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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. / B.P. No.	872	Press / Mis.	
Dated	13th July.		196 18 74.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
13th July 1874.

No. 102. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 5th June 1874, No. 1,365 :—

Read again Board's Proceedings, dated 21st June 1873, No. 1,076, and 17th March and 20th April 1874, Nos. 613A and 930.

Read also the following letters :—

From H. E. SULLIVAN, Esq., Officiating Director of Revenue Settlement, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Madras, 21st April 1874, No. 884-23.

I HAVE the honor to reply to the Board's Proceedings marginally noted.

Dated 21st June 1873, No. 1,076.
" 17th March 1874, No. 613A.

2. In his letters embodied in the Proceedings under notice, the Collector of Trichinopoly presses for a re-demarcation of that district on two grounds:—

(1.) That the marks put down to define holdings when the district was originally demarcated have, owing to the perishable nature of the materials used, for the most part disappeared; and,

(2.) That the culturable waste is demarcated in such large blocks, that the ryots are unable to take it up.

3. From the information which I have received on the subject, there appears to be no question but that the measure advocated by the Collector is one of absolute necessity. It is obvious that the settlement maps and registers can be of little practical value, unless the configuration area of the fields can be tested by them, and in the absence of the defining marks, this is a matter of some difficulty. When the survey and settlement operations were first inaugurated, the advantages of permanent demarcation as a fiscal check were apparently lost sight of, it being considered sufficient if the marks lasted long enough to enable the survey party, which then followed immediately, to conduct its operations. To this error may to some extent be traced the instances of concealed cultivation brought to light under Mr. Banbury's administration of the district, and the absence of demarcation will always furnish a convenient excuse to the village officials for not bringing encroachments to account. In view therefore to establishing a check upon such encroachments and to affording the village officers facilities for detecting them, I am prepared to support Mr. Pennington's proposal for the permanent re-demarcation of the district, so far as holdings now in occupation are concerned. As regards the demarcated waste, it is true that it is set out in large blocks on the ground, but in the registers these are all divided into fields, the maximum extent of which is 5 acres. It does not therefore appear necessary for this department to demarcate these fields in anticipation of their being taken up; this can be done by the revenue authorities at the expense of the Darkhastdar as applications are received, care being taken that no assignment is made of a less extent than the area of the interstitial fields entered in the register.

4. It it is decided to restore the demarcation in Trichinopoly, I would assign the work to Mr Clogstoun, the Deputy Director in charge of the Coimbatore Party. He knows the district and has very satisfactorily conducted operations of a similar nature in Salem. He would have no difficulty in supervising the work without hindrance to his other duties. I have been in communication with him on the subject, and he is of opinion that the work might be completed in two years at a cost of about Rupees 12,000, inclusive of the value of such stores as Government have to provide. A permanent advance of about Rupees 5,000, to be recovered on the completion of the work, would also be necessary for the purpose of starting contractors in different taluqs. The original cost of demarcating the Trichinopoly District was Rupees 25 per square mile, and if the proposal now made is sanctioned, it will bring the cost up to about Rupees 30; a very moderate sum indeed.

5. As regards the necessity for a revision of the survey, Mr. Pennington has not yet been able to furnish me with a list of all the villages where such revision is necessary, but that it is much required may be assumed from the fact, that the Collector reports that "mistakes are constantly cropping up," and that the ryots of seven* villages in the Trichinopoly and of one† village in the Kulittalai Taluqs have offered to bear the expense of a fresh survey of their lands. It would I think be advisable for the accuracy of the survey in these villages to be tested, and if errors of any magnitude are discovered, the question of revising the survey of the entire district should receive consideration.

Letter to Director, dated 30th March 1874, No. 9.

* Valavandankottai, Yettarai, Kottamangalam, Peravalanallur, Melapattee, Kottarapatti, Kodiyalam.

† Tiruchapoor.

From the same Officer, dated 28th April 1874, No. 922-23.

In reply to the Board's Proceedings, dated 20th instant, No. 930, received yesterday, I have the honor to state that my report on the proposed re-demarcation of the Trichinopoly District was despatched on the 21st instant, numbered 884-23.

2. Adverting to the demarcation of the boundaries between Kadavur Zemindari and the Government villages of Nadupattu and Sekkanam, I have the honor to state that the work could be carried out by the party proposed to be organized under the supervision of the Deputy Director of Revenue Settlement at Coimbatore. The survey must of course be made by the professional department.

3. In my letter above quoted, I suggested with reference to the complaints which have been made in regard to the incorrectness of the survey in the Trichinopoly District, that its accuracy should be tested in certain villages which have been specially brought to notice, and that if the result showed the complaints to be well-founded, that the question of an entire revision of the survey should receive consideration.

4. In order to meet the requisitions which have from time to time been made on the department by the Collector of Trichinopoly, Colonel Priestley requests sanction for the entertainment of a small permanent establishment, and that funds may be provided to meet the cost of the same.

5. At paragraph 35 of the Proceedings of Government, dated 12th December 1864, No. 2,243, it is stated that the regular survey having been completed "the changes which thereafter occur in the occupation of land, the increase of cultivation, etc., *will be dealt with by the permanent survey establishment which from the outset it has been the intention of Government to attach to each district* * * * * * *. No establishment has yet been organized for this purpose in any district, but it is time that the subject should be considered. Colonel Priestley will accordingly propose a scale of establishment for each district completed and likely to be completed within the current year, and submit a set of regulations for each party."

6. This requisition was complied with in 1866, and the Government in an Order, dated 22nd May of that year, No. 1,218, on Board's Proceedings, dated [illegible] 1866, No. 1,813, deferred passing final orders pending information as to the data on which the district survey establishments proposed had been framed by the survey department, and as to the expression of the Board's opinion as to the propriety of levying a moderate fee for permanently demarcating and surveying unsurveyed land. With his letter, dated 18th June 1870, embodied in G. O., dated 14th July of that year, No. 1,083, the Superintendent of Revenue Survey supplied the desired information, but orders were again deferred, pending receipt of a report from the Board of Revenue. This was furnished with the Board's Proceedings, dated 11th August 1870, No. 5,262, and there the matter remains undisposed of.

7. The necessity for the entertainment of a permanent survey party or parties to take up the work where the original survey left off, to demarcate and survey newly occupied lands, alterations in old holdings, and to meet other casual requirements of the revenue authorities, is becoming more and more urgent every day. I doubt however its being necessary to attach a party to *each* completed district when the arrears of work at present existing have been cleared off. I

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
13th July 1874.

should think that one party for two or three districts would be found sufficient, and looking at paragraph 6 of Colonel Priestley's letter, recorded in Board's Proceedings of 11th August 1870, No. 5,262, this would appear to be his opinion also. Actual experience can, however, alone determine this question, but in order to meet present requirements, I would recommend the Government being moved to sanction at an early date the entertainment of three parties, each of the strength indicated in Colonel Priestley's letter quoted above, to be employed in the northern, southern and centre divisions of the Presidency, and to meet the cost, a special allotment of funds will be necessary=Rupees 35,700 per annum. This is in fact what was recommended by the Board in their Proceedings referred to above, on which the Government have not yet passed orders. The southern party should commence operations in Trichinopoly, and if these proposals are sanctioned, the entertainment of a party under the supervision of the Deputy Director of Coimbatore for the re-demarcation of the district at a cost of Rupees 12,000, recommended in my letter of the 21st instant, No. 884-23, will be unnecessary.

8. These permanent survey parties will, of course, be under the control of the Superintendent of Revenue Survey so far as their work is concerned, but I think that requisitions for their services should be submitted by the Collectors to the Director of Revenue Settlement, and it should be left to him to determine where they are most required.

In the foregoing letters, the Acting Director of Revenue Settlement proposes measures for the re-demarcation of the Trichinopoly District, and for the re-survey of some few villages where the errors are so numerous as to necessitate this course. These matters have already formed the subject of much correspondence, and as the necessity for action has been acknowledged, it is only necessary for the Board to endeavor to point out the best method of correction.

2. The original demarcation of Trichinopoly, which commenced in 1858, consisted of earthen mounds which cost the ryots comparatively nothing, and which, although answering the purposes of survey, were soon worn and washed down to the ordinary ground level, and became useless as permanent field marks. Both Mr. Sullivan and Mr. Pennington have pointed out how the disappearance of these marks neutralizes to a considerable extent the benefits of the survey and settlement; and the former officer proposes that the task of restoration in a permanent manner should be entrusted to Mr. Clogstoun, the Acting Deputy Director now working in the neighbouring province of Coimbatore. This is a good suggestion, as Mr. Clogstoun has successfully executed a similar task in Salem, is acquainted with the Trichinopoly District, and could carry on this work of renovation simultaneously with his settlement duties in Coimbatore. It appears in fact preferable to Mr. Sullivan's alternative proposal that this restoration over the district at large should be entrusted to the small survey party whose retention was advocated for altogether different purposes, and by whom the work could not be carried out so quickly and economically.

3. Mr. Sullivan does not mention the number of hands that he would detail to this task, but it is presumed that they would consist of drafts from Coimbatore and other parties aided by temporary employés as in Salem, and that the cost could be borne from the Director's Budget. As the former demarcation cost the ryots nothing for stones, it is fair that they should now provide them, as well as the theodolite stations which they have allowed to go to ruin. The estimate of Rupees 12,000, by Mr. Sullivan, seems therefore somewhat above the mark; but the floating advance of Rupees 5,000, wherewith to start the quarrying and distribution, seems certainly requisite. It will be recovered on the completion of the work.

4. The Board observe that this important subject of restoring the theodolite stations has not been touched upon, but as these are the starting points and foundation of the whole system, they should also be considered *pari passu* with the field demarcation. Where the stations are merely injured, but not displaced, they can be renewed by Mr. Clogstoun's party, but where displaced or missing, they must be re-fixed by one of the Survey Department acquainted with the use of the theodolite. A list of the stations to be thus re-ascertained and re-fixed should be made out, as the field demarcations work, and be sent to the Survey Department as was ordered to be done in Salem.

5. The Board fully agree with Mr. Sullivan that it is not now necessary to demarcate into small portions the large fields laid out for future occupancy. They are already divided in the registers into 5-acre blocks, and they should be demarcated at the cost of the Darkhastdar, as already laid down in Board's Circular No. 9 of 1870.

6. As pointed out by the Acting Director and by the Superintendent of Revenue Survey,* the necessity of appointing a small survey party to each district to measure and plot tracts newly cultivated, to correct errors, and in fact to keep the survey up to date, has been fully admitted by Government;† but the Board's Proceedings, dated 11th August 1870, No. 5,262, giving the details necessary for starting this very requisite measure have not yet been disposed of.

* *Vide* Colonel Priestley's letter contained in Board's Proceedings, dated 20th April 1874, No. 930.

† G. O., dated 12th December 1864, No. 2,243.

It appears to the Board that the present is a very good opportunity for trying the experiment in the district of Trichinopoly. The small party could be well employed:—

1st. In bringing the maps and field-books up to date, by measuring the tracts newly occupied.

2nd. In restoring the theodolite stations as above recommended.

3rd. In carrying out occasional requisitions, such as the survey of the boundaries between the Kadavur Zemindari and the Government villages referred to in Board's Proceedings, dated 20th April 1874.

4th. In correcting the survey, or in some cases in re-surveying certain villages where such a proceeding is really necessary.

With regard to this last point, the Board think that although the villagers have offered to pay the cost of the new survey, this should [illegible]

7. The Board resolve, therefore, to request the sanction of Government for the floating advance of Rupees 5,000 for starting and keeping up the re-demarcation, and also, as a tentative measure, for the annual cost of the small survey party as recommended by Colonel Priestley in his letter contained in G. O., dated 14th July 1870, which was devised after much careful consideration of the subject, and which, including travelling expenses, peons, measurers, and contingencies, comes to Rupees 11,900 per annum, or just under Rupees 1,000 per mensem.

No. 103. ORDER THEREON, 13th July 1874, No. 872.

Miscellaneous.

His Excellency the Governor in Council agrees with the Board that action is necessary, but is of opinion that the work should be entrusted to the Survey Department. The Board will, therefore, be good enough to confer with Colonel Hossey in view to a definite scheme being submitted.

2. The Board will also report whether there are any other districts in which the work of the survey will have to be done over again for similar reasons.

3. The subject of the best means of keeping [illegible] demarcating [illegible] survey once completed, up to date, should also be considered by Colonel Hossey and the Collector by the light of the experience gained since this district was surveyed.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) C. [illegible]STER,
Acting Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.
„ the Superintendent of Revenue Survey.

Exd. W. H. French.

No. 613A.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 17th March 1874.

Read the following letter from J. B. PENNINGTON, Esq., Acting Collector of Trichinopoly, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 26th February 1874, No. 41:—

WITH reference to Board's Proceedings, No. 205, dated 3rd February 1874, I have the honour to solicit attention to my letter No. 92, dated 26th May 1873, proposing that the district should be re-demarcated.

2. It was referred to the Director for opinion on the 21st June last.

3. One of the chief difficulties we have to contend with in my opinion is, the absolute want of demarcation on the outskirts of cultivation; and this is what I meant when I attributed some of the falling off to the rigorous scrutiny *not* so much of *2nd crop land*, but of dry fields where an inadvertent encroachment on a corner of an undemarcated field of perhaps 20 acres in extent involved the charge of assessment for the whole Survey number.

4. This reason was alleged as a *principal* one in my Settlement Report of 29th September 1873, No. 222, to which Mr. Banbury apparently alludes; and it must be remembered that the charges for concealed cultivation so called, (*i.e.* for encroachment described above) are continued even now, and certainly tend to discourage agriculture, though it may be impossible to say exactly to what extent they have operated in compelling relinquishments.

REFERRED to the Director of Revenue Settlement who is requested to expedite his reply to Board's Proceedings, dated 21st June 1873, No. 1,076.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) J. GROSE,
Secretary.

To the Director of Revenue Settlement.

Copy to the Acting Collector of Trichinopoly.

Ed. G. A. Turton.

5/572

No. 930.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 20th April 1874.

Read the following letter from Colonel F. J. B. PRIESTLEY, Superintendent, Revenue Survey, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Chepauk, 26th March 1874, No. 789-33 :—

No. 261-99, of 10th March 1874.

IN submitting copy of a letter from the Deputy-Superintendent, Revenue Survey, reporting on a letter from the Collector of Trichinopoly, dated 5th February 1874, No. 4, containing a request that the Survey Detachment working in the district might be instructed to demarcate and survey the boundaries between Kadavur Zemindari and Government Villages of Nadupattu and Sekkanam, I have the honour to solicit the Board of Revenue to be pleased to move the Government to sanction a small permanent establishment and to provide funds for performing systematically the various demarcation and survey work required by the Collector.

2. I may here mention that no orders of Government have been received on the subject of District Permanent Establishment discussed in the orders marginally noted.

Proceedings Board of Revenue, No. 5,262, of July 1870.
G. O., No. 1,083, of 14th 11th August 1870.

Copy of a letter from the Deputy-Superintendent, No. 1 *Revenue Survey, to the Superintendent, Revenue Survey, dated* 10*th March* 1874, *No.* 261-99.

I HAVE the honour to return the enclosures to your docket No. 561-57, of the 5th instant, regarding the demarcation of a line in the Trichinopoly District, and to report that it would not be convenient for me to undertake this duty at present.

2. You are aware that the party is still very widely scattered, and being so, efficient supervision is hardly possibly.

3. The Surveyors now in Trichinopoly will have left before my orders, sent on receipt of your instructions, could reach them; it is evident that one or more boundary disputes will have to be decided, and they will take some time.

4. I have the honour to suggest, with reference to this and the several other applications for surveys from the Collector of Trichinopoly that, that officer be requested to favour us with a Statement, embodying all his applications already made, as well as particulars of all other new surveys or revision of old work which he thinks should be done so that arrangements may be made for doing the work systematically; and if the Collector's requisitions are large, you may think it advisable to apply for sanction for a small permanent establishment such as it has always been contemplated would eventually be required.

REFERRED to the Acting Director of Revenue Settlement with the request that he will take the Collector's present application into consideration when replying to Board's Proceedings of the 21st June 1873, No. 1,076, regarding the proposed redemarcation of the Trichinopoly District.

(True Copies and Extract.)

(Signed) J. GROSE,
Secretary.

To the Acting Director of Revenue Settlement.
,, the Superintendent of Revenue Survey.
Copy to the Collector of Trichinopoly.

Ed. G. A. Turton.

Board of Revenue
MADRAS.

PROCEEDINGS, 17TH MARCH 1874, No. 613A.

Received

Encl.

MARCH.

No. 613A.

Re-demarcation of Trichinopoly District.—Collector's letter requesting attention to his proposal for — referred to Director of Revenue Settlement, with request to reply to Board's Proceedings on subject, dated 21st June 1873, No. 1,076.

1874.

Board of Revenue

MADRAS.

PROCEEDINGS, 20TH APRIL 1874, No. 930.

Received

APRIL.

No. 930.

Demarcation and survey—of boundaries between Kadavur Zemindari and Villages of Nadupatti and Sekkanam, in Trichinopoly District.—Letter from Superintendent of Revenue Survey requesting that a small permanent establishment may be employed for — and for such other demarcation and survey work as may be required by Collector, referred to Director of Revenue Settlement for report, when replying to Board's Proceedings, dated 21st June 1873, regarding proposed re-demarcation of this district.

No. 1,076.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 21st June 1873.

Read the following letter from J. B. PENNINGTON, Esq., Acting Collector of Trichinopoly, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 26th May 1873, No. 92:—

IN continuation of my letter, No. 51, dated 24th March 1873, I have the honour to point out, as another reason for the decline in the revenues of this district, the fact that the remaining fields demarcated for occupation are *excessively* large, so that the custom has been to cultivate small portions of them, (sometimes surreptitiously, and sometimes on payment for the amount cultivated).

2. But when Mr. Banbury's vigorous scrutiny was set on foot all these large fields were included in the puttas of the cultivating ryots, and they were consequently compelled to relinquish what they had actually cultivated as well as the waste. Thus the revenue of previous years was swollen by an altogether fictitious amount (being simply the assessment levied on large tracts never cultivated at all); and on the other hand that of last year was reduced by what might have been realized had it not been for the scrutiny.

3. The want of land conveniently demarcated for occupation is beginning to be very much felt; and, as the Board are aware,* the district generally requires re-demarcating, (and in many villages re-surveying). I would suggest therefore that advantage be taken of a survey-party being now in the district to complete the demarcation and survey of the district in the manner suggested by Mr. Puckle in the last paragraph of his Settlement Report, dated 30th May 1865.

* Mr. Puckle's report, dated 30th May 1865, paragraph 63, reviewed in Board's Proceedings, dated 28th May 1866.
Mr. Longley's report, No. 178, dated 28th September 1868, embodied in Board's Proceedings, dated 25th November 1868.
Proceedings of the Board of Revenue No. 8,131, dated 2nd November 1869, paragraph 11.
Proceedings of the Board, No. 2,020, dated 28th March 1870.
Mr. Cadell's letter, No. 180, dated 3rd August 1870.

REFERRED to the Director of Revenue Settlement for his remarks.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) J. GROSE,
Secretary.

To the Director of Revenue Settlement.
Copy to the Acting Collector of Trichinopoly.

Exd. J. Tulloch.

Revenue Department

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

No. 2074

From Board of Revenue, Fort St. George

Dated

1874.

FORDERS.

1873.

Board of Revenue,

MADRAS.

PROCEEDINGS, 21ST JUNE 1873, No. 1,076.

Rev. 2074/74 3 Encl.

Received

JUNE.

No. 1,076.

Demarcation and Survey—of Trichinopoly District.—Letter from Collector, stating further reasons for decline in revenue of district, and suggesting completion of—, referred to Director of Revenue Settlement for his remarks.

Revenue Department.

T.

1874.

9/872

8/872

District.—Letter from Collector, stating further reasons for decline in revenue of district, and suggesting completion of—, referred to Director of Revenue Settlement for his remarks.

FOR ORDERS.

suggesting completion of —, referred to Director of Revenue Settlement for his remarks.

Copy of Enclosure Rec'd

9/672

Revenue Department.

No. 872.

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Under date the 13th July 1874.

READ the following Proc: of the 25th of Rev:

Subj: proposals of Dir: of Rev: Settt for re-demarcation of Trichinopoly District and re-survey of some villages in district, and requesting sanction for floating advance of Rs 5000, and for employment, as a tentative measure, of a small survey party at a cost of Rs 11900

H. E. 5th June 1874 No 1365.

His Excellency the Governor in Council agrees with the Board that action is necessary, that is, if opinion that work should be entrusted to the Survey Department. The Board therefore be good enough

to confer with Colonel Hessey in view to a definite scheme being submitted.

2. The Board will also report whether there are any other Districts in which the work of the Survey will have to be done over again for similar reasons

I would suggest the advisability of meeting to discuss the subject.

3. "The subject of the best means of keeping a Survey once completed, up to date, should also be considered by Major Hessey & the Collector by the light of the experience gained since this District was surveyed."

J. B. S.

This will not commit him yet in any way - while he may

C.C.C.

J. B. O'Meara
Lieut of Revenue
D/28/7

let some other practical man deal with it

102–103.