

(1) Number of Pages 8(2) Date of repair 9-10-68(3) Initials of the Referencer 728**MADRAS RECORD OFFICE****GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS**Revenue DEPARTMENTG.O. No.
B.P. No.2380Press
Mis.

Dated

9-11-1875 1968Not to be folded or roughly handled

Read the following:—

No. 5. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 13th September 1875, No. 2,556.

Read the following letter from W.R. ROBERTSON, Esq., M.R.A.C., Superintendent of Government Farms, to H. E. STOKES, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Sydapet, 21st August 1875, No. 445.

With reference to paragraph 3 of the Board's Proceedings, No. 2,032, dated the 21st of July last, asking me to indicate the operations in respect to which I am desirous of acquiring information or instructing the ryots, I have the honor to state, in reply, that I understood that the tour was to be such as was suggested in paragraphs 7 and 8 of the Board's Proceedings, No. 2,410, dated 25th of November 1873 as follows:—

" Paragraph 7. In order to supply the deficient information, a thoroughly-qualified observer must pass leisurely through the provinces studying the subject, as Dr. Ratton has studied the defects in the salt manufacture, and embodying his observations in occasional reports; but the most difficult and important object of study (and to this allusion has already been made) will be the way to influence the ryot."

" Paragraph 8.

" The Board recommend, therefore, that Mr. Robertson should undertake, as early as possible, a tour such as has been suggested, and that he should pursue his observations at all seasons and during more than one year."

THE Government having in their Order of the 15th June last requested the Board to submit proposals, after consulting Mr. Robertson, for his movements during the coming cool season, they called upon him to indicate the operations in respect of which he is desirous of acquiring information or instructing the ryots. Mr. Robertson in reply refers the Board to passages in their Proceedings of the 25th November 1873, as indicating generally the nature and objects of the tours he is to undertake.

2. In calling upon Mr. Robertson to specify more distinctly some of the leading features of native agriculture which he considered he might study with most advantage to assist him in what must always be kept in view as the great aim and object of his work, *viz.*, the instruction of native cultivators in more scientific methods of agriculture, it was the Board's intention to limit the field of Mr. Robertson's observations, as they attach great importance to his concentrating his attention on certain specific points or the cultivation of particular crops; they consider that more practical advantage is likely to result from the study, within a limited area, of such series of processes as Mr. Robertson can treat in full detail with a view to practical application, than from such a cursory view as could be obtained by a more rapid and extended tour. In the Board's

opinion, Mr. Robertson should travel slowly through selected tracts, going out with the villagers about their farms, discussing their agricultural processes, their implements, stock, &c., with them in minute detail, learning their system and weighing their views rather than, in the first instance, endeavoring to inculcate his own, his object being to collect information on native agricultural processes with a view to introduce improvements that commend themselves to the agriculturists also.

3. The Board are desirous that Mr. Robertson should undertake a tour before the north-east monsoon sets in, and resolve therefore, in anticipation of the approval of Government, to direct him to proceed to the Coimbatore District, in the first instance, with as little delay as possible, and inspect the dry and garden cultivation in such localities as the Collector may indicate as most suitable for the purpose, and the wet cultivation under the Bowani channels. The exact route should be settled in communication with the Collector, who will afford Mr. Robertson all the information and assistance he requires, and place at his disposal an intelligent clerk to serve as a medium of communication with the ryots, engaging a substitute temporarily if necessary.

4. Mr. Robertson will require tents to enable him to move about the districts he will visit from time to time, and the Board request that Government will authorize the issue from the Camp Equipage Depot, at the cost of the Farm, of a set of tents, consisting of (1) Hill tent, fourteen feet square, (2) Bechoba, (3) Servants' tent, (4) Necessary tent, for the use of officers attached to the Farm whenever they proceed on tour.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

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

No. 6. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 4th October 1875, No. 2,779:—
Read the following letter from W. R. ROBERTSON, Esq., M.R.A.C., Superintendent of Government Farms, to H. E. STOKES, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Sydapet, 28th September 1875, No. 511.

With reference to paragraph 3 of the Board's Proceedings, No. 2,556, dated the 13th of September 1875, I have the honor to request that I may be permitted to postpone starting upon the proposed tour until about the middle of December. I ask this for the following reasons:—

(a.) Interpreting the latter portion of paragraph 4 of Government Order, No. 912, dated the 15th of June 1875, "the coming cool season," to mean the months of December, January, and February, I had planned my work to admit of my being absent from my headquarters during these months. I shall, therefore, be put to much inconvenience should I have to proceed on tour at this time. There is a large amount of estate work (buildings, &c.,) on hand, which I am particularly anxious to get finished before the end of October, when we may expect

our heavy rains; we have yet done but little towards getting in the cold-weather crop, the sowing season so far having been so unpropitious, and as regards office work I am just now engaged with the general report on Carolina paddy cultivation in this Presidency, which I had hoped to finish before going on tour.

(b.) There was great delay in the Board's instructions reaching me, thus, though the Proceedings conveying these instructions is dated the 13th of September, the document did not reach me until 10 on Friday night, the 24th instant. Under any circumstances I can, therefore, now scarcely arrange to leave here before the middle of next week.

(c.) The sowing of the cold-weather crop will be finished before I can now get into the Coimbatore District. My tour, therefore, at this season, even if the state of the weather would permit of a residence in tents, would be attended with little advantage. I would be too late for the sowing season and much too early for the harvest season. I have consulted the rainfall of the district for the last eight or ten years, and find that more rain falls in October than in any other month of the year, the average fall in this month amounting to about twenty-five per cent. of the total annual fall. I enclose statements referring to the rainfall of the district.

2. To postpone the tour until the time I have named would enable me to get both farms under crop, to finish all the estate work now in progress, to bring my office work up to date, and to have an assistant in residence on the farm before I leave Sydapet; while the advantages attending a tour in Coimbatore at that season would be much greater, as I would be in the district throughout the whole of the harvesting season.

3. It is certainly very desirable that I should make a tour in the sowing season as well, but such a tour should be made during the latter portion of August and in September, when I would be able to see the harvesting of the land under the south-west rains and the sowing of the land under the north-east rains.

4. I shall be glad to receive an early intimation of the Board's decision on this application.

ENCLOSURES Nos. 1 and 2.—Statements of Rainfall.

SUBMITTED for the information of Government in continuation of Board's Proceedings, dated 13th September 1875, No. 2,556.

2. The Board approve the proposed postponement of Mr. Robertson's tour.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

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

No. 7. ORDER THEREON, 1st November 1875, No. 1,550.

Miscellaneous.

THE instructions which the Board have issued to Mr. Robertson regarding his tour are approved; but it must now be postponed owing to the north-east monsoon having commenced.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
1st November 1875.*

2. Orders will be issued in the Military Department for tents, as specified in paragraph 4 of the Board's Proceedings, being provided for use in connection with the Government Farms, payment being made for them if necessary.

(True Extract.)

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

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

Exd. W. H. French.

Military Department.

Quittance - Camp - Springs.

No. 5386.

Communicated to

His Excellency, the Governor and the
Chief, in view to the tents required
being supplied, if available. Their
value will be debited to the
Revenue Department.

Wm. H. George,
24th November 1875. Secretary to Government.

His Excellency the Governor.
Revenue Department. V.
Controller of Military Accounts.

Boht. of 1875: ~~Boht.~~

REVENUE.

To THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

Rs., Rs., Rs.

Dated November, 1st.

Recd.

Encl.

G. O., 1st November 1875, No. 1,550.

NOVEMBER.

Nos. 5-7.

Tours of the Superintendent of Government Farms
— Approving the instructions issued by the Board
of Revenue regarding the —, and requesting the
Military Department to issue orders for the pro-
vision of tents to Mr. Robertson on payment, if
necessary.

[illegible]

No 2380

Comm. to the

Spent of Lawrence

Mo. 9. Nov. 1895

Dec. 1895. 24th

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Pro: Fritz Schuchman

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