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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	39	Press
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Dated	7-5-1874	196 .

Not to be folded or roughly handled

N^o 301
From J. Geoghegan Esq.
Under Secretary to the Govt of India
Department of Agriculture,
Revenue and Commerce.
To The Chief Secretary to the Govt of
Madras
Calcutta, Dated 15th May 1892.

Sir,
I am directed to acknowledge
the receipt of your letters N^{os} 1728 and
329 of respectively the 3rd October 1891
and 22 February 1892 on the question of
strengthening the present survey
establishments in Madras with a view
to the speedier attainment of continued
geographical materials.

2. But before sanctioning any
additional expenditure on this account,
the Governor General in Council desires to
receive from the Government of Madras
a complete account of the Survey Establish-
ments of the Southern Presidency in much
fuller detail than the papers now before
His Excellency in Council afford material
for. The account should show the strength
and cost of the Establishments to which
first took the field, the successive increases
sanctioned if any, the work performed,
and the total financial result.

3. In connection with this
subject

Subject, I am to commend to the
consideration of His Excellency the Governor
in Council the following points:-

(A) The topographical survey of
cultivated tracts interspersed amidst
ryotwari land has, in Madras, been
conducted on the scale of four inches to
the mile. In Northern India, such a
scale has only been found necessary for
the definition of village boundaries. Where
these are not laid down, a scale of one
inch to the mile has been found sufficient.
It should be considered whether the
delineation of village boundaries is necessary,
and if it is not so, whether the scale of
survey might not be reduced.

(B) Uncultivable tracts are
topographically surveyed on the scale of
2 inches to the mile. It appears to the
Governor General in Council very doubtful
whether the value of a survey of such ground
on such a scale can at all justify the
expenditure involved. In Northern India,
the scale of survey in such cases has
never exceeded one mile to the inch.

(C) The disproportion between the
numbers of European and Native Officers in the
composition of the two parties proposed by
Col. Quistley is very marked. For the
two topographical parties, he asks

permission

permission to entertain 6 European
Officers and 60 Native Surveyors and
Droghmen. It has been found quite
impossible in the Bengal Presidency to secure
a correct delineation of ground or a
difficult, hilly country by means of
establishments thus organised. Indeed
the number of Native Employees proposed
by Col. Quistley for two parties is
equal to the total number of European
and Native Officers of the same classes
in the whole of the topographical survey
parties under the control of the Governor
General of India.

4. But apart from the
question of the constitution of the survey
parties and the scale or scales in which
the survey should be conducted, the
Governor General in Council thinks
that some further explanation is
necessary as to why a survey which
has completed upwards of 34,000
square miles of Country should have
produced so little geographical material.
The figures given by the Government of
Madras are insufficient to explain this,
for they do not show the proportion of
revenue full scale survey to the surveys
on the lesser scales, either actually
accomplished or remaining to be taken
up. Before sanctioning an addition
to the existing strength of Survey

the

the governor general in Council would wish to be assured that the same object could not be attained by a redistribution of the work. For a judgment upon this point, data are however altogether wanting.

5. Heart of the proposition before the Government of India is the establishment of an establishment of Computers & Draftsmen, costing Rupees 13,056 per annum. The sum is not large, but the Governor General in Council is not sure whether Col Priestly has fully apprehended the way in which it is desired to utilize the results of the survey for geographical purposes. The establishment includes lithographic branch. But what is really needed for geographical purposes is not lithographic maps, but manuscript materials, with the necessary arithmetical data for the scale of 4 miles to the inch. It appears to the Governor General in Council, as at present informed, a subject for regret that the preparation of such materials should have been allowed to fall into arrear, instead of being carried on, as in Northern India, pari passu with the survey.

6. To sum up, the Government of India before deciding whether an Extra-Statute Club is necessary desires full information as to the facts and present

Present.

present Constitution of the Ordnance Survey and the work it has hitherto achieved, in each class of Survey, and the work still remaining to be done, and further to be placed in a position to judge whether by reduction of the present scales of topographical Survey, by a change in the constitution of parties, by a redistribution of the Revenue and topographical branches, or in any other way, it may not be possible without interfering with the main object of the Survey to promote the collection of geographical materials at a somewhat more rapid rate than has hitherto been the case. I have the honor to refer the whole subject to the careful consideration of His Excellency the Governor in Council.

I have the honor to be
 Sir J. F. F. F. F. F.
 Under Secretary to the
 Govt of India.

Henry Jones

Across. Captain
D. R. Smith in charge of the office
of the Capt. & Ensign

Reverend Office
Chesapeake
24th October/13

Comp. J.
C. L. L.

From J. 301 *Calcutta 13 May 1872*
 J. Georgegan Espine,
 Under Secy to the Govt of India
 Department of Agriculture,
 Revenue & Commerce.
 To The Secretary to the Govt of
 Madras

I am directed to acknowledge
 the receipt of your letters Nos 1728 &
 329 of respectively the 3rd October 1871
 & 22nd February 1872 on the question of
 strengthening the present survey
 establishments in Madras with
 a view to the speedier attainment
 of continuous geographical
 materials.

2- But before sanctioning any
 additional expenditure on this
 account, the Governor General
 in Council desires to receive from
 the Government of Madras a
 complete account of the survey
 establishments of the Southern
 Presidency in much fuller detail
 than the papers now before His
 Excellency in Council afford.
 Materials for the account should
 show the strength & cost of the
 establishments which first took
 the field, the successive increases
 sanctioned, & any the work per-
 formed.

Enclosure to letter

On 25th of 21st

Oct 1873

12 5384/43

Received 1:39:07
 May 1874

formed & the total financial result.
3. In connection with this sub-
ject I am to commend to the
consideration of His Excellency
the Governor in Council the
following points.

(A) The topographical survey
of certain tracts in the
Maidootpottwari land has in
Madras been conducted on the
scale of four inches to the mile.
In Northern India such a scale
has only been found necessary
for the definition of village boundaries.
Where these are not laid down, a
scale of one inch to the mile has
been found sufficient. It should
be considered whether the delineation
of village boundaries is necessary
& if it is not so whether the scale of
survey might not be reduced.

(B) Uncultivable tracts are topo-
graphically surveyed on the scale
of 2 inches to the mile. It appears
to the Governor General in Council
very doubtful whether the value
of a survey of such ground on
such a scale can at all justify
the expenditure involved. In
Northern India the scale of survey
in such cases has never exceeded
one mile to the inch.

(C)

(C) The disproportion between
the numbers of European & Native
officers in the composition of the
two parties proposed by Mr. Priestley
is very marked. For the two topo-
graphical parties he ascribes
uniformly to entertain 6 European
Officers & 62 Natives surveyors and
draughtsmen. It has been found
quite impossible in the Bengal
Presidency to secure a correct
delineation of ground or difficult &
hilly country by means of esta-
blishments thus organized.
Indeed the numbers of Native
employes proposed by Mr. Priestley
for two parties is equal to the total
numbers of European & Native
Officers of the same classes in the whole
Bengal topographical survey parties
under the control of the Surveyor
General of India.

4. But apart from the question
of the constitution of the survey parties
& the scale or scales in which the
survey should be conducted, the
Governor General in Council
thinks that some further explana-
tion is necessary as to why a
survey which has completed
upwards of 34,000 square miles of
Country

Country should have produced
so little geographical material.
The figures given by the Government
of Rs. 200 are insufficient to ex-
plain this for they do not show the
proportion of revenue full scale
survey to the survey on the lesser
scales either actually accomplished
or remaining to be taken up.
Before sanctioning an addition
to the existing strength of survey
the Governor General in Council
would wish to be assured that the
same object could not be attained
by a redistribution of the work.
For a judgment upon this point
data are however altogether wanting.

5. A part of the objection
before the Government of India
is the establishment of an esta-
blishment of compilers and
draftsmen costing Rs. 13056 per
annum. The sum is not large
but the Governor General in
Council is not sure whether Col.
Priestley has fully apprehended
the way in which it is desired
to utilize the results of the survey
for geographical purposes. The
establishment includes litho-
graphic branch. But what is really
needed for geographical purposes
is not lithographed maps, but
manuscripts.

manuscript materials with the
necessary draughtsmen data
for the scale of 4 miles to the inch.
It appears to the Governor General
in Council as at present infor-
med a subject for regret that the
preparation of such materials
should have been allowed to fall
into arrears instead of being
carried on as in Northern India
pari passu with the survey.

6. To sum up, the Government
of India before deciding whether
an extra establishment is
necessary desires full information
as to the past & present constitution
of the Ordnance survey & the work
has hitherto achieved in each
class of survey & the work still
remaining to be done & further
to be placed in a position to
judge whether by reduction
of the present scale of topographi-
cal survey, by a change in
the constitution of parties, by a
redistribution of the Revenue
& topographical branches, or in
any other way it may not be
possible without interfering with
the main object of the survey
to promote the collection of

Geographical

Geographical materials at a
considerably more rapid rate
than has hitherto been the case.
I am therefore to commend the
whole subject to the careful
consideration of His Excellency
the Governor in Council.

I have &c
Lieut. J. Geaghagan
Under Secretary to
the Govt. of India
(Per copy)

W. Crookes
Deputy in charge of the
Office of the Asst. Survey

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Revenue Office
Chennai
6th December 1873

867-1-174 1873

Delivered to the
Asst. Secy to the
103/6/12/73

No. 2578
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Revenue Survey Office.

Chennai

21st October 1873.

From

The Superintendent Revenue Survey.

To

Under
The Secretary to Government
Revenue Department.

SIR,

With reference to your official Memorandum
of the 20th Instant, I have the honour to forward
a copy of the letter from the Government of India,
Agricultural & Department, dated 13th May
No. 301, requesting a complete account of the
Survey Establishment of the Madras Presidency.

I have the honour to be
Sir
your Most Obedt Servant

W. Crookes Captain

Deputy Superintendent
In charge of the Office of the
Asst. Rev Survey

E. P. J.
C. P. J.

June 1893 Sept 11
Jenny P. M. 13 200
J. W. C.

To
The J. P. M.
to J. W. C.

Patent 21st Oct 1893
Received 24th 2578
Endorsement

Subject 13 1893

Forwarded copy of a
letter from the Secretary of the
Agricultural 13th Sept dated
13th May 1893. An 301 addresse
in official Memorandum
130-0 Oct 1893.

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7 May 94