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(3) Initials of the Referencer

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. 880 Press
B.P. No. Mis.

Dated 14-7-1874 -196

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
14th July 1874.

Read the following papers:—

No. 117. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 10th June 1873, No. 974.

Read the following letter from G. BANBURY, Esq., Director of Revenue Settlement, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 25th April 1873, No. 796/32.

I HAVE the honor to request that the Board will let me know their views as to whether the compounding for second crop on wet lands should in all cases be optional with the ryot, or whether, in the case of large trustworthy irrigation works, or under exceptional circumstances, it may not be made compulsory.

2. In Salem, where the wet assessment has always been a consolidated cess, including both first and second crop dues, the compounding system was, during the recent settlement, carried out universally, and the whole district will be under this one system. The same course might be hereafter adopted in the case of the Southern Taluqs of North Arcot where, after some discussion during the progress of the settlement work of which I was then in charge, Government ordered that the consolidated rate system should not be broken up as was at first intended.

3. In Tinnevelly, it is clear from Mr. Puckle's letter of the 19th February, contained in Board's Proceedings, dated 24th March last, that the compounding is compulsory in the majority of cases. It is true that the second crop in Tinnevelly pays now more than the first, but I presume, were there no such procedure as compounding, the Government demand on the second crop would hereafter be, as in other districts, half that of the first crop. No one would consequently in this case compound at two-thirds of the single crop as is now being done in Tinnevelly, unless he were obliged to do so.

4. There are no doubt many advantages in making the composition compulsory, as not only does it simplify accounts and revenue work generally, but prevents the very usual fraud of raising second crop without payment for the same. This, as the Board may remember, was shown in the Kulittalay Taluq during the recent investigations into evasions of revenue in the Trichinopoly District. There the compounding had been optional, and in some instances these terms had only been accepted by the ryots for alternate strips of wet land, although the entire tract was under the same irrigation, and upon the same level. By this means they managed to hoodwink the Taluq authorities into the belief that only what was compounded for was grown with second crop, whereas, on the lands left uncompounded for, the second crop was raised in just exactly the same manner, excepting that finally the ryots got it for nothing. Again, it must be remembered that one of the main objects of the compounding system was to get rid of a large portion of the annual examinations of villages with all their attendant worries and unsatisfactory results. But if only a portion of the land under any irrigation work is compounded for, the Azimaishdar or Inspecting officer must examine this tract just the same as if no compromise had been made at all. Were *all* compounded for, he need not trouble himself, nor any one else, as to whether any second crop had been raised upon the given ayacut.

This subject has recently occupied my attention when considering how the lands under such large and permanent sources as the Red Hill and Chembrambaukam reservoirs should be dealt with in the coming settlement. In these cases where the supply is abundant and secure, I would certainly advocate that the compounding in the most favored villages be rendered compulsory as in Tinnevelly. Under the Chembrambaukam tank especially, there are influential landholders whose good-will the Curnams may be more anxious to obtain than that of their lawful masters, so that unless we take means to secure our revenue under this always doubtful head of "Second crop," the returns to Government, as interest on the large amount of capital sunk, may be unfairly diminished.

6. It may be said that this plan is merely reverting to the arrangement of "Registered double crop," or "Irubbogam" lands of former days; but there is this distinction. Under the old system, where a second crop was not raised, remission of half the assessment of the first crop was granted under the head "Fusul Kammee," whereas under the present procedure nothing would be foregone, as the compounding, say at even the highest rate, viz., $\frac{1}{3}$rd of the first crop, is a lenient arrangement on the part of the State to enable the cultivator to tide over the untoward event of not being able to raise his second crop. It is in fact a compromise, after which nothing further is asked on either side. Should the supply cease or become deteriorated which is hardly likely in the case of irrigation works, such as I refer to, consideration could easily be given, and, as the rate of composition is duly mentioned for each field in the Diglot Registers, the permanent charge for second crop might be withdrawn.

The Board consider that this proposal must be negatived under the terms of G. O., dated 28th October 1872, No. 1,198, Revenue Department.

2. These Proceedings will be submitted for the information of Government.

No. 118. Official Memorandum from the Director of Revenue Settlement, to the Hon. R. A. DALYELL, Acting Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Ootacamund, dated Madras, 7th July 1873, No. 1,408/37.

The Director of Revenue Settlement has the honor to state, in reply to the Official Memorandum from the Acting Under-Secretary to Government, dated 24th ultimo, No. 129, that the correspondence referred to in paragraph 2 of his letter to the Board, dated 25th April last, No. 796, are as follow:—

Letter from Collector of North Arcot, dated 6th July 1857, No. 168.
Proceedings of Board of Revenue, dated 1st August 1857, No. 2,591.
Extract Minutes of Consultation, 22nd August 1857, No. 846.

2. These papers not being on the records of the Settlement Office, the dates were not quoted in the usual manner; but the information has been since obtained from the Board's Office. The kindred subject of the consolidated wet rates is referred to in paragraph 7 of the letter from the Acting Additional Sub-Collector, dated 14th June 1857, No. 26, which forms an enclosure to the Collector's letter above alluded to.

(Signed) G. BANBURY,
Director of Revenue Settlement.

No. 119. Official Memorandum from the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, to the Under-Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, dated Madras, 4th July 1873, No. 960.

With reference to his Memorandum, dated 24th June 1873, No. 128, the undersigned has the honor to forward to the Under Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, copy of the Board's Proceedings, dated 24th March 1873, No. 444, on the subject of classification of lands under the lower irrigation of Palayan Channel, Tinnevelly Taluq.

(By Order,)
(Signed) J. GROSE,
Secretary.

Enclosure No. 1.

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 24th March 1873, No. 444.

Read the following letter from R. K. PUCKLE, Esq., Collector of Tinnevelly, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 19th February 1873, No. 81:—

I have the honor to forward my report on the Settlement of this district for January 1873.

1 Map showing the classification of lands in the 2nd group villages under the lower irrigation of Palayan Channel, Tinnevelly Taluq.
1 Do. do. in the 3rd group.
8 Villages, 2nd group.
8 Do. 3rd do.

2. The 2nd and 3rd group villages under the lower irrigation from the Palayan Channel in the Tinnevelly Taluq were inspected and laid out for settlement as per maps enclosed.

3. These villages differ from those in the 1st group inasmuch as the soil is entirely red and the irrigation, with few exceptions, is from channel-fed tanks and not from the channel itself. Both tanks and channel are very greatly in need of repair, but I hope to see all put in order this year. There is a sanctioned estimate of 10,000 Rupees for clearing out the channel, and the villagers are prepared to execute the greater part of the earth-work for the repair of the tank banks themselves. We shall, however, need some further aid for the repair of the masonry works in the tanks, but the cost can be met from the allotment for agricultural repairs, and I am in communication with the District Engineer on the subject.

Of these there are about 40 in these 16 villages.

4. The system that I have adopted for charging for 2nd crop is as under:—

In the 1st group villages composition is compulsory for the entire irrigated area at—

Two-thirds	of the	single-crop	charge	for 1st	class lands.
Half	do.	do.	do.	2nd	„ do.
One-third	do.	do.	do.	3rd	„ do.
One-fourth	do.	do.	do.	4th and for all lower classes.	

In the 2nd group villages composition is compulsory at the above rates as far as the 3rd class only, and in the 3rd group villages there is no compulsory composition at all, but composition is optional at the above rates in the first four classes and at quarter in all lower classes. In the 2nd and 3rd group villages now reported on there or no 1st class lands, hence half of the 1st crop charge will be the highest rate of composition for 2nd crop.

5. This completes the Palayan Channel, the great line of irrigation in the Tinnevelly Taluq south of the river. The 2nd and 3rd group villages under this channel comprise an aggregate area of 17 square miles and yield a revenue of 38,000 Rupees.

6. In all these villages the common lands have been divided and the palmyras counted, the field stones have been sunk to the ground-level, about 1,000 puttas have been transferred, and a fresh registry of the lands has been made.

Enclosure Nos. 1 and 2.—Maps.

Approved.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
14th July 1874.

No. 120. ORDER THEREON, 14th July 1874, No. 830.

Land Revenue, No. 2A.

HIS Excellency the Governor in Council is of opinion, that the best course will be to revert to the former system of rating land which has in all ordinary seasons a certain supply for two crops as "double crop" land, giving remission in the rare cases where the supply fails. It seems clear that the people are unwilling to accept terms of composition so generally as to obviate claims to remission with the concomitant inspection, so that the main object of compounding is not attained.

2. On the other hand it does not appear feasible to make composition *compulsory*, while there is no reason why, under such works as the Red Hills Tank, any portion of the revenue should be foregone to meet a contingency which will hardly ever occur.

3. Composition should be restricted to uncertain irrigation, and the Settlement Officer should have the discretional power of declining to compound not merely in such palpable cases of fraudulent intent as Mr. Banbury notices in paragraph 4 of his letter, but where ever the offer is not accepted so generally as to meet the object of the rule. The option of compounding should not, however, be renewed after the first year.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Board of Revenue.
„ the Director of Revenue Settlement.

Exd. T. O'Conner.

N[illegible] 4.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD O[illegible] REVENUE, dated 10th June 1873.

Read the following letter from G. [illegible]ANBURY, Esq., Director of Revenue Settlement, to J. GROSE, [illegible], Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated, 28th April 1873, No. [illegible]32:—

I HAVE the honour to request that [illegible]e Board will let me know their views as to whether the compounding for sec[illegible]d crop on wet lands should in all cases be optional with the ryot, or whether, [illegible] the case of large trustworthy irrigation works, or under exceptional circumstan[illegible]es, it may not be made compulsory.

2. In Salem, where the wet assess[illegible]ent has always been a consolidated cess, including both first and second crop du[illegible]s, the compounding system was, during the recent settlement, carried out un[illegible]versally, and the whole district will be under this one system. The same cour[illegible]e might be hereafter adopted in the case of the Southern Taluqs of North Arcot where, after some discussion during the progress of the settlement work of which I was then in charge, Government ordered that the consolidated rate system should not be broken up as was at first intended.

3. In Tinnevelly, it is clear from Mr. Puckle's letter of the 19th February, contained in Board's Proceedings, dated 24th March last, that the compounding is compulsory in the majority of cases. It is true that the second crop in Tinnevelly pays now more than the first, but I presume, were there no such procedure as compounding, the Government demand on the second crop would hereafter be, as in other districts, half that of the first crop. No one would consequently in this case compound at two-thirds of the single crop as is now being done in Tinnevelly, unless he were obliged to do so.

4. There are no doubt many advantages in making the composition compulsory, as not only does it simplify accounts, and revenue work generally, but prevents the very usual fraud of raising second crop without payment for the same. This, as the Board may remember, was shown in the Kulittalay Taluq during the recent investigations into evasions of revenue in the Trichinopoly District. There, the compounding had been optional, and in some instances, these terms had only been accepted by the ryots for alternate strips of wet land, although the entire tract was under the same irrigation, and upon the same level. By this means they managed to hoodwink the Taluq authorities into the belief that only what was compounded for was grown with second crop, whereas, on the lands left uncompounded for, the second crop was raised in just exactly the same manner, excepting that finally the ryots got it for nothing. Again, it must be remembered, that one of the main objects of the compounding system was to get rid of a large portion of the annual examinations of villages with all their attendant worries and unsatisfactory results. But if only a portion of the land under any irrigation work is compounded for, the Azimaishdar or Inspecting officer must examine this tract just the same as if no compromise had been made at all. Were *all* compounded for, he need not trouble himself, nor any one else, as to whether any second crop had been raised upon the given ayacut.

5. This subject has recently o[illegible]ed my attention when considering how the lands under such large, and [illegible]hanent sources as the Red Hill and Chembrambaukam reservoirs should [illegible]alt with in the coming settlement. In these cases where the supply is abun[illegible] and secure, I would certainly advocate that the compounding in the most f[illegible]red villages be rendered compulsory, as in Tinnevelly. Under the Chembran[illegible]kam tank especially, there are influential landholders whose good-will, the [illegible]nams may be more anxious to obtain than that of their lawful masters, so th[illegible] unless we take means to secure our Revenue under this always doubtful [illegible]l of "Second crop," the returns to Government, as interest on the large a[illegible]nt of capital sunk, may be unfairly diminished.

6. It may be said that this plan is [illegible]erely reverting to the arrangement of "Registered double crop," or "Irubbogum" lands of former days; but there is this distinction. Under the old system, where a second crop was not raised, remission of half the assessment of the first crop was granted under the head "Fusul Kammee" whereas under the present procedure nothing would be foregone, as the compounding is only at even the highest rate, viz., 3rd of the first crop, is a lenient arrangement on the part of the State to enable the cultivator to tide over the untoward event of not being able to raise his second crop. It is in fact a compromise, after which nothing further is asked on either side. Should the supply cease or become deteriorated which is hardly likely in the case of irrigation works, such as I refer to, consideration could easily be given, and, as the rate of composition is duly mentioned for each field in the Diglott Registers, the permanent charge for second crop might be withdrawn.

THE Board consider that this proposal must be negatived under the terms of G. O., dated 28th October 1872, No. 1,488, Revenue Department.

These Proceedings will be submitted for the information of Government.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) J. GROSE,
Secretary.

To the Acting Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
,, the Director of Revenue Settlement.

Exd. G. A. Turton.

1873.
Board of Revenue,
MADRAS.

PROCEEDINGS, 10TH JUNE 1873, No. 974.

Read.

Received

JUNE.
No. 974.

Second crops — on wet lands. — Proposal of Director of Revenue Settlement that ryot should be compelled to compound for — in case of lands under large trustworthy Irrigation works or under exceptional circumstances negatived — Board's Proceedings submitted to Government.

I think we must
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existing land which has
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one-fourth

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THE Board consider that this proposal must be negatived under the terms of G. O., dated 28th October 1872, No. 1,498, Revenue Department.

These Proceedings will be submitted for the information of Government.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) J. GROSE,
Secretary.

To the Acting Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
" the Director of Revenue Settlement.

Exd. G. A. Turton.

1873.
Board of Revenue,
MADRAS.

PROCEEDINGS, 10TH JUNE 1873, No. 974.

Received

Encl.

JUNE.
No. 974.

Second crops — on wet lands. — Proposal of Director of Revenue Settlement that ryot should be compelled to compound for — in case of lands under large trustworthy Irrigation works or under exceptional circumstances negative. — Board's Proceedings submitted to Government.

114

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(Signed) J. GROSE,
Secretary.

To the Acting Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
" the Director of Revenue Settlement.

Exd. G. A. Turton.

1873.
Board of Revenue,
MADRAS.

PROCEEDINGS, 10TH JUNE 1873, No. 974.

Received

Encl.

JUNE.
No. 974.

Second crops — on wet lands. — Proposal of Director of Revenue Settlement that ryot should be compelled to compound for — in case of lands under large trustworthy Irrigation works or under exceptional circumstances negatived.—Read's Proceedings submitted to Government.

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THE Board consider that this proposal must be negatived under the terms of G. O., dated 28th October 1872, No. 1,488, Revenue Department.

These Proceedings will be submitted for the information of Government.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) J. GROSE,
Secretary.

To the Acting Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
" the Director of Revenue Settlement.

Exd. G. A. Turton.

1873.
Board of Revenue,
MADRAS.

PROCEEDINGS, 10TH JUNE 1873, No. 974.

Received

JUNE.
No. 974.

Encl.

Second crops — on wet lands. — Proposal of Director of Revenue Settlement that ryot should be compelled to compound for — in case of lands under large trustworthy Irrigation works or under exceptional circumstances negatived.—Board's Proceedings submitted to Government.

that the Ryots could not accept on terms of Confiscation so generally as to deprive claims to remission to the Concordat unfair to - to that the Remission depends of Confiscation is not claimed.

On the other hand he cannot, I think, make Confiscation Confiscation - it is a contradiction in terms -

like there is no remedy under such circumstances the Ryot likely sometimes to throw away a portion of the Revenue to meet a contingency that will hardly occur.

Confiscation should, I think, be restricted to uncultivated irrigation - and the Settlement Officer have the discretion of foregoing, & declining to confiscate.

Extract Minutes Consultation 22nd ... 1873.

Read for information and record of the Settlement Officer

Board of Revenue,
MADRAS.
PROCEEDINGS, 10TH JUNE 1873, No. 974.
Received
Encl.
JUNE.
No. 974.
Second cr... — on wet lands. — Proposal of Director of Revenue Settlement that ryot should be compelled to compound for — in case of lands under large trustworthy Irrigation works or under exceptional circumstances negatived. — Board's Proceedings submitted to Government.

but merely in such bulkhalle cases of fraudulent intent as the Secretary states in part 4 of his letter. But whether the letter is kept secret or freely as to meet the object of the Rule.

L.D.S.

Board of Revenue,
MADRAS.

PROCEEDINGS, 10TH JUNE 1873, No. 974.

Read

JUNE.

No. 974.

crops — on wet lands. — Proposal of Revenue Settlement that ryot compelled to compound for — in case under large trustworthy Irrigation under exceptional circumstances negatived Proceedings submitted to Government.

No 1408.

I entirely agree with Mr Lin. Mansur communication from an administrative point of view. Compulsory Composition traverses the principle of our Government of lands viz "a claim on" Ryots, and it is clear that the proposed measure is — with all its theoretical and supposed advantages the Collectors — unacceptable. The practical judgment of the people is found to be set aside in the closing para of G.O. 28 October 1872 — that under a Compulsory Composition at one-fourth

one-fourth in two Salary of which if the demand would be raised to nearly 8 times the actual demand, as the 2d Crop of assessment brought to account at half rate — for so far to account for the objection. There is, however, an provision in the law by which Compulsion can be Enforced.

I am unwilling to write much the system in any Case, but I would not allow it to be resumed after the first year when the State may probably be losers as is likely under

Extract from Minute of Council, dated 27th June 1873, No. 974.

Read the following Minute by the Hon'ble the Chief Secretary:

"Before proceeding to the consideration of the Minute recorded on the 21st instant by the Hon'ble Mr. Bentley, the Council would wish to have before them the Report of the Committee appointed by Government on the 9th June 1871, to consider the question of the Assessment of Wet Lands. — Proposal that ryot should continue Settlement that ryot to compound for — in case of trustworthy Irrigation Canal circumstances negatived submitted to Government

ENCLOSURE.

No. 974.

No 1408.

the certain losses of irrigation is noticed by Mr Bentley —

27/6 J.B.

I agree. I understand that under the G.O. of 28th Oct 72 we are reducing (or later assessments) so far as possible to extend the compounding or consolidated rate system, which I approve; in practice at Salem & elsewhere. Its system however is one we have opposed; and which is one

one-fourth in two Salary of principal
the demand would be raised to
nearly 3 times the actual demand,
as the 2d Crop of assessment brought
to account at half rate — for so
far to account for the objection.
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Revenue,
BRAS.

JUNE 1873, No. 974.

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n wet lands. — Proposal
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to compound for — in case
to trustworthy Irrigation
tional circumstances regar-
edings submitted to Gov-

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27/6 GH.

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the G.O. of 28th Oct 72 we are redeeming
a tacky system, & to extend the
compounding & consolidated into
system, until & assess, & in pre
of Taluk & classification - this system
known assess: under this is one case

Extract of Board's Consultation dated
August 1873 of the Rev.
Read system not to be
on the record of the settlement
of

with the interest of the Revenue: and I see no
[illegible] the Settlement Officer's discretion in the matter

[illegible]
Feb 3/74

Revenue,
RAS.

UNE 1873, No. 974.

Encl.

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974.

wet lands. — Proposal
e Settlement that ryot
compound for — in case
trustworthy Irrigation
onal circumstances regar-
dings submitted to Gov-

No 1108.
37

Office Memorandum

The Secretary of State
Settlement has the honour
to state, in reply to the
Officiating Under Secretary
to Government dated the 24th
Collectorate, that the
correspondence referred
to in paragraph 2 of his letter
to the Board dated 25th
Office Circular No 6 was
follows:—

Letter from Collector of [illegible]
to Settlement Officer [illegible]
Proceedings of Board of Revenue dated
1st August 1873, No 2591
Extract Minute Communication from
Government No [illegible]

Please [illegible] what steps
are taken to recover the [illegible]
of the

Office, the dates were not
specified in the usual
manner, but the informa-
tion has been obtained
from the Board's Office.
The kindred subject of the
consolidated rates
is referred to in para 9
of the letter from the Collector
of Madura dated 11th June 1859 No 26
which forms an enclosure
to the Collector's letter
above acknowledged.

I have the honor &c
Madras
7th July 1859

Geo Bowdler
Secretary to Government

To
The Hon'ble A. J. Arbuthnot
Acting Secretary to Government
Revenue Department
Ootacamund

Revenue Department

No. 880.

Proceeding of the Madras Government

Under date the 18th July 1874

Read the following papers.

Pro. Bd of Rev: Subs proposal of Dr of Rev: Settl to compell ryots to compound for second crops on wet lands in case of lands under large trunk or Chy Irrigation work &c		H.C. 10th June 1873, No 974
From, The Dr of Rev: Settl Quoting correspondence regarding the consolidated wet rates in N. Arcot Dist		H.C. 7th July 1873, No 1408/37
From, The Secy to the Bd of Rev: Forwarding copy of Bd's Pro: of 24th March 1873 regarding charge for second crops raised on lands under Palayden channel in Tinnevelly District		H.C. 4th July 1873, No 966

His Excellency the Governor in Council is of opinion that the

Read

1874

Pro. Bd of Rev: 21-7-74

Read the following papers.

Pro. Bd of Rev: Subs proposal of Dr of Rev: Settl to compell ryots to compound for second crops on wet lands in case of lands under large trunk or Chy Irrigation work &c

From, The Dr of Rev: Settl Quoting correspondence regarding the consolidated wet rates in N. Arcot Dist

From, The Secy to the Bd of Rev: Forwarding copy of Bd's Pro: of 24th March 1873 regarding charge for second crops raised on lands under Palayden channel in Tinnevelly District

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Read

1874

No 880

18th July

best course will be to revert to the former system of farming land which has in all ordinary seasons a certain supply for two crops as "double-crop" land, giving permission in the rare cases where the supply fails. It seems clear that the people are unwilling to accept terms of composition so generally as to obviate claims to remission with the concomitant inspection, so that the main object of compounding is not attained.

2. On the other hand it does not appear possible to make Compositions Compulsory, so that there is

is no reason why under such works as the Red Hills Tank, any portion of the Revenue should be foregone to meet a contingency which will hardly ever occur.

3. Composition should be restricted to uncertain irrigation and the Settlement Officer should have the discretional power of declining to compound not merely in such palpable cases of fraudulent intent as Mr. Danbury notices in para 4 of his letter, but wherever the offer is not accepted so generally as to meet the object of the rule

The

The option of compounding should not however be renewed after the first year.

&c &c

To Boffman
Dunbofman Settlers 2/27-7

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