence of the cyclone which, on those dates, was felt so severely at Madras.

2. I was at the time in camp at Bireddipalli, a village about half way between this place and Venkataghiricotta, where I was making the Jamabundi settlement of this taluq. The weather had been threatening for several days before. The days were very sultry and close, and on the 4th the whole country was covered with a singular haze. Very early on the morning of the 5th the wind rose, and it blew hard and with increasing violence from the north. The rain commenced to fall at about 10 A.M., and continued with hardly any cessation throughout the day. Toward evening the wind veered round toward the north-west, and blew with tremendous force throughout the night, and the rain fell in torrents the whole night and until 11 A.M. of the 6th. Toward day-light the wind changed, and blew from the north-east, and finally from the east. During the whole of the 6th, and also at intervals during the night of that day, heavy rain fell, but the worst of the storm was over, and by day-light on the 7th the weather was rapidly clearing.

3. As yet reports have not reached me from all the taluqs as to the exact quantity of rain gauged at each cusbah; but at Palmanair on the 5th and 6th 8 inches 25 cents fell, in Chittoor 8 inches 52 cents were gauged, and in Vellore 9 inches 55 cents; this last measurement being 4 inches in excess of the rain-fall gauged there during the cyclone of May 1872.

4. The tanks everywhere have received an ample supply of water. The large tank of Bireddipalli, on the bank of which I was camped, received during the night of the 5th no less than six months' water, and by the evening of the 6th was quite full. It is impossible to over-estimate the value of this boon to the district. The rain has fallen at the most critical time and when it was terribly wanted. We are now spared all further apprehensions as to the present cultivation season; and, with the prospect of ample crops before us, we may reasonably look for some fall in the present high prices of grain. I have not heard yet of any damage in the way of tanks bursting or roads and bridges washed away.

5. The Government, however, will be concerned to hear that the station of Vellore has narrowly escaped a flood as disastrous as that of 1872. I enclose herewith translation of a report I have just received from the Vellore Tahsildar (the Sub-Collector was absent from head-quarters), explaining briefly what has happened. From private letters I learn that a flood of water coming from the same source as on the former occasion swept through the station of Vellore, inundating the cusbah village and doing some damage in the lines of the 14th Regiment. Fortunately, no lives were lost, but the Municipal roads and embankments have been much cut up and damaged, and it is quite clear that the water-

way for the escape of storm-water is insufficient to restrain it in proper bounds. The sepoys have been temporarily quartered in the Mahals in the fort until their lines can be re-occupied.

TRANSFERRED to the Revenue Department.

OOTACAMUND,
12*th May* 1874.

(Signed) D. F. CARMICHAEL,
Acting Chief Secretary.

No. 202. ORDER THEREON, 21st May 1874, No. 617.

Miscellaneous.

RECORDED.

(True Extract.)

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

Vide Bd. Pro. 24 Jun 74
12.

Govt. of 1874 Madras.

REVENUE.

To

The COLLECTOR of NORTH ARCOT
&c., &c., &c.

Dated May 21st.

Recd. Encl.

G. O, 21st May 1874, No. 617.

MAY.
Nos. 201-202.

Rain in North Arcot District.—Records letter from Collector reporting the fall of —.

North Arcot

No. 36 Collector's circuit Office

Palamaner 8th May 1874

617/7

From

W. S. Whiteside Esquire.
Collector of North Arcot

To The Honorable D. I. Carmichael
Actg Chief Secretary to
Government
Fort Saint George

Sir,

I have the honor to report for the information of Government that the whole of this District on the 5th and 6th Instant came under the influence of the cyclone which on those dates was felt so severely at Madras.

2. I was at the time in Camp at Bireddipalli, a village about half way between this place and Venkatagiricotta, where I was making the Jamabandi settlement of this Taluk. The weather had been threatening for several days before. The days were

very sultry and close, and on the 4th the whole Country was covered with a singular haze. Very early on the morning of the 5th, the wind rose and it blew hard, and with increasing violence, from the North. The rain commenced to fall at about 10 A.M. and continued with hardly any cessation throughout the day. Toward evening the wind veered round toward the North West, and blew with tremendous force throughout the night, and the rain fell in torrents the whole night and until 11 A.M. of the 6th. Toward day light, the wind changed and blew from the North East, and finally from the East. During the whole of the 6th, and also at intervals during the night of that day, heavy rain fell, but the worst of the storm was over, and by day light on the 7th the weather was rapidly clearing.

3 - As yet reports have not reached me from all the Taluks as to the exact quantity of rain guaged at each Cusbah, but at Palamanair on the 5th and 6th, 8 inches 25 cents fell. In Chittoor 8 inches 52 cents were guaged, and in Vellore 9 inches 55 cents, this last measurement being 4 inches in excess of the rain fall guaged there during the Cyclone of May 1872-

4 - The Tanks everywhere have received an ample supply of water. The large tank of Pireddipalli, on the bank of which I was camped, received during the night of the 5th no less than 6 months water and by the evening of the 6th was quite full. It is impossible to over-estimate the value of this boon to the District. The rain has fallen at the most critical time, and when it was terribly wanted. We

are now spared all further [illegible] apprehensions as to the present Cultivation season, and, with the prospect of ample crops before us, we may reasonably look for some fall in the present high prices of grain. I have not heard yet of any damage in the way of tanks bursting, or roads and bridges washed away.

5. The Government however will be concerned to hear that the Station of Vellore has narrowly escaped a flood as desastrous as that of 1872. I enclose herewith translation of a report I have just received from the Vellore Tahsildar (the Sub Collector was absent from Head Quarters) explaining briefly what has happened. From private letters I learn that a flood of water coming from the same source as on the former occasion swept through the station of Vellore, inundating the Cusbah Village, and doing some damage in the Lines of the 14th Regiment. Fortunately no lives were lost, but the Municipal roads and embankments have been much cut up and damaged, and it is quite clear that the water way for the escape of storm water is insufficient to restrain it in proper bounds. The Sepoys have been temporarily quartered in the Muhals in the Fort until their Lines can be reoccupied.

I have the honor to be
Sirs
Your Most obedt St

C. T. [illegible]
Collector

1 To the Collr with [illegible] 23 May/74
14. [illegible] — [illegible]

Transferred to the Revenue Department.

Ootacamund
12th May 1874

D. [illegible]
~~Asst~~ Chief Secretary.

To the Revenue Department.
12/5/74

Ref 207-202.
C 12th May/74 R 15th Rs

No 617
Recorded
21 May/74 [illegible]
Transferred

Recd. 11th [illegible]

Cir Dir

Revenue 1874 Dept.
No. 1503

Translation of Arzi from the Tasildar of Vellore to the Collector of North Arcot dated 6 May 1874 No 86

The day was cloudy from the 3rd Instant and it was drizzling on the 4th. The fall of rain was measured to be 1 oz. Heavy rain commenced to fall during the night accompanied with a fierce gale. The fall of rain during the night was 9 inches, 5 ozs and 50 tenths. On account of the rain, there was a large flow of water in the Channel near to the Military lines. Several houses there were flooded with water, the walls of some came down & two houses entirely fell down. There was no loss of human life. At about 2 o'clock, freshes to about a man's depth came in the Palar river. It still continues to be cloudy and the wind is still fierce. Judging from the present aspect of the sky, I consider that there will be no cessation of rain.

Al.

At the request of the Vex re Staff Officer, as contained in his docket No. 150 da. to day I placed at his disposal the Tippu Mahal in the Fort which is under my charge, for the occupation of the Sepoys. They have occupied the building.

I will submit a further report as soon as I receive reports from villages informing me how much of water each tank received.

The fall of rain was 4 inches greater than the amount of rain that fell during the Cyclone of 2nd May 1872 when there was a great loss of life & property.

/True Translation/

Collector

Cul

12-8-63.

Resume 1503/74

P

G.O. No 617. 21 May
Sa Bd No 201

Proceedings of the Madras Gove
12*th May*

No. 157A. Proceedings of the Board of Reven

Read again Proceedings of the Board of Reve

Read also the follow

From R. K. PUCKLE, Esq., Collector of Tinnevell
of Revenue, dated Kadayam, 2

In reply to Board's Proceedings, No. 1,070, d
inform you that I raised the lowest rate proposed
forest from 2 to 3 Annas an acre, feeling that it w
whether they paid part or the whole of the wages o
and having been expressly told by the late Gover
district, that he would never consent to any sche
revenue. Take it altogether, I prefer a 3-Anna t
ing villages included in the River Valley is 4 Ann
Annas will certainly not keep land from being ta
that there will be no charge for trees hereafter pla

2. The Board have slightly mistaken my mea
state of the case in this besides the 67,000 acres o
as much more that is not paid for and not held
chargeable with tree-tax at 2½, 5, and 10 Pies pe
take up the land that the trees stand on on putta,
as quit-rent.

3. The trees are divided into three classes al
cation. The only alteration I propose to make in th
owners who decline my terms of quit-rent; then ins
5 Pies for each male, or 10 Pies for each female t
Pies for these three classes, respectively; this will
fractions to deal with.

4. The quit-rent I would fix as under. A m

10 Female trees, assessed at 10
15 Male ,, at 5
135 Leaf-bearing trees, assessed a

and has besides perhaps 50 or 60 seedlings in vari

5. To such a man, I should offer the land at
for all that stood on the land for an annual quit-r
Rupees 3-2-0 per annum. Should he refuse my t
waste, and assess his trees as under :—

10 Female trees, at 12 Pies ...
15 Male ,, at 6 ,, ...
135 Leaf-bearing trees, at 3 Pies

and so charge him rather more than the consolida
his seedlings as they came into bearing from year
6. I am told by those who have lived long
consolidated land-tax and quit-rent for trees wi
trickery and fraud on the part of Curnams and
part of the tree-climbing population will thereby

D

Government, Revenue Department,
May 1874.

e will induce ryots to take up the land and
p it ownerless and waste, the Board would
of revenue involved is small. The Collector

n which the Palmyrahs are to be dealt with
rded with Board's Proceedings, dated 20th
id: "This tract comprises 68 villages, and
when preparing my data for settlement. It
ish detailed explanations now, though I may
e demarking in blocks as far as possible the
arately distinguished as the property of any
sessing the land at a low rate to issue land
e trees and then settle the tree-tax on easy
terms in the mode proposed in No. 1.*
Where the trees are much intermixed
and conflicting interests are involved
demarcation will be impossible, and *I*
ver, settling a fixed rental at a round figure
to the land for a shorter term of years than
, the time that a seedling takes to grow into
y does not attempt to fill out the outlines
ut he apparently abandons it altogether, and
classes rated at 3, 6, and 12 Pies. The result
to Rupees 47,650, or by 12 per cent. *for the*
nual increase of revenue realized under the
sacrificed during the 30 years the settle-

ller report on this subject. The difficulties
ld be explained why all hope of demarcating
bining a light land assessment with a tree-tax
roducing the assessment by dividing 950,000
eat, and unless the practical difficulties in the
ssment on all trees, like that proposed by
l be a preferable arrangement. In any case,
be added to the several puttas on account

he financial results of his proposals by intro.
llage Service Cess which have nothing to do
sent revenue of Rupees 80,711 (increasing
s) will be reduced to Rupees 76,615, or by

his rates with reference to G. O., 3rd May
lt will treat more fully of the minimum rate
tails of the tree settlement. His proposals

herewith published. The principle upon which the have been allotted in it are explained in a note to th the returns for fasli 1278, which was a particularly point of view.

19. The following statement exhibits the prese aggregate results, for the dry lands of the Palmyrah

Present.			
Rate per Acre.	Area.	Assessment.	Rate p Acre.
RS. A. P.	RS.	RS.	R. A.
0 9 4	74	41	0 8
0 7 0	1,434	558	0 4
0 6 11	1,393	417	0 4
0 5 7	8,296	2,970	0 4
0 5 4	920	308	0 4
0 5 [illegible]	532	257	0 4
0 5 0	3,475	1,351	0 4
0 3 4	2,109	429	0 4
0 0 0	...	...	0 2
0 3 0	6,158	1,169	0 8
0 0 0	...	...	0 2
0 2 7	339	54	0 2
0 2 4	1,511	228	0 2
0 1 4	37,272	3,880	0 4
0 0 0	...	...	0 2
	63,513	11,662	

20. PALMYRAHS.—A monograph on the Palmyr dix. The revenual conditions of Palmyrah planta described in your letter of 14th December 1870, N more here than exhibit the approximate results of th these trees, submitted by you in the above letter. dealt with in detail, some alteration of the figures present it will suffice for all practical purposes to tre

21. There are rather more than nine and-a-hal under report yielding a revenue of 42,650 Rupees cultivated and 41,778 on land unavailable for cultiv all further particulars as to the number of trees bel taxable Palmyrahs are divided, the rates of assessm seedlings, say, 350 Rupees, in order to bring the a may be assumed to be the tree-tax on the Palmyrah years.

22. FINANCIAL RESULTS —Excluding Road C 80,711, the proposed assessment to 67,497 Rupees, at time of settlement. The transfer of lands irrig of Best Permanently Improved involves an unavo transfer to the same head of the area under small el 809 Rupees. The reduction on garden lands am sacrificed under each of these heads by the abolitio

under agreeably to Proceedings of Government,

Proposed.					
ssification.		Rate.	Area in Acres.	Assessment.	Remarks.
s.	Sort.	RS. A. P.		RS. A. P.	
	1	7 0 0	308	2,156 0 0	
	2	5 8 0	518	2,849 0 0	
	3	4 0 0	212	848 0 0	
	4	3 0 0	90	270 0 0	
	5	2 8 0	28	70 0 0	
...	...	... ...	1,156	6,193 0 0	
...	...	... ...	...	1,077 0 0	
...	...	... ...	...	7,270 0 0	12,318 Decrease.
ed average per acre...				6 4 7	

lly, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board
24th August 1872, No. 387.

1,085, dated 17th instant, I have the honour to and in the Palmyra forest (modified for a fourth

---

group) are those worked out in paragraph 8 of my le data furnished by Government and not those of my a slightly throughout.

IN their Proceedings of 22nd June 1872, the Mr. Puckle for the settlement of the part of Tinnevel the commutation rates were not fixed, and further d system to be pursued in dealing with the Palmyras c

2. The decision of Government on the commu last, and the rates as they now stand in Mr. Puckle's have not before them the rates for the fourth group to furnish them with a brief statement of the financi approximately as follows :—

Present.			Pr
Rate (average.)	Area.	Assessment.	Rate.
RS. A. P.	ACRES.	RS.	RS. A. P.
7 11 10	308	2,384	6 0 0
6 5 0	518	3,269	5 0 0
6 3 6	212	1,318	3 12 0
3 13 6	90	346	2 12 0
2 0 0	28	56	2 4 0
	Lands which the Collector wishes to tra		
6 3 6	1,600	9,952	3 12 0
	Second crop.		
		2,263	
7 15 1	449	3,567	3 12 0
2 12 10	541	1,516	2 12 0
1 10 6	1,042	1,728	2 4 0
0 2 11	63,543	11,662	0 3 3
Total...	68,331	38,061	...

This decrease of over 19 per cent. is thus distril

Wet land, decrease 23 per cent.

Wet land transferred to garden or permane

Dry land formerly garden, decrease 19 per

Ordinary dry land, increase 11 per cent

Dry... ... ...

Garden ... ...

Wet to be transferred ... ...

Wet... ... ...

3. The decrease is very large in the case of th transfer, and the Board see reason to think this directly opposed to the practice in other districts irrigation has been dealt with as wet wherever it springs are numerous, and have always been held constitutes the land watered thereby 'Nanjai.' are of exactly the same character as those in Tinn they require great labour on the part of those who

nt is 4,390 Rupees, or 11 per cent. on the

e Palmyrahs has been already reported on, ed 20th March 1871. There are 950,000 paying a revenue of 42,650 Rupees. They villages, but are usually divided into three Pies per tree; these figures I propose to alter lightly increase the revenue. Mr. Symonds irrespective of class, on the calculation that r tree; but such an assessment might pers, swallow up all the net profits and more ely the same financial result as my proposal Pies, respectively. For, according to the Pies, and by my re-adjustment of rates it Pie charged on 950,000 trees will give an

tement exhibits the present and proposed ds :—

Present Assessment in Rupees.	Proposed Assessment in Rupees.	Difference by Settlement.	
		Increase.	Decrease.
		RS.	RS.
11,662	12,973	1,311	...
6,811	10,608	3,797	...
19,588	5,384	...	14,204
1,190	906	...	284
...	1,812	1,812	...
42,650	47,650	5,000	...
81,901	79,333	11,920	14,488

ase of revenue by settlement on Curnams' per cent. for increase of area by survey is of 600 Rupees.

nclosures are herewith forwarded.

OSURE No. 1.

ted Assistant for Settlement, to the Collector of h March 1871, No. 51.

cond report on the settlement of th [illegible]-revenue y you rather more than two yea[illegible] ago. This district, its resourc[illegible] population, and revenue history, and [illegible] brief outline of the four divisions into [illegible] naturally falls for settlement purposes. [illegible] presented a scheme for revising the assess[illegible] of the first and, from a f these distinct tracts of country, viz., the River sively to the Palmyrah forest or second division of

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, *12th May* 1874.

Read the following :—

No. 157. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 22nd June 1872, No. 1,070.

Read the following letter from R. K. PUCKLE, Esq., Collector of Tinnevelly, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 8th February 1872, No. 35.

I HAVE the honour to submit herewith a scheme for the settlement of the 2nd Division of the Tinnevelly District known as the Palmyrah forest.

2. This division includes sixty-eight villages on the coast in the Tenkarei and Nanguneri Taluqs to the extreme south of the British possessions in India. Their area aggregates 195 square miles.

3. Though this area is considerable, the revenue is small, amounting to but 38,061 Rs. for land and 42,650 Rs. for trees. The dry land, indeed, where cultivated in fields, is so unproductive and so very lightly assessed at present that it is difficult to know how to class it. We have entered nothing under 4 Annas an acre in any settlement hitherto ; but a 4-Anna rate would considerably raise the assessment of this poorest of poor land. I have had, therefore, to apply a 3-Anna rate to about 50,000 acres, and, even with this, the dry assessment is raised by 1,311 Rs. The whole country is, in fact, a waste of blown sand on which nothing will grow but the Palmyrah tree, and on this the population depends.

4. There are, however, a few sheltered spots where small tanks or ooze-springs from the sand hills admit of some wet cultivation, and the assessment of these scattered patches, as might be expected, is most arbitrary and anomalous. The area hitherto classed as irrigated is but 2,756 acres, and of this 1,600 acres are irrigated by baling from ooze-springs, and this baling in no respect differs from the baling from wells for gardens. The area thus supplied is now brought under its proper head of " Permanently improved" or first class dry land ; of the remaining 1,156 acres, some are assessed as highly as 13 Rs. an acre, though no better than lands assessed at 4 and 5 Rs. an acre elsewhere. The irrigated lands of this division, though really inferior both in situation and irrigation, may be grouped with the fourth group of the River Valley ; the rates for the first, second, and third groups of the River Valley being inapplicable to this division.

5. Mr. Symonds spent many months in the Palmyrah forest, and has drawn up his scheme with great care. The several processes were worked out by him in communication with me, or with reference to what had been done before in the River Valley ; but his result gives too large a reduction for me to propose under existing circumstances. I have, therefore, revised Mr. Symonds' figures, and have raised his rates so as to reduce the difference between the present and proposed assessment to the smallest possible limits ; the result of this revision gives a net increase by settlement of 600 Rupees.

Proceedings of the Madras G nment, Revenue Department,
12*th* M 1874.

6. Thus the garden lands for whi he present and proposed assessment of classed in three only, increasing the p is only an increase of account, and is been transferred from irrigated to dry

Present and proposed A

Class.	PRESENT.			Cl
	Rate.	Area in Acres.	Assessment in Rupees.	Cla
	RS. A. P.			
	6 11 6 2 12 10 1 10 6	449 541 1,042	3,567 1,516 1,728	
		2,032	6,811	

Present average, Rs. 3-5-7 an acre.

7. For the dry lands, Mr. Symo have raised this to 3 Annas, and the as instead of being reduced by 1,385 Ru

Present and propose

Class.	PRESENT.			C
	Rate.	Area in Acres.	Assessment in Rupees.	C
	RS. A. P.			
	0 8 3 0 5 9 0 2 3 0 1 11	83 16,517 2,042 44,901	43 5,910 286 5,423	}
		63,543	11,662	

Present average, Rs. 0-2-11 an acre

8. The Classification Table in the Palmyrah forest with only two m for gardens and a sixth sort for the p irrigated lands has remained unalter

PROPOSED.			
Rate.	Area in Acres.	Assessment.	
RS. A. P.	RS.		
4 0 0	518	2,072	Nearly 1,200
5 0 0	308	1,540	Nearly 840.
3 8 0	212	742	
2 8 0	90	225	
2 0 0	28	56	
... ...	1,156	4,635	
... ...	...	749	
... ...	...	5,384	14,204 Decrease.

oposed average, Rs. 4-10-6 an acre.

e charged at half the assessment of a gle crop, the total reduction (including 1,600 acres transferred to the head Dry) is 14,204 Rupees at the commu on of Rupees 3-2-5 per cottah, as pro d for the River Valley.

by 9,096 Rupees, taking area for area, by survey and 6½ per cent. for Village