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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

.....*Rev.*.....DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	723	Press
B.P. No.		~~Mis.~~
Dated	12 - 6 -	1874 196

Not to be folded or roughly handled

723
1

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

No. 112. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 27th May 1874, No. 1,270:—

Read the following letter from W. S. WHITESIDE, Esq., Collector of North Arcot, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Palmanair, 23rd April 1874, No. 213.

PRIOR to addressing my letter of the 14th March last, No. 142, to the Board of Revenue, I had written to the Acting Sub-Collector, asking him to call upon Girmaji Row, the Tahsildar of Vellore, for full explanation of his conduct on the several points respecting which I have reported against him. I have the honour now to forward herewith an English translation of that officer's explanation as received with Mr. Rice's letter, dated 28th March 1874, No. 274. I have, therefore, not thought it necessary to call for any further explanation from him as required by the Board in their Proceedings of the 27th March 1874, No. 705, with reference to which I have now the honour to address them.

2. With regard to Girmaji Row's explanation of his conduct, I beg to state that from the beginning I had grave doubts as to his fitness for a Tahsildarship, and the Board are aware that I expressed them fully in my letters to the Board's address, Nos. 400 of the 12th, and 408 of the 16th July 1873. I confess, however, I did not anticipate that they would so soon be as fully realised as they were when I made the settlement of the taluq over which Girmaji Row had presided for nearly a year. I do not recollect ever having received so little assistance or information from any Tahsildar at the Jamabandi. Village after village came up for settlement, but whenever I asked Girmaji Row a question, no matter with what subject connected, as regards the revenue conditions of the village then before me, he invariably replied that he did not know. In his explanation he alleges that he did furnish me with all the information I required of him, and adds that he wrote his remarks with his own hand in English in the waste and other accounts. Such remarks are, as the Board are, of course, aware, generally written by Tahsildars long before the actual settlement takes place, and the information I subsequently required when the settlement was actually going on could not, of course, have been anticipated beforehand by Girmaji Row. In some instances, Girmaji Row did write brief remarks as he says; but his observations in all those instances were simply based on what the village officers had told him, and when I asked him anything further, with reference to the point then under consideration, he invariably admitted his inability to furnish me with the information I required. Had he really, as he alleges, given me full explanation on every matter that arose during the settlement, I need hardly say that I need not have left the taluq in an unsatisfactory condition, or have issued to Girmaji Row the repeated oral as well as manuscript orders that he received from me to go in person to examine and report on the various villages about which I specially required information; nor, when I did not get such reports from him, should I have had occasion to write to him my repeated takids, calling on him to go out into the taluq, make the required examination of Teerwajasti, Fasaljasti, etc., and to explain his delay in doing as he had been ordered. I can only say that, when he states that he gave me all the information I wanted at the Jamabandi, he does

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

not state the truth. The officers of nearly every village in the taluq reported a large decrease in the revenue under the heads of Fasaljasti and Teerwajasti, (except, by a singular coincidence, in those villages which were easily accessible from my camp, and which I could have got at myself). Girmaji Row and his Revenue Inspectors knew nothing whatever on the subject of this decrease, and I therefore over and over again ordered the Tahsildar to go in person, as soon as the Jamabandi was over, to those villages in which the largest falling off was to be noticed, examine the lands, and to report to me fully on each such village. Instead of doing this he went to the Sub-Collector, and, concealing from him the repeated orders I had given him, asked for a week's casual leave to go to Madras. He got the leave, but did not quit Vellore; and afterwards, when I had repeatedly called on him for the reports I had ordered him to send in, he furnished me with two or three on villages close to Vellore, in which the decrease of revenue had been less than Rupees 10; but in no one instance has he, up to this day, visited a village where the beriz was reported to have fallen off to any large extent (and there were some in which the decrease was said by the village officers to be nearly Rupees 500). I was convinced that, if a proper azmaish was made then and there, a very extensive system of fraud on the part of the village officers would have been brought to light. Girmaji Row's determined neglect of the positive orders I gave him has, however, effectually prevented this discovery, and therefore I have reported him for the unfavourable notice of the Board. My suspicion that fraud was being perpetrated has been confirmed by the fact that the partial and comparatively unsatisfactory inquiry that has subsequently been made by the Revenue Inspectors has resulted in showing in several instances that there was not really the falling off in the revenue that the village officers originally announced at the time of Jamabandi.

3. I beg to add that, after receiving a report on the extremely unsatisfactory state of the Sub-Registry Department of which Girmaji Row was in charge at Vellore, the Inspector-General of Registration has lately deprived him of that office, and a special Sub-Registrar has been appointed.

4. I still adhere to my original opinion,—an opinion I formed after a lengthened experience of the district, and after frequent communications with more than one Sub-Collector under whom he was working,—that Girmaji Row is not fit for the post of a Tahsildar and Sub-Magistrate. In deference, however, to the recommendations of Messrs. Sewell and Wilkinson, who, as the Board are aware, had had but very little experience of Girmaji Row's official conduct, I would not at present altogether recommend his immediate removal from the grade of Tahsildar, but beg to suggest that a further trial be allowed him, and that he be now reduced and transferred to the taluq of Polur, one of the smallest and easiest taluqs in the district, the pay of which (Rupees 150) is equal to that of a Sub-Division Sheristadar, the post he last held prior to being made Tahsildar of Vellore. I would further propose that he should hold that office on probation for one year, about the end of which term I shall depute an experienced officer to conduct the settlement of that taluq for next fasli, and if he is then found to be as ignorant of the state of the taluq as he is now, and therefore unfit for the post of Tahsildar, he will be degraded to some other post, for the duties of which he may be con-

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

sidered competent. In the event of the Board approving of this recommendation I propose to confirm Prakasam Naidu in his present appointment at Vellore, Chackravarthi Nainar to revert to his former taluq of Palmanair, and Janardhana Naidu to be confirmed at Chendragherry, which will be vacated by Prakasam Naidu. These transfers would involve no loss of pay, and the respective Tahsildars would, I am aware, like the move.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.—Translation of Girmaji Row's explanation.

THE Board resolve to sanction the arrangements proposed by the Collector, with the exception of making Girmaji Row a Tahsildar *on probation*. This would be equivalent to dismissing him from his present position, and though the Board think it was a great mistake to make him a Tahsildar, they are not prepared to dismiss him, or rather to say that he shall be dismissed at the end of the year if the authorities choose to do so.

2. Of course, the Collector will be at liberty to report again on Girmaji Row's conduct after he has been a year at Polur.

3. The appointments of Girmaji Row to be Tahsildar of Polur, of Prakasam Naidu to be Tahsildar of Vellore, of Chackravarthi Nainar to be Tahsildar of Palmanair, and of Janardhana Naidu to be Tahsildar of Chendragherry, will be submitted for the sanction of Government.

No. 113. ORDER THEREON, 12th June 1874, No. 723.

Miscellaneous.

THE appointments detailed in paragraph 3 of the Proceedings recorded above are approved.

(True Extract.)

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

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

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

No. 1,270.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 27th May 1874.

Read the following letter from W. S. WHITESIDE, Esq., Collector of North Arcot, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Palmanair, 23rd April 1874, No. 213:—

PRIOR to addressing my letter of the 14th March last, No. 142, to the Board of Revenue, I had written to the Acting Sub-Collector, asking him to call upon Girmaji Row, the Tahsildar of Vellore, for full explanation of his conduct on the several points respecting which I have reported against him. I have the honour now to forward, herewith, an English translation of that officer's explanation as received with Mr. Rice's letter, dated 23th March 1874, No. 274. I have therefore not thought it necessary to call for any further explanation from him as required by the Board in their Proceedings of the 27th March 1874, No. 705, with reference to which I have now the honour to address them.

2. With regard to Girmaji Row's explanation of his conduct I beg to state that from the beginning I had grave doubts as to his fitness for a Tahsildarship, and the Board are aware that I expressed them fully in my letters to the Board's address, Nos. 400 of the 12th, and 408 of the 16th July 1873. I confess, however, I did not anticipate that they would so soon be as fully realised as they were when I made the settlement of the taluq over which Girmaji Row had presided for nearly a year. I do not recollect ever having received so little assistance or information from any Tahsildar at the Jamabandi. Village after village came up for settlement but whenever I asked Girmaji Row a question, no matter with what subject connected, as regards the revenue conditions of the village then before me, he invariably replied that he did not know. In his explanation he alleges that he did furnish me with all the information I required of him, and adds that he wrote his remarks with his own hand in English in the waste and other accounts. Such remarks are, as the Board are of course aware, generally written by Tahsildars long before the actual settlement takes place, and the information I subsequently required when the settlement was actually going on could not, of course, have been anticipated beforehand by Girmaji Row. In some instances Girmaji Row did write brief remarks as he says, but his observations in all those instances were simply based on what the village officers had told him, and when I asked him anything further, with reference to the point then under consideration, he invariably admitted his inability to furnish me with the information I required. Had he really, as he alleges, given me full explanation on every matter that arose during the settlement I need hardly say that I need not have left the taluq in an unsatisfactory condition, or have issued to Girmaji Row the repeated oral as well as manuscript orders that he received from me to go in person to examine and report on the various villages about which I specially required information; nor, when I did not get such reports from him, should I have had occasion to write to him my repeated takids, calling on him to go out into the taluq, make the required examination of Teerwajasti, Fasaljasti, etc., and to explain his delay in doing as he had been ordered. I can only say that, when he

Govt. of 118741

REVENUE.

To

THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

By, Secy.

Dated June 11th.

Recd.

Encl.

G. O., 12th June 1874, No. 723.

JUN 11

No. 112-113.

Tahsildars in North Arcot District.—
Approves certain transfers and appointments
among the —

states that he gave me all the information I wanted at the Jamabandi, he does not state the truth. The officers of nearly every village in the taluq reported a large decrease in the revenue under the heads of Fasaljasti and Teerwajasti, (except, by a singular coincidence, in those villages which were easily accessible from my camp, and which I could have got at myself). Girmaji Row and his Revenue Inspectors knew nothing whatever on the subject of this decrease, and I therefore over and over again ordered the Tahsildar to go in person, as soon as the Jamabandi was over, to those villages in which the largest falling off was to be noticed, examine the lands, and to report to me fully on each such village. Instead of doing this he went to the Sub-Collector, and, concealing from him the repeated orders I had given him, asked for a week's casual leave to go to Madras. He got the leave, but did not quit Vellore; and afterwards, when I had repeatedly called on him for the reports I had ordered him to send in, he furnished me with two or three on villages close to Vellore, in which the decrease of revenue had been less than Rupees 10; but in no one instance has he, up to this day, visited a village where the beriz was reported to have fallen off to any large extent, (and there were some in which the decrease was said by the village officers to be nearly Rupees 500). I was convinced that, if a proper azmaish was made then and there, a very extensive system of fraud on the part of the village officers would have been brought to light. Girmaji Row's determined neglect of the positive orders I gave him has, however, effectually prevented this discovery, and therefore I have reported him for the unfavourable notice of the Board. My suspicion that fraud was being perpetrated has been confirmed by the fact that the partial and comparatively unsatisfactory inquiry that has subsequently been made by the Revenue Inspectors has resulted in showing in several instances that there was a large falling off in the revenue that the village officers originally announced at the time of Jamabandi.

3. I beg to add that, after receiving a report on the extremely unsatisfactory state of the Sub-Registry Department of which Girmaji Row was in charge at Vellore, the Inspector General of Registration has lately deprived him of that office, and a special Sub-Registrar has been appointed.

4. I still adhere to my original opinion—an opinion I formed after a lengthened experience of the district, and after frequent communications with more than one Sub-Collector under whom he was working—that Girmaji Row is not fit for the post of a Tahsildar and Sub-Magistrate. In deference, however, to the recommendations of Messrs. Sewell and Wilkinson, who, as the Board are aware, had had but very little experience of Girmaji Row's official conduct, I would not at present altogether recommend his immediate removal from the grade of Tahsildar; but beg to suggest that a further trial be allowed him, and that he be now reduced and transferred to the taluq of Polur, one of the smallest and easiest taluqs in the district, the pay of which (Rupees 150) is equal to that of a Sub-Division Sheristadar, the post he last held prior to being made Tahsildar of Vellore. I would further propose that he should hold that office on probation for one year, about the end of which term I shall depute an experienced officer to conduct the settlement of that taluq for next Fasli, and if he is then found to be as ignorant

of the state of the taluq as he is now, and therefore unfit for the post of Tahsildar, he will be degraded to some other post, for the duties of which he may be considered competent. In the event of the Board approving of this recommendation I propose to confirm Prakasam Naidu in his present appointment at Vellore, Chackravarthi Nainar to revert to his former taluq of Palmanair, and Janardhana Naidu to be confirmed at Chendragherry, which will be vacated by Prakasam Naidu. These transfers would involve no loss of pay, and the respective Tahsildars would, I am aware, like the move.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.—Translation of Girmaji Row's explanation.

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2. Of course the Collector will be at liberty to report again on Girmaji Row's conduct after he has been a year at Polur.

3. The appointments of Girmaji Row to be Tahsildar of Polur, of Prakasam Naidu to be Tahsildar of Vellore, of Chackravarthi Nainar to be Tahsildar of Palmanair, and of Janardhana Naidu to be Tahsildar of Chendragherry, will be submitted for the sanction of Government.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

J. G. M.
Secretary.

To the Acting Secretary to Government, Revenue Department,
with one original enclosure.

.. the Collector of North Arcot.

Copy to the Accountant-General.

Exd. J. Tulloch.

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(A true Copy and Extract.)

J. G. M.
Secretary.

To the Acting Secretary to Government, Revenue Department,
with one original enclosure.

„ the Collector of North Arcot.
Copy to the Accountant-General.

Exd. J. Tulloch.

From
C. Schumacher, Br.
Treasurer of Illinois State
R. Rice Esq.
Ag. Collector of
North Street

Spanning Received your Letter N^o 149
dated the 14th instant I kept to submit the
following
On Receipt of orders from the Collector
to the effect that he is coming to the Saluk for the
Jamilah - Settlement of Basle 1803. I kept it

arrived, I personally wrote in English the accompanying Remarks p. 18 and other Accounts relating to nearly 100 Villages. They were without delay delivered into the Surgeon on Collector's arrival. Any information which was asked for by the Collector was readily and satisfactorily given. Thus the Settlement was constructed and published distribution of Villages when a party had to be kept there for some time. Enquiry was held and Revenue was given. The Revenue was given.

At the time there was not much
Sham (withering off crops) except in one or two

1875-76

Receivd 1874. *Alfred*

Lord of Sharnak.

MADRAS.

PROCEEDINGS, 27TH MAY 1874, No. 1, 270

Deputy Secretary

Energy

Received
2. March 70.

Dr. E. E. E. E. E.

MA Y.
No. 1,270.

No. 1,270.

Germany: Aore.—Talsildar of Vellore, in North Arcot District.—Sanction of Government requested for transfer of — to inferior taluk of Polur for neglect and inefficiency; also for appointment of Prakasham Naidu to be Talsildar of Vellore, of Chackravathi Nairar to be Talsildar of Palamanar, and of Jaarathana Naidu to be Talsildar of Chendragherry.

2. *Ad. 1874* } *Ad. 1874*

The appointments detailed in
Paragraph 3 of the Proceedings
recorded above are approved

112-13

7th of June 1870

W. H. Brown

villages where necessary Enquiry was ^{instituted} and orders ob-
tained.

Since the ^{instituted} Enquiry is
thence and the Reports received regarding them
are under Enquiry. On receipt of information
accounts will be submitted for orders.

On my assuming the charge of
the Taluk, I found the arrears of Revenue ex-
hausting against the Taluk very heavy and the
amount not tallying with the figures with the Village
officers.

To have the discrepancies ^{settled}

Next year an order was given to the
Accounts compared with those in the Taluk. Of
the amount that was thus obtained such as
could easily be collected was collected. For
the rest, steps have been and are being taken for
proceeding against the property of the defaulters,
both ^{land} and ^{movable} property.

I have submitted to your Office
for orders an account shewing the discrepancies
between the Taluk and Village Accounts in regard
to some of the items of the arrears.

I have also ^{submitted} at the Taluk

on June 1875. At the end of that month there
were three arrears viz. Chupras 12589-15-11
for Tract 1282 (the then Current Tract) Chupras
13617-9-1 due for 1281 and the previous Tracts.

The result of my endeavours to collect the arrears

by personally visiting the Villages is shown below.

At the end of February last, there was Rs 331-0-1

due for Tract 1282 and Chupras 12290-12-3 for

1281 and previous Tracts. Of this amount

Chupras 8000 would have to be written off.

It was not possible to recover the balance

of the above sum at Jamalpur, because it had

to be ascertained whether the defaulters were

moveable and immovable property in the

Villages to which the arrears belong were sold.

had any property in any other Villages. Soon

after the Jamalpur the Revenue Inspectors

were directed to institute necessary Enquiry on

the above point and attach any property
that might be found, and also to report such
cases in which the arrears could not be recovered
and should be written off from the accounts
regarding

Regarding 12 Villages were received and submitted
to the collector for orders. The collector has sent
a letter on the 11th instant with 5/12 wherein he
directs that a book containing information
regarding all the villages with ^{my} remarks should
be submitted and that the Revenue Inspectors
should certify therein that the defaulters had
no property.

To give satisfaction to the collector
at the time of Janaband I personally recorded
all possible information in English (instead of

~~in Telugu~~ to write it as is done in some Taluks) on the
following points: that is, the source of irrigation
in each village, the supply of water received by
the irrigation works therein during the year,
the extent of land cultivated and the extent left
waste with reasons for it, Paddy and Barley
paddy, the cultivation of Government lands
without permission, etc. With this report I have
thereupon forwarded the Janaband as was directed.
The time of the distribution of the paddy by
the

the collector, I was also present. I do not
think that the collector was in any instance
dissatisfied with me, nor did I fail to answer
satisfactorily any question put to me by him.
I was quite prepared to afford any information
which might have been asked.

The accounts (herewith submitted)
of 20 villages will show your honor whether I did or
did not act as above stated.

These being the facts I have nothing
to say in regard to the remarks contained
in the collector's letter with that "display
ignorance of the affairs of the Taluk of Janaband
that I did not give the slightest information
regarding paddy, waste, old balances or even
any single thing in any one village though I
have been in the Taluk for nearly a year".
All this I consider owing to my bad time and
nothing else. I have therefore submitted to you
what has taken place and will obey such in-
structions as are sent to me.

Yours most obedt servant
(sd) C. Shrinaghi Rao
Shrinaghi

Vellam
17 March
1874

C.P. The collector had no occasion other
than the Jamabandi, to personally know my
work and conduct. Consequently there appears
to be no reason for his being dissatisfied
with me from the time I was appointed to this
Tahsilarship. I beg to refer you to the opinion
recorded regarding my conduct by Mr. Wilkinson
in his letter to the collector dated April 1873
and by Mr. H. Sewell in his Jamabandi report
for the last fasli. I am, Sir, Sir,

(Signed) C. Khiraji Khan
Tahildar

/A true translation/

/signed/ R. P. Rao
Agst. collector

/A true Copy/

to be collected

Collector

C.P.

Per. 1815/74.

Enclosure in a letter
from the collector of
North-west to
the Secretary to
the Board of Revenue
dated 23rd April 1874.
No. 213-

Per. 1806/74

Per. 1806/74

723

Per. 1812 June/74
in 13 of 112