M.R.O. 1—20,002—12-8-65.

(1) Number of Pages 18

(2) Date of repair 8-3-68

(3) Initials of the Referencer 26.4.68

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. / B.P. No.	1669	Press / Mis.
Dated	22-11-1875	196 .

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 245. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 11th October 1875, No. 2,834:—

Read the following letter from R. J. MELVILLE, Esq., Acting Collector of the Chingleput District, to H. E. STOKES, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Saidapet, 18th September 1875, No. 550.

REFERRING to Board's Miscellaneous No. 7,639, of the 21st ultimo, communicating G. O., No. 1,191, dated 9th idem, I have the honor to forward copy of a letter received from the Deputy Collector in charge of the Treasury, No. 485, dated 9th instant, and to state that I have stopped the work of transcribing the cadjan records, and issued orders for the sorting and indexing of paper records being proceeded with, pending final orders on this reference.

2. I also enclose two statements, sent to me by the Deputy Collector, for the information of Government. Of these, No. 1 shows the bundles of old cadjan records selected to be copied, those transcribed up to August 1875, and those still remaining to be copied according to the original scheme; No. 2 shows progress made up to the same date in the arrangement and sorting, &c., of paper records.

3. On further consideration of the character of the information contained in the cadjan accounts entered in No. 1, I am of opinion that the following need not be copied:—(1) "Grama Vattam" (item No. 5) which professes to show the nature and description of the soil of each village, (2) "Manay Alava" (item No. 8) showing the size of house sites, (3) "Curnam's Pungumalay" or account showing the names of the different shareholders and their relative shares to the Curnam Mirassy. As regards the first account, we have better and more trustworthy information from the new survey records. The information contained in the second account is confined to a few villages in Madurantakam and Conjeveram Taluqs, and I think the annual Adungal account is sufficient for all practical purposes. The information contained in the "Curnam's Pungumalay" is obtainable from the Isumpatties prepared in paper from time to time.

4. The Deputy Collector states in a foot-note appended to Statement No. 1 that the extension now applied for does not provide for copying the account called "Munro's Isthuva," and intends to submit fresh proposal for copying them. These are very voluminous, consisting of 52,000 pages. They were prepared in Fasli 1225, and contain the names of the Village Officers, their relative shares in the Mirassy offices, and the amount of the emoluments both in land and grain.

5. So far as ryotwary villages are concerned, they will cease to be of any use, as the new Village Cess Act is introduced in each taluq, and the new scale of salary is adopted, but their utility as regards Muttah and Shrotriem villages still continue. I therefore beg to suggest that such portions as relate to ryotwary villages may be left out, and those relating to Muttahs and Shrotriems only be copied. I may add that copies of these accounts are constantly applied for by parties whenever there is a dispute about the number and names of the registered holders or their emoluments, and the Revenue authorities are generally guided by them in disposing of suits under Act VI. of 1831. I am not in a position to state with any precision whether the portions relating to Zemindari and Shrotriem villages might not be copied within the thirty months for which sanction is now

solicited, or whether a further extension will be necessary; but I beg to assure the Board that no exertion will be spared to do the work as quickly as possible.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From A. SMITH, Esq., Deputy Collector in charge of the Treasury, to R. J. MELVILLE, Esq., Acting Collector of the Chingleput District, dated Saidapet, 9th September 1875, No. 485.

REFERRING to your docket on the Order of Government, dated the 9th ultimo, No. 1,191, I have the honor to submit the following remarks in pursuance of the call for further information connected with the temporary establishment employed in transcribing and arranging the vernacular records of this district.

27th August 1875, No. 1,395.

2. For the better understanding of the subject, I must premise that the statement appended to paragraph 3 of my letter to Mr. Barlow, dated 1st April 1875, No. 187, consists of two parts: the first part relates entirely to cadjans, and shows the progress made in their transcription up to the 31st August 1875, and the quantity of copying work remaining to be done; the second part exhibits the paper records that had been sorted, arranged, indexed, and labelled up to the above-mentioned date, and the amount of work of the same description remaining to be similarly disposed of. I regret that this was not more clearly explained in my letter, as my omission to do so seems to have led to the impression that the paper records were under transcription, which is not the case.

3. I now enclose two statements, one showing the work that remains to be done in the transcription of cadjans, and the other exhibiting the amount of work to be gone through in respect to the sorting, arranging, indexing, and labelling of paper records.

4. The Government are not satisfied as to the utility of copying all the cadjans which are entered as still to be copied, and they desire a report on this point. I have put a stop to the transcription of the cadjans as directed; and beg you will be pleased to decide whether any and what description of cadjans in the enclosed Statement No. 1 should be rejected as not worth preservation, and obtain the necessary sanction for the transcription of the portion that should be retained.

5. To enable you to form some estimate of the value of the information contained in these cadjan records, I take the liberty, for convenience of reference, to reproduce below Mr. Barlow's opinion of the cadjans in question, as recorded in paragraph 5 of his letter to the Board, dated 15th April 1872, No. 150, and further to refer you generally to his remarks upon them in the list which accompanied that letter:—

Recorded in their Proceedings, dated 25th April 1872, No. 3,019, and G. O., dated 10th May, No. 753.

"In addition to the paper records that have to be sorted and arranged as proposed above, there are about 670 bundles of old cadjan accounts which are more or less in a decaying condition; some of these contain very valuable revenue statistics and details connected with the earlier administration of the district. I enclose a list of those which I consider the most valuable, and propose to have them copied on durable paper, or printed, and then have them duly authenticated after comparison under the supervision of the Record-keeper; the originals are gradually disappearing from decay."

6. You will observe from Statement No. 1 that the portions selected by Mr. Barlow for transcription are only 105 out of about 670 bundles of old cadjans, which he, in the foregoing extract, characterizes as "most valuable." Should you agree with him in his estimate of the valuable nature of the information embodied in these cadjans (*vide* Statement No. 1) you may perhaps be disposed to endorse and re-urge his application for the employment of the present temporary establishment and an attender for the period named in his letter of the 9th April 1875, No. 166. But if you think that the transcription of any portion of the cadjans entered in that statement may be dispensed with, I venture to suggest that such portion be excluded therefrom and a corresponding reduction effected in the period for which application has been made for the continuance of the temporary establishment.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) R. J. MELVILLE,
Acting Collector.

ENCLOSURES Nos. 2 and 3.—Statements.

SUBMITTED to Government with reference to G. O., dated 9th August 1875, No. 1,191.

2. It appears that the work of sorting and indexing the paper records will occupy a further period of six months, and that of transcribing the cadjan documents, excluding the three classes now proposed to be omitted, will take about sixteen months. The Board think that the Collector's proposals may be approved, and the continuance of the extra establishment with the addition of an attender sanctioned for a period of two years from 30th November, at the expiration of which time the question of copying any portion of the "Munro Isthuva" accounts can be brought forward again.

(True Copies and Extract.)

(Signed) C. A. GALTON,
Acting Sub-Secretary.

No. 246. ORDER THEREON, 22nd November 1875, No. 1,669.

Miscellaneous.

THE Board's recommendation is accepted, but it must be distinctly understood that no application for further assistance in this matter will be entertained.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) L. A. CAMPBELL,
Under-Secretary to Government.

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

Exd A. Grubert.

No. 2,834.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 11th October 1875.

Read the following letter from R. J. MELVILLE, Esq., Acting Collector of the Chingleput District, to H. E. STOKES, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Saidapet, 18th September 1875, No. 550 :—

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(True Copy.)

(Signed) R. J. MELVILLE,
Acting Collector.

ENCLOSURES Nos. 2 and 3.—Statements.

SUBMITTED to Government with reference to G. O., dated 9th August 1875, No. 1,191.

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(True Copies and Extract.)

Acting Sub-Secretary.

To the Acting Secretary to Government, Revenue Department,
with two statements, to be returned.

Copy to the Acting Collector of Chingleput.

Exd. A. Grubert.

Revenue Dept

Items for Orders.

Pres: Board of Revenue.

Submg report of Collr as to utility of copying all the Cadjans records, and stating that sanction may be accorded for continuance for 2 years, from 30: Nov/75, of the extra Establt sanctioned for sorting Bernacular records in Chingleput Collr's Office, with the addition of an attender

N. E. 11: Oct: 1875 N. 2834

In G.O. 10th May 1872 N. 953, a temporary establishment consisting of six Jemadars (2 on Rs 15 each, and 4 on Rs 12 each) was sanctioned for a period of eighteen months, for arranging the Vernacular records of the Chingleput Collector's Office, and on a further application

I.O. Sanction for 2 years as a final measure passed.

No 4048
Revenue 1875. Despatch
Board of Revenue,
MADRAS.

PROCEEDINGS, 11TH OCTOBER 1875, No. 2,834.

Despatch to Govt.
Encl. 2
Qrs

Received 19 Oct 1875

OCTOBER.
No. 2,834.

Vernacular Records—in Chingleput Collector's Office.—Submitting to Government report of Collector as to the utility of copying all the cadjan records, and stating that sanction may be accorded for continuance for two years, from 30th November 1875, of the extra establishment entertained for sorting — with the addition of an attender.

Ap 1669

Copy of Memorandum
to accompany the despatch
dated 11th October 1875
to the Board of Revenue
from the Collector
of Chingleput

Ap 1669-22 Novr 1875

22nd November 1875

application from the Collector, sanction was granted, in G.O. 26th June 1874 N 788, for the establishment being retained for another 18 months.

2. A farm in April 1875, the Collector reported that the work to be done had been a great deal under-estimated, and requested sanction for the establishment being retained for a further period of thirty months, and also for the entertainment of an Attendant on Rs 8 per mensem, in order that the Gumastahs might devote their whole time to their legitimate duties.

duties. On this, Govt. in G.O. 27th May 1875 N. 828, declined their sanction and required full explanation of the system that was being pursued. The Collector's reply to this order was reviewed in G.O. 9th Aug. 1875 N. 1191, in which Govt. pointed out that he had taken too limited a view of what was required of him; they observed that numerous bunds still needed arrangement, and directed that the establishment should complete this legitimate work before undertaking

undertaking any more copying, and that the Collector should satisfy himself as to the utility of copying all the cadjans which had been sorted as still to be copied, and report again.

3. The Board's present Proceedings contain the Collector's further report, which supplies the defects in his previous explanation.

4. The plan, as originally contemplated, consisted of two parts i. e. (1) sorting, indexing, and labelling of papers needs, and (2) copying on papers the more valuable portion of the Cadjan

Cadjan needs. The following is a brief resumé of what has been done up to August 1875 and what remains to be done -

5. The papers needed to be arranged consisted of 2142 duftar bundles, of which 1,167 have been sorted and rearranged, (viz 1067 bundles during a period of 17 months. It is only for one item, Viz: Arzis, that No. of papers is given, these numbered 330,510 distributed among 568 duftar bundles, and 275,304 arzis have been sorted and arranged into 480 bundles. The remaining

N. B. The duftar bundles are apparently of various sizes, and are therefore no criterion of the amount of labor involved.

remaining work under these heads will be completed in six months thus:-

5,206 acres in 2 months
303 duplicate books
& innumerable Chittas, in 2 months.
6 54 - do. of other kinds. 2 months

6. The Cadjan accounts selected to be copied consisted of 105 books containing 10,511 pages, of which 20,686 pages in 22/2 months have been transcribed. The remainder, including the three items noted in the margin, which the Collector considers need not be copied, and of which no copying has been yet taken in hand, consists of 72,525 pages

	Books.	Pages.	
Grama Valam.	2.	2,500	This person threw down evil, and has expended new survey
Manai alavu	4 -	4000	Measurement house sites, c to only a few
Cumanis Pangumâlai	5 -	5000	Rates on Cumanis This informa is obtainable from Stamp prepared sup from time to

pages in 71/2 months.
This will take 16 months.

7. Thus, the total period, for which the extra establishment above specified is required to complete the remaining work under both heads, as now resettled, is 22 months from 1st Sep: 1875. The extended term allowed by G.O. 26: June 1874 N. 788 expires on 30: Nov: 1875, so that it is only for 19 months more that sanction seems to be required -

The Collector proposes including the application for an Attender in addition, and the Board support, but they recommend the usual of sanction for two years

Jaffna

from 30. November, and
it does not appear why.

8. The present
proposals do not include
"Munro's Isthivai" accounts
(52 bundles containing 52,000
papers), for which the Collector
contemplates the transcription
of that portion only, which
relates to Muttak and Shotrium
villages — Proposals
in regard to this are to be
submitted after the other work
is finished.

L. W. 26/

Forms for Orders

Letter to the Secretary of War enclosing Orders in Chief for the Army