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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

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Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
11th May 1875.

Read the following :—

No. 73. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 7th May 1874, No. 1,061.

Read again Board's Proceedings, dated 2nd June and 10th December 1873, Nos. 912 and 2,529; also 13th March 1874, No. 568.

Read also the following Proceedings of the Madras Government, dated 23rd March 1874, No. 375, Revenue Department.

ABSTRACT.—*Revision of the Village Establishments of Tinnevelly District.*—Approves Board's instructions regarding the —, and passes orders on certain points connected with the subject.

THE order of Government will be communicated to the Collector, who will observe the instructions of Government with regard to the grouping of villages.

2. THE papers recorded in Board's Proceedings, dated 10th December 1873, No. 2,529, contain the information required by Government in paragraph 4 as to the area and population of seven villages in the Tenkasi Taluq.

3. The Collector will make a special report on the grouping up to date, submitting a map like that noticed in Board's Proceedings, dated 5th September 1873, No. 1,748. The principles on which the grouping is based are stated by the Collector in his letters of the 22nd April 1873, No. 201, and 27th June 1873, No. 339, and when considered with the light thrown on the practical working of those principles by the map, they seemed to the Board to be unobjectionable.

Board's Proceedings, dated 5th September 1873, No. 1,748.

4. In paragraph 2 Government order that Mr. Puckle is not to depart from the principles followed in Kurnool without the sanction of Government. In their Proceedings of the 13th March 1874, No. 568, the Board have directed Mr. Puckle's attention to the rules laid down for regulating the Village Service Establishment in Nellore in Board's Proceedings, dated 2nd June 1873, No. 912. These rules were adopted by the Board as the result of their experience of all similar settlements up to date. The accompanying memorandum shows how far they differ from the schemes sanctioned for Kurnool, Godavery, and Trichinopoly. The Kurnool scheme was the first framed and established, and it was to be expected that experience would suggest modifications in it.

5. The Nellore scheme is not yet ready for submission to Government, but it is very desirable to have an approved "pattern" to set before Collectors when the revision of Village Establishments is begun, as is now the case in Salem and Tinnevelly. The Board accordingly resolve to submit their Proceedings of the 2nd June 1873, No. 912, to Government, in the hope that they will be approved.

(A true Extract.)

(Signed) J. GROSE,
Secretary.

Memorandum showing the Number of new Villages or Groups, total number of Servants, and Scale of Salaries sanctioned for the Districts of Kurnool, Godavery, and Trichinopoly, and that proposed by the Board for the District of Nellore.

Items.	Kurnool.	Godavery.	Trichinopoly.	Nellore as proposed by the Board.
Total number of new villages or groups	697	743	810	596
Total number of servants sanctioned for Kurnool, Godavery, and Trichinopoly, and that proposed for Nellore—				
Revenue Servants.				
Monigars	818	743	870	869
Curnams	704	743	810	596
Vettians	2,041	1,951	864	893
Neerguntees	...	118	...	387
Total...	3,563	3,555	2,544	2,745
Police Servants.				
Taliaris	2,495	772	964	1,074
Grand Total...	6,058	4,327	3,508	3,819

No. 74. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 24th August 1874, No. 2,362.

Read the following letter from R. K. PUCKLE, Esq., Collector of Tinnevelly, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Pudukudi, 24th July 1874, No. 383.

As required in Board's Proceedings, No. 1,061, dated 7th May 1874, I have the honor to submit herewith a detailed scheme for the village establishments of the Tenkasi Taluq. This is based on the Kurnool scheme, slightly modified to suit the peculiar circumstances of this district.

2. The grouping of villages in the sense intended by the Board in the above Proceedings has been already effected by merging seventy-three villages, as per the old taluq accounts, in forty villages as per settlement. The scheme now submitted gives each settlement village a separate establishment, and divides the taluq into three circles for the purposes of the Village Cess Act.

3. A glance at the accompanying map will show the geographical position of the several circles. The first contains twelve villages north of the Bandanadiswara river, with an area of forty-seven square miles, a population of 22,817, and a revenue of Rupees 65,558; the second contains fifteen villages at the head of the Sittar Valley, with an area of fifty-eight square miles, a population of 30,562, and a revenue of Rupees 79,210; and the third contains thirteen villages lower down the Sittar Valley, with an area of seventy square miles, a population of 22,528, and a revenue of Rupees 51,560.

4. These village cess circles are so nearly conterminous with the three Revenue Inspectors' ranges that I propose slightly altering the latter to suit the former; and, as the forty new villages of the taluq were laid out and numbered at settlement with reference to geographical position, the first village cess circle will include Nos. 1 to 12, the second Nos. 13 to 27, and the third Nos. 28 to 40, inclusive. The revenue of these circles, as recorded above, includes the full assessment of Inam lands included in Government villages, on which assessment, and not on the quit-rent, the service cess is to be levied.

5. The seventy-three old villages of this taluq have been hitherto officered by forty-four Munsifs, seventy-one Mirassidars, thirteen Nattamagars, and forty-five Curnams. The forty new villages will, by my schemes, be officered by forty Munsif-Monigars, thirty-six Monigars, forty Curnams, fifty-three Police Taliaries, seventy-six Revenue Vettians, and twenty-one Water-distributers.

6. The fixed deductions for village establishment, including Curnams' pay on the old system, were in all Rupees 5,318, or Rupees 1,475 in the first, Rupees 1,702 in the second, and Rupees 2,141 in the third circle; and, if the Board approve of the circles as now proposed, the outlay of the several sums mentioned above might be confined to making up the deficiencies of village service cess in the several circles to which these sums belong.

7. By the scheme now proposed, we shall have a small balance* in hand in each circle, after having subsidised from the general fund the cess receipts in nearly every village.

	Rs.
* 1st circle	459
2nd do.	161
3rd do.	60
Total...	680

8. The accompanying statement exhibits the villages comprised in each circle with the area, population, and

revenue of each; the mode in which each was formed; the former and proposed establishments; the salaries and classes of Munsifs and Curnams according to the Kurnool scale; and the extent to which each village needs assistance from the general fund.

9. From this it will be seen that the old establishments have been cut down by four Munsifs, thirty-five Monigars, thirteen Nattamagars, and five* Curnams. Great pains were taken during the five months that I spent in this taluq while making the settlement last year, as well as during the Jummabandy that has just now been made on the settlement, to secure the best men procurable, and to reconcile conflicting interests. On the whole, I am greatly pleased with the selections made, and believe that we now have an intelligent body of men who, as fairly-paid Government servants, will perform their duty in a very different way from that in which it has hitherto been nominally performed by a crowd of officers who received little or no pay, and were hardly under control. As, however, the rejected fifty-seven are likely to trouble the Board for some time to come with appeals, I here record my reasons for making the selections I have made for each separate village.

* Four minors and one working Curnam.

10. *No.* 1, *Krishnapuram*—A large village at the foot of the hills occupying an area of seven square miles. The present Munsif and the best of the two Curnams are retained; the other Curnam is transferred to No. 4. One of the two Mirassidars is appointed as Channel Monigar. The cost of this establishment will be Rupees 540, or Rupees 98 in excess of the assets of service cess. This village yields, however, resumed deductions, amounting to Rupees 235. The Police Taliaries and Revenue Vettians have been chosen from the Kavalgars. The water-distributer is a fisherman.

1 Munsif-Monigar.	2 Taliaries.	2 Taliaries.
1 Monigar.	2 Vettians.	2 Vettians.
1 Curnam.	1 Water-distributer.	1 Water-distributer.

11. *No.* 2, *Kadayanallur*—A large village at the foot of the hills occupying an area of nine square miles. The present Munsif and the best of the 3† Curnams are retained, as are also two of the six Mirassidars who, as Monigars, will represent the Brahmin and Hindu populations, as Monigars, will represent the Brahmin and Hindu populations, as Monigars, will represent the Brahmin and Hindu populations

Scale of Salaries, &c., of Village Servants in the Districts of Kurnool, Godavery, Trichinopoly, and Nellore.—(Concluded.)

Description of Servants.	Kurnool.		Godavery.		Trichinopoly.		Nellore.	
	Revenue.	Number of men for each Village.	Revenue.	Number of men for each Village.	Revenue.	Number of men for each Village.	Revenue or Population.	Number of men for each Village.
Talaris.	No scale.	Not known.	No scale.	For 714 Villages at 1 Talari each, and for 29 Villages at 2 Talaris for each were allowed.	No scale.	It is not known how many Vettians were allowed for each village.	With a population less than... 1,000 From 1,000 to 4,000 ,, 4,000 to 7,000 To Nellore... 22,000	1 2 3 4
	48 Rs. for each Vettian.	48 Rs. for each Vettian.	48 Rs. per annum.	48 Rs. for each Vettian.	36 Rs. per annum.	36 Rs. for each Vettian.	48 Rs. per annum.	48 Rs. for each Vettian.
Neergunteers.	None.	.....	No scale.	Not known.	.....	.....	No scale.	Not known.
	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	30 Rs. each per annum.	
Vettians.	Rs. Up to... 750 ,, ... 1,500 ,, ... 4,000 Above... 4,000	1 2 3 4	Rs. Up to... 1,000 ,, ... 3,000 ,, ... 6,000 ,, ... 9,000 Above... 9,000	1 2 3 4 5	With a revenue less than ... 3,000 From 3,000 to 6,000 ,, 6,000 to 11,000 Above ... 11,000	1 2 3 4	Rs. With a revenue less than ... 3,000 From 3,000 to 6,000 ,, 6,000 to 11,000 Above ... 11,000	1 2 3 4
	48 Rs. for each Vettian.	48 Rs. for each Vettian.	48 Rs. per annum.	48 Rs. for each Vettian.	36 Rs. for each Vettian.	36 Rs. for each Vettian.	48 Rs. per annum.	48 Rs. for each Vettian.

excess of the assets of service cess. This village, however, yields resumed deductions, amounting to Rupees 130.

22. *No.* 13, *Piranur*—A small village adjoining the Travancore territory, and requiring the lowest class of establishment, costing Rupees 252, or Rupees 108 in excess of the assets of service cess, to which extent it will need aid from the general fund. The late Munsif is now dismissed as too old to perform the duty, and the Mirassidar has been appointed in his stead. The Curnam has been retained. No Monigar is needed. The Police Taliari and Revenue Vettian have been chosen from the Kavalgars.

1 Munsif-Monigar. 1 Taliari.
1 Curnam. 1 Vettian.

23. *No.* 14, *Nagalkadu*—A small village at the foot of the hills requiring the lowest class of establishment, costing Rupees 252, or Rupees 109 in excess of the assets of the service cess, to which extent it will need aid from the general fund. There was no separate Munsif for this village, but one of the most considerable of the ryots has now been appointed. There were no Mirassidars in this village. The former Curnam of Kumarakovil, a great portion of which village is included in Nagalkadu, is incapable of doing his duty, and has been before suspended and removed. The second Curnam of Pampuli has been appointed in his stead. The Police Taliari and Revenue Vettian have been chosen from the Kavalgars.

1 Munsif-Monigar. 1 Taliari.
1 Curnam. 1 Vettian.

24. *No.* 15, *Ilanji*—A large and highly-irrigated village at the foot of the hills, occupying an area of five square miles, and requiring an establishment, costing Rupees 720, or Rupees 52 in excess of the assets of service cess. The resumed deductions, however, yield Rupees 207 in this village. The present Munsif and the best of the three Curnams are retained. One Curnam is transferred to No. 24, and the other is a minor, as are also the two Mirassidars, one to represent the Brahmin population, and the other as Channel Monigar. The inferior officers have been chosen as in No. 1.

1 Munsif-Monigar. 2 Taliaries.
2 Monigars. 3 Vettians.
1 Curnam. 1 Water-distributer.

25. *No.* 16, *Courtalam*—A large and highly-irrigated village at the foot of the hills, occupying an area of three square miles, and requiring an establishment of Rupees 456, or Rupees 108 in excess of the assets of service cess, which, however, yields Rupees 93 in this village. One of the ryots has been appointed as Channel Monigar. The inferior officers have been chosen as in No. 1.

1 Munsif-Monigar. 1 Taliari
1 Monigar. 2 Vettians.
1 Curnam. 1 Water-distributer.

26. *No.* 17, *Melagaram*—A large and highly-irrigated village at the foot of the hills, occupying an area of three square miles, and requiring an establishment of Rs. 468, or Rs. 81 in excess of the assets of service cess. The resumed deductions, however, yield Rs. 76 in this village. There were two Munsifs in this village; one has been retained as Munsif, and the younger brother of the other, who

1 Munsif-Monigar. 1 Taliari.
1 Monigar. 2 Vettians.
1 Curnam. 1 Water-distributer.

is an old man, has been appointed Monigar to manage the irrigation works in addition to his revenue duties. The inferior officers have been chosen as in No. 1.

27. *No.* 18, *Ayirapere*—A large and highly-irrigated village at the foot of the hills, occupying an area of three square miles, and requiring an establishment of Rs. 420, or Rs. 69 in excess of the assets of service cess. The resumed deductions, however, yield Rs. 90 in this village. This village formed part of Gunaramanallur which had two Munsifs and two Curnams. The Munsif and Curnam attached to this part of the parent village have been retained, and one of the two Mirassidars has also been retained to represent the Brahmins. The Police Taliari and Revenue Vettian have been chosen from the Kavalgars.

1 Munsif-Monigar.	1 Taliari.
1 Monigar.	2 Vettians.
1 Curnam.	

28. *No.* 19, *Mattalamparei*—A large irrigated village at the foot of the hills, occupying an area of four square miles, and requiring an establishment of Rs. 312, or Rupees 56 in excess of the assets of service cess. The resumed deductions, however, yield Rupees 55 in this village. The late Munsif, who holds no putta in the village has been dismissed, and one of the most suitable of the ryots has been appointed. The Curnam has been retained. No Monigar is needed. The inferior officers have been chosen as in No. 1.

1 Munsif-Monigar.	1 Vettian.
1 Curnam.	1 Water-distributer.
1 Taliari.	

29. *No.* 20, *Pattapat*—A small village, mostly Inam, requiring the lowest class of establishment, costing Rs. 252, or Rs. 99 in excess of the assets of service cess, to which extent it needs aid from the general fund. This village had no Munsif. A Nattamagar of the village has now been appointed; the Curnam has been retained; the Police Taliari and Revenue Vettian have been chosen from the Kavalgars.

1 Munsif-Monigar.	1 Taliari.
1 Curnam.	1 Vettian.

30. *No.* 21, *Tenkasi*—A large and highly-irrigated village, occupying an area of six square miles, and requiring an establishment of Rs. 648, or Rs. 163 in excess of the assets of service cess. The resumed deductions, however, yield Rs. 198 in this village. The Munsif and the best of the three Curnams have been retained. One Curnam is appointed to No. 6, and the other is a minor, as have also two of the three Mirassidars who will represent the Brahmin and Sudra populations, respectively. The inferior officers have been chosen as in No. 1.

1 Munsif-Monigar.	2 Taliaries.
2 Monigars.	3 Vettians.
1 Curnam.	1 Water-distributer.

31. *No.* 22, *Puliur*—A highly-irrigated village, occupying an area of four square miles, and requiring an establishment of Rs. 660, or Rs. 116 in excess of the assets of service cess. The resumed deductions yield, however, Rs. 160 in this village. This village is formed by the amalgamation of Melapuliur and Kilapuliur, each of which had separate establishments. As the ryots of either village opposed the nomination of the opposite Village Munsif, a neutral man was selected, and the two Munsifs were appointed as Monigars to represent their respective factions. One

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11*th May* 1875.

No Monigar is needed. The Police Taliari and Revenue Vettian have been chosen from the Kavalgars.

13. *No.* 4, *Kasidarmam.*—The late Munsif, the agent of the Inamdar who holds the greater part of the village, has been dismissed by his employers, and his successor has been employed as Munsif. There is no resident Puttadar. The office of Curnam was vacant. The former Curnam having been retained in the larger of his two villages (Neduvayel), the surplus Curnam of Krishnapuram has been appointed to the vacancy. The Police Taliari and Revenue Vettian are chosen from the Kavalgars. This small village requires the lowest class of establishment, costing Rupees 240, or Rupees 141 in excess of the assets of service cess, to which extent it will require aid from the general funds.

1 Munsif-Monigar.	1 Taliari.
1 Curnam.	1 Vettian.

14. *No.* 5, *Neduvayel*—A highly-irrigated village adjoining the Travancore territory. One of the three Mirassidars is made Munsif, and the late Munsif is made Monigar. This was done with the mutual consent of the parties concerned and in consultation with the villagers, as it was necessary to have a Maravar to manage the Maravar population. The Curnam is retained. A Channel Monigar is specially needed and is therefore appointed. The Police Taliari and Revenue Vettian are chosen from the Kavalgars. This village requires an establishment, costing Rupees 384, or Rupees 77 in excess of the service cess. The resumed deductions, however, yield Rupees 96 in this village.

1 Munsif-Monigar.	1 Taliari.
1 Monigar.	2 Vettians.
1 Curnam.	

15. *No.* 6, *Kodikurichi*—A small village requiring the lowest class of establishment, costing Rupees 228, or Rupees 133 in excess of the assets of service cess, to which extent it will require aid from the general fund. The late Munsif died, and the vacancy has now been filled by the Mirassidar. The office of Curnam was vacant. The former Curnam having been retained in the larger of his two villages (Edakal), the third Curnam of Tenkasi is appointed to the vacancy. The Police Taliari and Revenue Vettian have been chosen from the Kavalgars.

1 Munsif-Monigar.	1 Taliari.
1 Curnam.	1 Vettian.

16. *No.* 7, *Vadakarei Kilpidagei*—A large village at the foot of the hills occupying an area of eight square miles. The present Munsif and the better of the two Curnams are retained. The other Curnam is transferred to No. 11, as is also one of the two Mirassidars who, as Monigar, will represent the Mahomedan population which is numerous in this village. Another Monigar has been appointed at the earnest request of the villagers, in consequence of his efficiency in managing the irrigation works. The inferior officers have been chosen as in No. 1. The cost of this establishment will be Rupees 720, or Rupees 4 less than the assets of service cess. This village will, therefore, need no aid from the general fund.

1 Munsif-Monigar.	2 Taliaries.
2 Monigars.	3 Vettians.
1 Curnam.	1 Water-distributer.

17. *No.* 8, *Vadakarei Melpidagei*—A village at the foot of the hills occupying an area of two square miles. This formed a portion of the old village of Vadakarei, and consequently had no separate Munsif. One of the late Mirassidars has now been

appointed as Munsif, and one of the ryots, a late Mirassidar of Ayilapere, thrown out of employ in the new arrangement, has been appointed as Channel Monigar. The former Curnam is retained. The Police Taliari and Revenue Vettians have been chosen from the Kavalgars. The cost of this establishment is Rupees 384, or Rupees 82 in excess of the assets of service cess. This village yields, however, resumed deductions amounting to Rupees 91.

1 Munsif-Monigar.	1 Taliari.
1 Monigar.	2 Vettians.
1 Curnam.	

18. *No.* 9, *Panpuli*—A highly-irrigated village. The former Munsif is now dismissed for opposing vaccination, and so indirectly causing numerous deaths in his village from small-pox. The population is mostly Mahomedan, and one of the most considerable of the Mahomedan ryots is, therefore, appointed to be Munsif. The better of the two Curnams is retained. The other Curnam is transferred to No. 14. One of the two Mirassidars is appointed as Channel Monigar. The inferior officers have been chosen as in No. 1. The cost of this establishment is Rupees 468, or Rupees 161 in excess of the assets of the service cess. This village, however, yields resumed deductions, amounting to Rupees 175.

1 Munsif-Monigar.	2 Taliaries.
1 Monigar.	2 Vettians.
1 Curnam.	1 Water-distributer.

19. *No.* 10, *Kanakapillai Valasei*—A large village at the foot of the hills, mostly dry, occupying an area of six square miles. The present Munsif and the are retained, as is also one of the Mirassidars who, as Monigar, will represent the Shanar population. The Police Taliari and Revenue Vettian have been chosen from the Kavalgars. The cost of this establishment is Rupees 384, or Rupees 124 in excess of the assets of the service cess. This village, however, yields resumed deductions, amounting to Rupees 128.

1 Munsif-Monigar.	1 Taliari.
1 Monigar.	2 Vettians.
1 Curnam.	

20. *No.* 11, *Periapillai Valasei*—A small village adjoining the Travancore territory, requiring the lowest class of establishment, costing Rupees 240, or Rupees 163, in excess of the assets of the service cess, to which extent it will require aid from the general fund. The late Munsif has been retained. The office of Curnam was vacant. The former Curnam having been retained in the larger of his two villages (Kuttukal Valasei), the surplus Curnam of Vadakarei Kilpidagei has been appointed to the vacancy. The Police Taliari and Revenue Vettian have been chosen from the Kavalgars.

1 Munsif-Monigar.	1 Taliari.
1 Curnam.	1 Vettian.

21. *No.* 12, *Kuttukal Valasei*—A large village occupying an area of four square miles. The late Munsif, who is illiterate and has greatly neglected his duty, is now dismissed, and one of the Mirassidars is appointed as Munsif. Another Mirassidar has now been appointed to represent the Brahmin population, the Munsif being a Shanar. The Curnam has been retained. The inferior officers have been chosen as in No. 1. The cost of this establishment is Rupees 456, or Rupees 136 in

1 Munsif-Monigar.	1 Taliari.
1 Monigar.	2 Vettians.
1 Curnam.	1 Water-distributer.

of the two Curnams has been retained; the other is a minor. The inferior officers have been chosen as in No. 1.

32. *No.* 23, *Gunaramanallur*—A large village, occupying an area of four square miles, and requiring an establishment of Rs. 456, or Rs. 123 in excess of the assets of service cess. The resumed deductions, however, yield Rs. 128 in this village. The Munsif has been retained, as also one of the former Curnams. The other Curnam has been transferred to No. 18. The present Mirassidar having been several times fined and suspended has been dismissed, and one of the ryots has been appointed as Monigar to represent the Brahmin population. The inferior officers have been chosen as in No. 1.

1 Munsif-Monigar.	1 Taliari.
1 Monigar.	2 Vettians.
1 Curnam.	1 Water-distributer.

33. *No.* 24, *Tippanampatti*—A large village, mostly dry, occupying an area of seven square miles, and requiring an establishment of Rupees 516, or Rupees 107 in excess of the assets of service cess. The resumed deductions in this village, however, yield Rupees 148. One of the three Munsifs is retained, and one of the Mirassidars is appointed as Monigar to represent the Melapavur Brahmins who own the greater part of the village. The Curnam having been convicted of various offences is dismissed,* and the surplus Curnam of Ilanji has been appointed. The inferior officers have been chosen as in No. 1.

1 Munsif-Monigar.	2 Taliaries.
1 Monigar.	2 Vettians.
1 Curnam.	1 Water-distributer.

* *Vide* my letter to the Board, No. 314, dated 29th June last.

34. *No.* 25, *Avudayanur*—A dry village which formed part of Kulasegarapatti, occupies an area of four square miles, and requires an establishment, costing Rupees 312, or Rupees 104 in excess of the assets of service cess. The resumed deductions in this village, however, yield Rupees 112. The more efficient of the two Munsifs has been retained. The Curnam is a minor. His Gumastah has been appointed to act for him until he is of age. The Police Taliari and Revenue Vettian have been chosen from the Kavalgars.

1 Munsif-Monigar.	2 Taliaries.
1 Curnam.	1 Vettian.

35. *No.* 26, *Kulasegarapatti*—A nearly dry village, occupying an area of nine square miles, and requiring an establishment, costing Rs. 432, or Rs. 123 in excess of the assets of service cess. The resumed deductions, however, yield Rupees 113 in this village. The son of one of the late Munsifs, an old man, is appointed; the other is non-resident. One of the two Mirassidars has been appointed as Monigar to represent the Shanar population. The Curnam has been retained. The Police Taliari and Revenue Vettian have been chosen from the Kavalgars.

1 Munsif-Monigar.	2 Taliaries.
1 Monigar.	2 Vettians.
1 Curnam.	

36. *No.* 27, *Pattakurichi*—A highly-irrigated village, occupying an area of three square miles, and requiring an establishment costing Rupees 408, or Rupees 183 in excess of the assets of service cess. The resumed deductions,

1 Munsif-Monigar.	1 Taliari.
1 Monigar.	2 Vettians.
1 Curnam.	1 Water-distributer.

however, yield Rupees 103 in this village. The late Munsif is transferred to the post of Monigar, as, from a defect in his eye-sight, he is unfit for that of Munsif, and one of the ryots has been appointed as Munsif. The former Mirassidar not being a Puttadar, the Curnam has been retained. The inferior officers have been chosen as in No. 1.

37. *No.* 28, *Sundrapandiapuram*—A large and highly-irrigated village, occupying an area of three square miles, and requiring an establishment costing Rupees 456, or Rupees 109 in excess of the assets of service cess. The resumed deductions, however, yield Rupees 150 in this village. The more respectable of the two Village Munsifs has been retained, and one of the Mirassidars has been selected for the post of Monigar, the nomination either of the other Munsif or of the other Mirassidar to the post of Monigar being objected to by the villagers. The registered Curnam is a minor, but his claim was rejected on appeal to the Collector in 1871, and the Gumastah was confirmed in the post. This appeal decision was never carried out, and the Gumastah continued to act. He has now been confirmed. The inferior officers have been chosen as in No. 1.

1 Munsif-Monigar.	1 Taliari.
1 Monigar.	2 Vettians.
1 Curnam.	1 Water-distributer.

38. *No.* 29, *Surandei*—A large and highly-irrigated village, occupying an area of nine square miles, and requiring an establishment costing Rupees 600, or Rupees 122 in excess of the assets of service cess. The resumed deductions, however, yield Rupees 140 in this village. The late Munsif who has no putta in the village has been dismissed, and one of the most respectable of the Mirassidars has been appointed in his stead. The Munsif of Kurungavanam, which village has been incorporated with Surandei, has been nominated as Channel Monigar. Another Mirassidar has been retained as Monigar to represent the Shanar population. The best of the two Curnams has been retained. The inferior officers have been chosen as in No. 1.

1 Munsif-Monigar.	1 Taliari.
2 Monigars.	3 Vettians.
1 Curnam.	1 Water-distributer.

39. *No.* 30, *Tiruchitambalam*—A small village requiring the lowest class of establishment, costing Rupees 252, or Rupees 120 in excess of the assets of service cess. This village had no separate Munsif. One of the more respectable ryots has, therefore, been appointed as Munsif. The Curnam has been retained. The Mirassidar has been transferred to No. 28, where he resides. The Police Taliari and Revenue Vettian have been chosen from the Kavalgars.

1 Munsif-Monigar.	1 Taliari.
1 Curnam.	1 Vettian.

40. *No.* 31, *Melapavur*—A large and highly-irrigated village, occupying an area of three square miles, and requiring an establishment of Rupees 504, or Rs. 6 less than the assets of service cess. The Munsif and the better of the two Curnams have been retained; the other Curnam cannot be provided for. One of the three Mirassidars has been appointed as Channel Monigar. The inferior officers have been chosen as in No. 1.

1 Munsif-Monigar.	1 Taliari.
1 Monigar.	2 Vettians.
1 Curnam.	1 Water-distributer.

41. *No.* 32, *Kilapavur*—A large and highly-irrigated village, occupying an area of eight square miles, requiring an establishment of Rupees 804, or Rupees 226 in excess of the assets of service cess. The resumed deductions, however, yield Rupees 467 in this village. The former Munsif and better of the two Curnams have been retained. The other Curnam has been transferred to No. 34. Three of the Mirassidars have also been appointed as Monigar. The inferior officers have been chosen as in No. 1.

1 Munsif-Monigar.	2 Taliaries.
3 Monigars.	4 Vettians.
1 Curnam.	1 Water-distributer.

42. *No.* 33, *Pulankulam.*—Newly formed from Kilapavur, requires an establishment of Rupees 408, or Rupees 235 in excess of the assets of service cess. The resumed deductions, however, yield Rupees 295 in this village. The former Munsif of this portion of Kilapavur has been appointed as Munsif, and one of the Nattamagars as Monigar. One of the surplus Curnams of Surandie is appointed. The Police Taliari and Revenue Vettians have been chosen from the Kavalgars.

1 Munsif-Monigar.	2 Taliaries.
1 Monigar.	2 Vettians.
1 Curnam.	

43. *No.* 34, *Andipatti*—A small dry village, requires the lowest class of establishment, costing Rupees 216, or Rupees 167 in excess of the assets of service cess, to which extent this village needs aid from the general fund. The Munsif has been retained. The Curnam's post is vacant, and the second Curnam of Kilapavur is appointed. The Police Taliari and Revenue Vettian have been chosen from the Kavalgars.

1 Munsif-Monigar.	1 Taliari.
1 Curnam.	1 Vettian.

44. *No.* 35, *Alankulam*—One of the three villages transferred to this taluq from Ambasamudram occupies an area of five square miles, and requires an establishment of Rupees 456, or Rs. 335 in excess of the assets of service cess. The resumed deductions, however, yield Rupees 278 in this village. The Munsif has been retained. One of the Mirassidars has been appointed as Monigar to represent the Vellalar, and a ryot has also been appointed as Monigar to represent the Shanar populations. The Curnam is a minor. His Gumastah has been appointed to act for him until he is of age. The Police Taliari and Revenue Vettian have been chosen from the Kavalgars.

1 Munsif-Monigar.	1 Taliari.
2 Monigars.	3 Vettians.
1 Curnam.	

45. *No.* 36, *Mayamankurichi*—A large village, occupying an area of six square miles, requires the lowest class of establishment, costing Rupees 252, or Rs. 87 in excess of the assets of service cess, to which extent it needs aid from the general fund. The Munsif and Curnam have been retained. The Police Taliari and Revenue Vettian have been chosen from the Kavalgars.

1 Munsif-Monigar.	1 Taliari.
1 Curnam.	1 Vettian.

46. *No.* 37, *Nettur*—A small, though highly-irrigated village, transferred from Tinnevelly, occupying an area of three square miles, requires the lowest class of establishment, costing Rupees 300, or Rupees 75 in excess of the assets of

1 Munsif-Monigar.	1 Vettian.
1 Curnam.	1 Water-distributer.
1 Taliari.	

service cess. The resumed deductions, however, yield Rupees 103 in this village. The Munsif and Curnam have been retained. The inferior officers have been chosen from the Kavalgars.

47. *No.* 38, *Aiyanarkulam*—A very small village transferred from Tinnevelly, requires the lowest class of establishment, costing Rupees 216, or Rupees 177 in excess of the assets of service cess, to which extent it will need aid from the general fund. The Munsif has been retained. The Curnam's office is vacant. The late Curnam having been retained in the larger of his two villages (Mayamankurichi), one of the surplus Curnams of Kadayanallur is appointed. The Police Taliari and Revenue Vettian have been chosen from the Kavalgars.

1 Munsif-Monigar.	1 Taliari.
1 Curnam.	1 Vettian.

48. *No.* 39, *Sevalarkulam*—A large and highly-irrigated village transferred from Ambasamudram, occupying an area of ten square miles, requires an establishment, costing Rupees 408, or Rupees 178 in excess of the assets of service cess. The resumed deductions, however, yield Rupees 232 in this village. The Munsif and Curnam have been retained, and one of the Mirassidars has been appointed as Channel Monigar. The inferior officers have been chosen as in No. 1.

1 Munsif-Monigar.	1 Taliari.
1 Monigar.	2 Vettians.
1 Curnam.	1 Water-distributer.

49. *No.* 40, *Marandai*—A large village transferred from Ambasamudram, occupying an area of thirteen square miles, requires an establishment, costing Rupees 444, or Rupees 256 in excess of the assets of service cess. The resumed deductions, however, yield Rupees 258 in this village. The Munsif and Curnam have been retained. One of the three Mirassidars has been appointed as Channel Monigar. The inferior officers have been chosen as in No. 1.

1 Munsif-Monigar.	2 Taliaries.
1 Monigar.	2 Vettians.
1 Curnam.	1 Water-distributer.

50. The Board will observe that I have departed from the Kurnool scheme only—

(1.) In the appointment of Monigars in certain villages;

(2.) In the attachment of a Vettian to each Munsif-Monigar or Monigar; and,

(3.) In the appointment of a Nirkotti or water-distributer on a somewhat lower pay than the Vettian.

51. My reasons for these departures from the Kurnool scheme are—

Firstly.—As regards the Monigars, we have now clubbed many villages, and have conflicting interests and factions to deal with. Where funds admit, it is well that each party should be represented by the man in whom they feel confidence, and to whom they are accustomed to pay their assessment. The Munsif, moreover, may be sick or absent, and it will be well to have some one on the spot to perform ordinary revenue duties.

52. The Board, in Proceedings, No. 568, dated 13th March 1874, have recognised the advantage of having Monigars to manage the irrigation works in addition to their duties as Revenue-officers. It is proposed that these men should superintend the operations of the water-distributer; see that the customary labor of the village (Kudimaramut) is properly carried out; execute emergent repairs under the provisions of Act I. of 1858, and be the vehicle of communication between the villagers and the Engineer officers.

Secondly.—As regards the Vettians, one man to attend each Munsif-Monigar or Monigar will be sufficient, and such an allotment is fairer than one made according to a numerical scale, for many of our villages are almost uninhabited, the ryots residing in the principal towns near, while in two villages of the same population there may be twenty hamlets, or only one compact nattam according to circumstances, and the same number of Vettians would hardly be required for both.

Thirdly.—As regards the water-distributers, it is very necessary to put them on a lower salary than the Taliaries and Vettians, for it is of the first importance to the peace of the district that the Maravers should accept office as Taliaries and Vettians; and, if they find that a fisherman or a low Pallan or Pariah Nirkotti is classed on the same category with themselves, they are likely enough to despise their new offices, if not to reject them altogether.

53. A small issue of stationery might, in future, be made to all the Munsifs and Monigars.

54. I request to be favored with early instructions on this report, as the material for a similar scheme for the Tinnevelly Taluq has been collected, and I only await orders to appoint the new village establishments in both Tenkasi and Tinnevelly.

55. It has been suggested to me by the Superintendent of Police that the Police Taliaries should draw their pay through him. Whether this proposition is sanctioned or not, I have so arranged that the Taliaries will be employed entirely on Police duties, and will have nothing to do with revenue work. Two Taliaries have been allowed for the larger, and one for the smaller villages, giving altogether a force of fifty-three village Policemen.

Enclosure No. 1.—Statement.

Enclosure No. 2.—Map.

This scheme for revising the village establishments of the Tenkasi Taluq of Tinnevelly will be submitted for the favorable consideration of Government.

2. The Collector says very little about the grouping. He has grouped seventy-three "villages as per the old taluq accounts into forty villages as per settlement." The maximum, minimum, and average area, population, and revenue of the new villages, are as follow:—

—	Area.	Population.	Revenue.
	ACRES.		RS.
Average	2,778	1,898	4,908
Maximum	8,002	11,554	15,932
Minimum	527	200	616

3. The Collector explained the principles adopted by him in grouping in his letters of the 22nd April 1873, No. 201, and 27th June 1873, No. 339, and they were approved by the Board who thought the Collector might be left to his discretion

G. O., 23rd March 1874, No. 375.

in the matter. Government remarked that especial attention must be paid to the grouping, and that it must not be carried too far. It would have been better if the Collector had given more information on the subject in the letter now under consideration, but the Board think the grouping has been properly done. The village which is largest in area (No. 40, Marandai) is one of the original villages. The map shows that none of the new villages are of inconvenient extent. The column in the statement which purports to show the "old villages merged by settlement" contains the names of 130 villages instead of 73, and this should have been explained. The new villages in which the greatest number of these old villages have been merged are—

——	No. of Villages merged.	Area.	Population.	Revenue
		ACRES.		RS.
16. Courtalam	15	1,823	951	5,563
17. Melagaram	12	1,825	1,905	6,174
19. Mattalamparei	9	2,591	525	4,099

None of these are too large. The fact that the Collector has visited each village himself, and arranged the grouping on the spot, makes the Board accept his conclusions with great confidence.

4. The assets are given by the Collector as—

	RS.
Village service cess	12,306
Fixed deductions to be contributed by Government under G. O., 23rd March 1874, No. 375, paragraph 3	5,318
Total ...	17,624

The Collector says nothing about Service Inams. In his letter of the 22nd April 1873, No. 201, he stated that such Inams were rare in Tinnevelly, but presumed that they should all be brought to full assessment. In his letter of the 19th August 1873, No. 431, he argued in favor of resuming instead of enfranchising these Inams, and supposed that, if enfranchisement took place, a small minority of the holders would be paid in land and a majority in ready money. This error was pointed out in Board's Proceedings, dated 5th September 1873, No. 1,748.

5. Mr. Puckle will now report if there are any Village Service Inams, whether now held by village servants or not, in Tenkasi. If there are, they must be enfranchised at five-eighths of the full value (*i.e.*, assessment *minus* quit-rent), *plus* the old quit-rent; and the new quit-rent, *minus* the old quit-rent, must be added to the Village Service Fund.

6. Mr. Puckle says he has divided the taluq into three circles for the purposes of the Village Cess Act; but the Board find it impossible to determine why this has been done, or what advantage Mr. Puckle thinks he gains by doing it. The provision of the law that the cess shall be spent *within the village* in which it is levied cannot thus be evaded. The phrase, "group of villages," in Section 5 of the Act evidently refers to grouped villages like the forty into which the seventy-three old villages of Tenkasi have been grouped, not to circles containing

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many groups. As it happens, the assumption that each circle will have a separate fund introduces no error, because the establishment proposed for each village, except Melapavur, No. 31, costs more than the cess levied in the village; but the idea of these circles is a new one,—foreign to the law,—and may cause confusion in accounting in other taluqs if not in Tenkasi. The Board think it should be relinquished.

7. The establishment proposed is in accordance with the Kurnool scheme, which the Collector was directed by Government to adopt, except as regards Assistant Monigars, Vetties, and Nirkatties, and these deviations are justifiable as will be explained hereafter. The Board, as they have told Government, prefer the scheme which has been devised for Nellore; but the difference between the practical result of the two schemes in Tenkasi is very slight, except as regards the pay of the officers, which is a matter that can safely be left to the discretion of the Collector limited by the understanding that he must not exceed his assets.

8. There is a headman, called a Munsif and Monigar, for each of the forty villages, paid Rupees 5, 7, 8, 10, and 12, according to the Kurnool scheme. The number drawing each rate of pay is as follows:—

RS.	
5	24
7	7
8	5
10	1
12	3
Total...	40

9. The Collector proposes to have Assistant Monigars, called "Monigars," to look after the channels and collect revenue. His reasons are given in paragraph 51, and seem to the Board to be satisfactory. The appointments seem to the Board not to be repugnant to the law, and, though they have not been made before in similar revisions, they may be allowed under the peculiar circumstances detailed by the Collector. The men are to be paid Rupees 5 each, and eighteen villages are to have one, six two, and two three.

10. There is to be a Curnam to each village, paid according to the Kurnool scale from Rupees 5 to Rupees 15, and the number drawing each rate of pay is as follows:—

RS.	
15	4
14	2
13	3
12	2
11	5
10	6
9	4
8	8
7	3
6	1
5	2
Total...	40

11. There is a Vetti for each headman and Assistant Monigar paid Rupees 4 a-month. This is a deviation from the Kurnool scheme which determines the number of Vetties allowed for each village according to its revenue, but it must be allowed if the appointment of Assistant Monigars is allowed. Altogether there are seventy-six Vetties.

12. In Kurnool the Taliaries were distributed according to circumstances. Mr. Puckle proposes to have fifty-three Taliaries paid Rupees 4, two for the larger, and one for the smaller villages. Thus thirteen villages are to have two and twenty-seven villages one Taliary.

13. It is proposed to have a Nirkatti in twenty-one villages, and the pay is to be Rupees 3 a-month. In Kurnool these servants do not form any part of the Village Service Establishment, but they are very useful, and some will probably have to be added to the existing establishment before long. The reason which the Collector gives for fixing the rate of pay below that of Taliaries and Vetties is satisfactory. The allotment to villages has, no doubt, been made with due consideration.

14. The annual cost of the proposed scheme is—

		Rs.
40	Headmen	3,060
36	Assistant Monigars	2,160
40	Curnams	4,836
76	Vetties	3,648
53	Taliaries	2,544
21	Nirkatties	756
	Total ...	17,004

and this is Rupees 620 less than the assets.

15. There is only one village, as already mentioned, in which the establishment costs less than the cess levied, and there the surplus is only Rupees 6 per annum. The Collector must see that this surplus is expended within the village.

16. The remainder of the surplus, Rupees 614, is a General Fund not affected by Section 5 of the Village Service Cess Act.

17. The suggestion in paragraph 53, that stationery should be supplied to Munsifs and Monigars, does not commend itself to the Board. It is unusual, and the pay of these men is sufficiently liberal to enable them to supply themselves with stationery.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) J. GROSE,
Secretary.

MEMORANDUM.

I THINK, under the circumstances, there is no alternative but to order the preparation of a revised scheme for the Tenkasi Taluq of the Tinnevelly District. This could be easily prepared by the officer who submitted the original scheme, but would be a difficult work for a new Collector unacquainted with the ground and the people of that particular taluq. If the Government wish it, I can revise the scheme on the spot and submit a report in June; but this may interfere with the submission of a revised scheme for the Darampuri Taluq of Salem lately ordered.

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However, I can but try, and may possibly be able, to do both. I have also a scheme in hand for a part of the Sydapett Taluq of the Chingleput District, and, if I receive sufficiently detailed instruction to enable me to draw up my schemes entirely in accord with the wishes of Government, these three will be amply sufficient to enable the Collectors of Salem, Tinnevelly, and Chingleput, to appoint village establishments throughout their districts on the principles approved for one taluq in each. As I understand the wishes of Government—

(1.) The resumed (§ths) Maniyams and ready-money allowances should be thrown into a common fund to pay Curnams.

(2.) One Curnam should be appointed to a single village or a group of villages with reference to the size, population, beriz, or situation, or all these circumstances combined of that village or group.

(3.) The scale of salaries for Curnams should be that given in paragraph 2 of the Board's Proceedings on the revision of the Nellore establishments (No. 912 of 2nd June 1873).

(4.) Any surplus from the Maniyams enfranchised at §ths of their taram assessment and from the ready-money allowances, after paying the Curnams, should be credited to the general fund.

(5.) Each village that now has a Munsif should continue to have one, except in special cases, such as bechirag or uninhabited villages and very small and insignificant villages that can clearly be ruled to advantage by the Munsif of the large parent village close by.

(6.) This Munsif should be also the Monigar or Revenue Collector, and, if the size of the village prevents his performing the work himself, he must keep his own Gumastahs to help him.

(7.) He should be paid not according to population as proposed by the Board for Nellore, but according to revenue like the Curnam, as, I believe, was sanctioned for Kurnool; for, practically in many rich villages near large towns, the ryots are mostly non-resident, and the population would be no guide for determining the Munsif's emoluments.

(8.) The Munsif should be paid from the Service Cess.

(9.) There should be no Monigar to assist the Munsif-Monigar in collecting the revenue. This is the weak point of the scheme I think, as, during the absence of the Munsif on duty at the Courts and Cutcherries, which, in his double capacity, is likely to be very frequent, there will be no officer left in the village,—no one to manage the village police, make reports, hold inquests, make remittances, and collect the revenue; if the Munsif is summoned to a Court during Jummabandi, it will be most inconvenient, and, when the Munsif is sick, everything will come to a standstill. There will be, moreover, a vast body of intelligent and useful officers (now known as Natamcigars, Monigars, Merasidars, &c., whose rights and privileges have, till now, been guarded with the utmost care by Government and the Board) suddenly thrown out of employ, and there will be no one in training to succeed the Munsif when, from old age or misconduct, he is removed from office. As I read the Act, a Monigar *can* be appointed, and it would be better to amend the Act in this respect than have everything fall into confusion by being entrusted to the care of one man,—possibly an ignorant, sickly, or careless man, who is, as the Board require, to be paid less than the Curnam.

10. One or more Taliaries are to be attached to the Munsif for the performance of village police duties.

11. The number of Taliaries required to be determined with reference to the situation of the village, its size, and criminal population, or the prevalence of crime in the neighbourhood rather than with reference to beriz.

12. One or more Vettiyans are to be attached to the Munsif-Monigar for the performance of revenue duties, carrying reports, escorting remittances, assembling the ryots, &c.

13. Both Taliaries and Vettiyans to be selected from the classes now filling such offices, and where practicable, as in the south, to be selected from the Maravar and Kallar tribes.

14. The pay of the Taliary and Vettiyan to be Rs. 4 a-month, as proposed by the Board for Nellore.

15. The Munsif-Monigar, the Taliaries, and Vettiyans, to be paid from the Service Cess.

16. The cess only to be imposed at such a rate as will provide the needful establishment.

17. All unspent surplus cess to be carried to the credit of the village in which it may be collected and laid out on village improvements.

18. Nirguntis or water-distributors, if required, must be paid from Imperial funds and form no part of this scheme.

2. In a highly-irrigated country the people are more anxious for the appointment of a Nirgunty to each village than for any number of Vettiyans. The Nirgunty must be a fisherman or a man accustomed to the water, who can swim and dive and close the sluice-vent with turf and straw, or open it again sometimes in eight or ten feet of water. No one of the Vettiyans or Taliaries might possibly be able to perform this duty; and, if a Nirgunty can be provided by the Act, I would strongly advocate one for each village traversed by a large channel or supplied from an important tank.

3. Finally, the village establishment must be appointed and be in strong working order, I think, before the Kaval exactions can be put down. To put them down we must have an organised village police,—a great addition to the constabulary and numerous village subordinates who can act as watchmen and patrols. Now we employ the very Kavalgars whom we wish to put down as unpaid policemen and revenue-officers, and we must subsidise a large proportion of this tribe and coerce the remainder before we can touch kaval fees. However much we may talk and advise, individuals will not be left helpless and exposed to robbery, unless we show them that we can and will protect them. When they see that there is a strong force already on the ground to protect them, they will desist from paying kaval fees, particularly if *ordered* not to pay; but to attempt to put down the kaval system before organising the new village establishment would be utterly futile. The suppression of the kaval system can only be done by degrees,—slowly and patiently, taluq by taluq, commencing in the locality where the Kavalgars are least influential. This happens to be Tenkasi, and these with a strong village police,—double the present force of constables,—increased inspection and supervision, good village-officers,—one always present in the village,—an active Sub-Magistrate, and great nursing and care on the part of the European officer, who should specially enlist the sympathies of the Maravar Zemindars on his side by making them honorary Magistrates, members of Local Fund Boards, &c., instead of driving them to distraction as at present with the Rent Recovery Act, the thing might be done, and when done in one taluq it could be gradually extended into the hot-bed of Maravars,—Tenkarei and Nanganeri; but the operation must needs be a slow one, and can be effected only by personal influence and exertion, and not by any general order.

(Signed) R. K. PUCKLE,

No. 75. MINUTE BY THE HON. W. ROBINSON, C.S.I.

IN approaching the question of organizing a new Village Establishment in the District of Tinnevelly under the Act, we have to bear in mind—

First, that the district is already burdened with an average land tax—a demand which the settlement may adjust more equitably but cannot materially reduce—which is in excess that of any other district in the country. A new burden of 6¼ per cent. or about one-and-a-half lakh of Rupees for local administration is therefore—*unless accompanied with important and much needed relief*—a matter for serious consideration;

And *secondly*, that under the exceptional continuance of the *Kavili* system in this district the population of Tinnevelly is already burdened with many special and very heavy local cesses for the maintenance of the existing and recognized village service. These *Kavili* cesses run in some villages as high as 12 per cent. on the Land Revenue, and include House-tax, Profession-tax, Moterfa-taxes, tolls on traffic, etc., etc. They certainly do not fall short of two lakhs of Rupees a year throughout the district; probably very much exceeds this sum. The country is therefore already assessed for local services beyond what the Act allows; and this, in a very oppressive and barbarous form.

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It is I think to be regretted that this exceptional condition of the country—this insuperable objection, as it seems to me, to additional taxation—except under the pre-cedent suppression of the *Kavili* system—has not been thrown into the prominence it deserves either by the local officers or the Board of Revenue when recommending the introduction of the Village Service Cess Act.

A full understanding of the *Kavili* condition of Tinnevelly is so important to the consideration of this matter that I must venture to submit for the perusal of my Honorable Colleagues a memorandum of information drawn from the records of Tinnevelly, which I wrote when I was carefully examining the question, in the district in 1860:—

Long prior to the introduction of the British administration into the Provinces of Tinnevelly, the Poligars—who were almost without exception the heads of the Maraver or professional robber-caste of the country—had entirely usurped the so-called *Kavil* or watch-and-ward of the country. We found the Poligar *Kavili* system, with all its terrible oppression, in full force here as it had been throughout the Southern countries. We endeavoured to maintain it in our first arrangement for the administration of the province; but the utter lawlessness of the Poligars and their hordes of *Kavilgars* and the oppression they exercised were such that it became necessary to put them down with a high hand; to interdict their interference with the watch-and-ward of the country, and to forbid the collection of any fees from the people by them. The privileges of the Poligar *Kavilgars* were resumed and commuted. Their exactions however ceased very gradually.

The *Kavili* system of Tinnevelly was at that time a thoroughly organized one. Under the Maraver Poligars were *Mên* or Head *Kavilgars* drawn from the same licentious race who "watched" from one to eight and ten villages each, and distributed their charge amongst their numerous fellow-castemen or *Stalam-Kavilgars* residing in each village. All of these Head and Under *Kavilgars* had done the "watching," etc., under the Poligars; and had likewise levied large and almost uncontrolled exactions from the villagers. This part of the *Kavili* system was continued under our rule, and is in full force to this day. The country was in fact left as heretofore to the so-called protection of the thievish, lawless races of professional robbers who have been subsided by the honest and industrious in consideration of their own forbearance from robbery and a species of assurance against losses at the hands of their thievish fraternity. The exactions of these Maraver *Kavilgars* have been very large from the beginning; and they are still the hereditary watchers of the country and exercise privileges and functions in their different grades which are to this day wholly inconsistent with law and order.

The records of the district reiterate from year to year the disorders attributable to the *Kavilgars* and Maraver race. In 1830 Mr. Hall wrote: "Robbery in its various forms of gang robbery, torch-light robbery and highway robbery, has been the crime of most frequent occurrence, and its commission also is confined almost exclusively to the Maraver or *Kavilgar* race." He describes their habits and influence as follows:—"It is an acknowledged fact that no theft can be committed in a village without their knowledge. They are possessed in an eminent degree of hardihood, acuteness and activity; but they are all reckless and sanguinary and so addicted to plunder that they are looked upon by the other caste as robbers by nature as well as by profession. This class came generally to fill the office of village watcher partly on account of peculiar qualifications and partly from the idea that none but their own tribe could be capable of restraining the depredations of the Maravers. Allowances in land and grain are allotted to them in each village. In many villages the safety of the Circar* grain has been provided for in a similar manner by a contribution in the shape of fees on the produce." Such are the *Mên* and *Stallam Kavil* or village Watch-and-ward of Tinnevelly. It consists of Head—who have more or less usurped the place of the Poligars—and Under *Kavilgars*, and

* N.B.—The sharing system and Ooloongu-system prevailed at that period.

of many thousand co-sharers who collect and participate in grain fees and other exactions levied on the people.

The Village *Kavilgars* were nominally subordinated to the Heads of villages created by the Regulation of 1816; but in fact they look entirely to their own castemen and the Head *Kavilgars*, and are almost independent even of the European Magistrates. The Police responsibilities of the Potail have been virtually exercised by the Head *Kavilgars*, who have been officially recognized as the preventers and detectors of crime. Indeed it was not in the nature of things that their mere transfer by law should have altered their habits or institutions. They hang together as a caste and have continued a living menace on the country. And no practical step has been possible towards removing their abuses, for from 9,000 to 10,000 of these men have been kept officially registered within the 1,200 villages of this small district; and are supported chiefly by a share of all crops and other cesses which they themselves assess and levy from the people. The actual sharers of these fees have been probably twice the registered number. The exactions of the *Kavilgars* from the people remain to this day almost without control or regulation; an opprobrium to the administration and burden on the people.

The official records of the district are full of futile proposals for the regulation of these anomalous relations and the narration of the tyranny exercised by these lawless watchers. Endeavours have been made from time to time to check the irregularities perpetrated by the *Kavilgars* but in vain. Daily musters were sought to be established without success, the institution of passports was ineffectual, security-bonds (readily entered into by the Heads of the caste for their lawless Under *Kavilgars*) could never be enforced, dismissal was ineffectual as a punishment for the Maravers "cared little whether the name of the father, of the son, or of the nephew was entered in the Circar accounts; though dismissed, they continued to share the fees.

N.B.—The Head Sheristadar of the District told the Collector and myself in the course of our joint inquiry the story of his own recent contention with the *Kavilgars*. The house in which he lived had been assessed by the *Kavilgar* at eight Annas a year. A few years previous to our inquiry, he had enlarged and improved his house and the *Kavilgars* had at once assessed him at Rs. 3-8-0. He was dissatisfied but admitted that contention was hopeless and that he had quietly submitted as was usual in the district. The Collector admitted that he was powerless.

In 1830 the Magistrate earnestly pressed for a "remedy for the increasing evil." The *Kavilgars* and Maravers had become aware, he wrote, "how far the power of the Magistrate is paralyzed as it affects them, and their increasing insubordination shows they are disposed to take advantage of the circumstance."

"It may be thought," he adds, "that the general provisions of the regulations are as adequate to the maintenance of order among them as amongst any other class of persons—but practically this is not found to be the case. The Maravers are held in greater fear generally than the Magistrate, and they contrive but too successfully to maintain the terror of their name by selecting as the subjects of their depredations all such as may have exposed themselves to their resentment. It is not the richest or most defenceless houses which are plundered, but those whose inhabitants have in any way offended the Maraver or assisted in bringing him to justice. For instance, among the houses in which robberies have been committed during the last year will be found those of the Police *Rayasum* or clerk of Vedoogramum, the Jemadar of the Magistrate's guard, and of several Mirasidars who have given evidence against Maravers. The outrages at Padookyput which will come before the Court at the ensuing Sessions (a case in which 509 Maravers were accused) appear to have been committed on the Shanars in revenge of the assistance which they had afforded to the taluq peons in the apprehension of some of their tribe. The remedy usually suggested by the Tahsildars and natives in general for curbing the licentious habits of the Maravers is to vest the Magistrate with discretion to remove the Maravers altogether from the office of the *Kavilgars*, and to appoint successors to them from among different castes." And he considered that were the suggestion adopted with reference to "any disorderly villages the good effect of the

example might be felt very extensively." But he strongly recommended as "the most effectual way of securing an entire reform would be to assume the whole of the *Caval* fees and commuting them into a fixed monthly pay either in grain or money to establish in each village a competent Police establishment consisting of one Head *Kavilgar* and a sufficient number of subordinates, to be selected from such Maravers as may be deemed worthy of confidence. The whole would be put under the superintendence, of course, of the Village Munsif who should be called to make periodical reports of their general behaviour and diligence to the Taluq authorities for the information of the Magistrate and his subordinates."

The above plan recommended itself to the Magistrate as one which would substitute a regular payment disbursed at short and convenient monthly intervals for half-yearly payments which were recklessly squandered as soon as received, leaving the watchmen to live by booty or by the exaction of "large additional fees" extorted from the inhabitants; and as bringing the *Kavilgar* under control and raising his condition and general tone. And he added "if this system could be abolished, if a number of the Maravers as *Kavilgars* had a regular and competent means of living, *i.e.*, if they had a fixed monthly pay either in grain or in money, if they had a badge of office, if a register of them was formally made out; and if the Magistrate, in case of neglect on their part, was allowed to dismiss them from their situations and to appoint persons from different families, if not from different castes, much of the inconvenience which is at present experienced might be overcome"; and he anticipated "a rapid and most important improvement in the temper and spirit of this important class."

There were about this time 7,825 registered *Kavilgars* besides a large body of unregistered persons who likewise levied shares of alleged fees, etc., etc. These men were then collecting upwards of 70,000 Rupess worth of recognized grain-fees from the people, but there were also private and unregistered exactions on the trade, cultivation, and property at varying rates; and also taxes on all houses and shops, on goods in transit, carts, cattle, sheep, looms, back-yards, public and domestic ceremonies, and the various other sources of exaction, which, as he described it, "it had pleased the Maraver to lay under contribution to their emoluments." The Magistrate considered all this "extremely objectionable opening a door to infinite abuse from its not being defined, and from the difficulty of substantiating individual cases of abuse." He therefore proposed to reduce the number of registered *Kavilgars* to about 2,000 and to remunerate them by direct pay from Government.

His successor (Mr. Eden) however deprecated change chiefly on the ground that "nearly 6,000 Maravers who hitherto participated in the fees, will be deprived of all means of livelihood and left to prey on the inhabitants if the latter are allowed to withhold the exactions levied on them." In short the robber race of the land was beyond control and the unhappy people must, he thought, be left to bear the burden of these thieves whom the law could not coerce. In the meantime the exactions from the ryots had increased by Rs. 9,000 between 1830 and 1836 and seventy more men had been officially registered by the local officials.

The Board of Revenue reviewed this report under date 2nd October 1843 and remarked that emoluments derived "from moterfas and from many of the sources contributed by the ryot direct, appear to be objectionable in principle and the levy of them should be discouraged as much as possible." The Board added "their success in collecting their customary fees from the inhabitants individually sufficiently shows on how firm a footing the influence of the *Kavilgars* is at present established, but when the Board shall have the satisfaction of seeing an efficient Police established in large villages they will look forward with confidence to the time when the inhabitants fully relying on the protection thus afforded them shall show a disposition to resist these demands; and feeling less dependent on this class of persons may be therefore relieved from the heavy tax with which under pretence of protection they are obliged to purchase their forbearance." The subject remained without further notice by the local officers until revived with reference to Extract of Minutes of Consultation of 1st November 1853 when it was found that the number of registered *Kavilgars* had risen to the enor-

mous number of 9,038, who were then still levying on the people recognized fees to the sum of 90,000 Rs. besides large unregistered and unauthorized exactions. The actual sharers in the emoluments were supposed to be double the number returned and the contribution levied from the inhabitants were known to largely exceed the sum openly returned as the fees exacted. Indeed many sources of emolument were incapable of calculation such as the tax on carts and goods halting within villages, taxes on houses, shops, looms, ceremonies, etc., which were assessed by the *Kavilgars* according to the condition of the house owner or his trade or manufacture; and were wholly beyond control.

When in communication with Mr. Silver, the Magistrate, I made a careful local inquiry into the working of the system I found that things were exactly in the position sketched in the above-cited records. The official *Kavilgars* were absolutely masters of the position; the Magistracy was powerless; the people were their prey; and, large as the officially returned exactions certainly appeared, instances came before me in which the *Kavilgars* admitted that their actual receipts were 25 to 50 per cent. and upwards above the amounts so shown in the returns.

I laid the contents of the above paper before the Government (Sir Charles Trevelyan) of 1860 and was directed to estimate for a specially strong Police force for the district, so that this great evil might be effectively grappled with when the force became sufficiently strong to enable the firm suppression of the *Kavali* system throughout the district.

Subsequent experience of the Police officers and Mr. Puckle's letters show that the condition of the country is in the main but little changed as respects the enormous force of *Kavilgars*; and he estimates the actual burden of the *Kavili* system on the population of Tinnevelly at between 2 and 4 lakhs of Rupees a year.

Proceedings of Government of Madras, dated 26th December 1870.

As to the duties performed by the *Kavilgars* I may add that they have practically done much of the Revenue duties of their respective villages, such as the summoning of defaulters, guarding remittances, enforcing communal labor and the like.

Now I submit that Mr. Puckle's proposals and estimates fail to give due weight to existing conditions. It is simply futile to talk of treating the ancient public hereditary local service of the country—who have for centuries been remunerated by general fees, contributions and allowances levied and demanded on the strength of an official position—as the "private servants of the people." We cannot legally shut our eyes and ignore that which it was the first object of the Law (Act IV. of 1864) to regulate; and leaving untouched this vast evil proceed to lay on further taxation for the carefully devised scheme which Mr. Puckle places before us in such seductive completeness. Either we must graft our new arrangements on existing conditions and bring them under regulation—with large reduction of cost to the people—or we must sweep the whole thing away with absolute assurance against the oppression and pecuniary burden which attaches thereto—as a condition pre-cedent to establishing a new and costly local service at the cost of the people.

I think therefore that the only alternative is to return these papers to the Board and Mr. Puckle and tell them that the absolute suppression of the *Kavili* system—with its heavy exactions—must be a condition pre-cedent to the consideration of Mr. Puckle's scheme. And that *if this* cannot be effected with certainty and safety, the re-organization of the village establishment must be based on existing conditions and involve no additional burden. I very much prefer the former solution.

Mr. Puckle's scheme, as it is placed before us, is as absolutely complete; but the system of clubbing up villages has been carried too far, when some 280 villages reappear as 143 rural Unions. The guiding object of the reconstruction has apparently been to have a sufficiently extended area from which to raise sufficient funds for a complete village establishment.

Every new rural circle has its Accountant—an unnecessary charge I think; for Indian *Karneeks* or Kurnam charges are not necessarily conterminous with Villages. Everywhere two, in some places three, Mirassidars appear as paid officials—one as Munsif and head of the village (Regulation IV. of 1816) and another as Revenue Collector; while occasionally a third is added

as Manager of irrigation, etc. Each is to have his attender. A sufficient establishment of paid village watchers or *talaris* and of revenue peons (*Vettians*) and water bailiffs is provided. And the selection of persons for these respective duties appears perfect.

But I believe that the whole is open to legal objection that neither the Regulation of 1816 nor the Village Cess Act of 1864 contemplates the heavy establishment of superior village servants proposed—with divided duties—although the proposals are not inconsistent with the joint Mirassidar constitution of village society amongst Tamulian nationalities. The irrigation Monegar clearly belongs to an irrigation cess establishment.

I think, too, that perhaps the whole scheme is unduly strong and costly. But if the *Kavili* system is to be combated, some such powerful arrangement is indispensable. And if it can absolutely prevent *Kavili* exactions for all future time, even this costly arrangement will prove a great relief to the people, and I should be willing to consider it favorably on that condition pre-cedent.

I understand that Mr. Puckle has absolutely carried the thing out in one or two taluqs under the orders of Government, dated 3rd March 1874; and it will probably be wise to give effect to the arrangement. But for the future a carefully and complete scheme should be submitted for discussion before it is carried out.

8*th January* 1875. (Signed) W. ROBINSON.

P.S.—With reference to the Hon. Mr. Sim's remark—I know of no decision of Government to allow Assistant Monegars. If more Heads are required in a circle than one, it shows that the circle is too large and must be broken up to meet the requirement of the Law.

(Signed) W. ROBINSON.

No. 76. MINUTE BY THE HON. J. D. SIM, C.S.I.

THE Collector's letters and the Board's Proceedings contain but the scantiest particulars of the grouping of villages, which is one of the most important points in the revision of village establishments. I would call for a statement showing, for the Tenkasi Taluq, the names, area population, and revenue of each village in each group, and its distance from the chief village or head-quarters of the group. We shall then be able to judge whether the grouping has been carried too far, or is otherwise inexpedient, and the orders passed will serve as a guide for the grouping of the rest of the district.

2. I agree with the Board that the system of "Circles" should be abandoned. As regards Assistant Monigars, the Government, after full consideration, have decided that there shall be but one village head for revenue, magisterial, and other business, and that where the work is too heavy for one individual, his pay shall be fixed on such a scale as to enable him to employ one or more assistants as may be necessary. I would not depart from this principle; otherwise the responsibility and influence of the village head will be impaired.

3. The offices of Vetty and Taliary should certainly, as a rule, be filled from the Maraver class. The suggestion of the Superintendent of Police, that the pay of the Taliaries should be disbursed by him, should be positively negatived. These servants are part of the village establishment, and must look to the Munsif as their local, and the Collector and Magistrate as their departmental, superior.

4. The Cavelly system of Tinnevelly, so fully described by the Hon. Mr. Robinson cannot be suffered to continue. We can no longer permit several thousands of Maravers to prey on the people, and levy black-mail at their own will and pleasure, as they still do to a considerable extent. What is actually levied by these men cannot be ascertained; still less is it known what offences are committed or screened by them. The whole system is a disgrace to our administration, and its suppression is essential for good government and the protection of the people. The

introduction of the Village Cess Act, Act IV. of 1864, will bring about this result, as surely and as rapidly as it can be effected by law.

5. The people will be gainers by the introduction of the Act, inasmuch as 6¼ per cent on the assessment will represent all that they will have to pay for village service of all kinds. At present, they pay at least twice as much in some form or other.

6. As regards the Cavilgars, so many of them as are required will be employed on fixed salaries as Vetties and Taliaries, and their landed Inams will be enfranchised at five-eighths of their assessment. We can neither ourselves employ, nor can we require the people to pay for several thousands of watchmen in excess of their real requirements. Under the Cess Act, the demand, levy, or receipt of any fees for village service other than the 6¼ per-centage authorised by it is a penal offence. At first, very probably many of the people will continue to submit to the legal exactions of the Maravers; but every encouragement must be held out to them to emancipate themselves from the tyranny of this class, and the Magistracy and Police must take effective measures to afford them full protection in so doing.

7. The assessment is and indeed always has been comparatively higher in Tinnevelly than elsewhere; but Mr. Puckle's assessment certainly does not exceed the half-net, and the difference must be ascribed to peculiar advantages of irrigation, soil, etc. There is no reason to suppose that the ryots cannot afford to pay the village service cess, which, as I have pointed out, is not an additional burden, but is actually a relief, as it supersedes much larger payments which they now have to make for the same object.

11*th January* 1875. J. D. SIM.

No. 77. MINUTE BY HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR.

UPON this proposal for the re-organisation of the village service in Tinnevelly under the Act of 1864, I have only to observe that, in a recent Minute on a similar subject, I have asked for full information as to the origin, objects, and effect where already introduced of the Act of 1864, including a statement of the amount which is paid by the ryots under the Act where introduced on account of village service, as compared with the aggregate amount of all payments to which they are liable on the same account wherever the Act has not been introduced. I shall then be better able to judge as to the expediency of the proceedings which have been hitherto taken, or are proposed to be taken, by Government under the Act.

2. The more heavily Tinnevelly is taxed for revenue purposes, the more desirable it is that Tinnevelly should obtain the relief which will be afforded by the introduction of the Act; and, as regard the "Kavili" system, as described by the Hon. Mr. Robinson, there could surely be no stronger reason for the introduction of the Act than that it would sweep away a system so oppressive to the people and so discreditable to our administration.

15*th January* 1875. (Signed) HOBART.

No. 78. ORDER THEREON, 11th May 1875, No. 710.

Miscellaneous.

THE Board will, in communication with Mr. Puckle, submit revised proposals for the re-organisation of the village establishments in Nellore and Tinnevelly, with reference to the instructions given in the Proceedings of Government, dated 3rd April 1875, No. 523.

2. The absolute suppression of the kavali system with its heavy exactions in Tinnevelly must be a condition precedent to the introduction of any new scheme of village establishments and the imposition of the cess in that district.

(Signed) D. F. CARMICHAEL,
Officiating Chief Secretary.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

No. 1,061.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 7th May 1874.

Read again Board's Proceedings, dated 2nd June and 10th December 1873, Nos. 912 and 2,529; also 13th March 1874, No. 568.

Read also the following Proceedings of the Madras Government, dated 23rd March 1874, No. 375, Revenue Department:—

ABSTRACT.—*Revision of the Village Establishments of Tinnevelly District.*—Approves Board's instructions regarding the —, and passes orders on certain points connected with the subject.

THE order of Government will be communicated to the Collector, who will observe the instructions of Government with regard to the grouping of villages.

2. The papers recorded in Board's Proceedings, dated 10th December 1873, No. 2,529, contain the information required by Government in paragraph 4 as to the area and population of seven villages in the Tenkasi Taluq.

3. The Collector will make a special report on the grouping up to date, submitting a map like that noticed in Board's Proceedings, dated 5th September 1873, No. 1,748. The principles on which the grouping is based are stated by the Collector in his letters of the 22nd April 1873, No. 201, and 27th June 1873, No. 339, and when considered with the light thrown on the practical working of those principles by the map, they seemed to the Board to be unobjectionable.

Board's Proceedings, dated 5th September 1873, No. 1,748.

4. In paragraph 2, Government order that Mr. Puckle is not to depart from the principles followed in Kurnool without the sanction of Government. In their Proceedings of the 13th March 1874, No. 568, the Board have directed Mr. Puckle's attention to the rules laid down for regulating the Village Service Establishment in Nellore, in Board's Proceedings, dated 2nd June 1873, No. 912. These rules were adopted by the Board as the result of their experience of all similar settlements up to date. The accompanying memorandum shows how far they differ from the schemes sanctioned for Kurnool, Godavery, and Trichinopoly. The Kurnool scheme was the first framed and established, and it was to be expected that experience would suggest modifications in it.

5. The Nellore scheme is not yet ready for submission to Government, but it is very desirable to have an approved "pattern" to set before Collectors when the revision of Village Establishments is begun, as is now the case in Salem and Tinnevelly. The Board accordingly resolve to submit their Proceedings of the 2nd June 1873, No. 912, to Government, in the hope that they will be approved.

(A true Extract.)

J Grole
Secretary.

To the Acting Secretary to Government, Revenue Department,
with Board's Proceedings, 2nd June 1873, No. 912,
10th December 1873, No. 2,529, and 13th March 1874, No. 568.
,, the Collector of Tinnevelly, with G. O., 23rd March 1874, No. 375.
Copy to the Director of Revenue Settlement, with G. O.

Exd. W. H. French.

15

Govt. of 1875

REVENU

To THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

Dated 11th May 1875.

Rec'd 17th May 1875.

Exd.

G. O., 11th May 1875, No. 710.

MAT

Nos. 73—78.

Village Establishments in Nellore and Tinnevelly Districts.—Requesting the Board of Revenue to submit, in communication with Mr. Puckle, revised proposals for the re-organization of the village

Memorandum showing the number of new villages or groups, total number of servants, and scale of salaries sanctioned for the Districts of Kurnool, Godavery, and Trichinopoly, and that proposed by the Board for the District of Nellore.

Items.	Kurnool.	Godavery.	Trichinopoly.	Nellore as proposed by the Board.
Total number of new villages or groups	697	743	810	596
Total number of servants sanctioned for Kurnool, Godavery, and Trichinopoly, and that proposed for Nellore—				
Revenue Servants.				
Monigars	818	743	870	869
Curnams	704	743	810	596
Vettians	2,041	1,951	864	893
Neerguntees	...	118	...	387
Total...	3,563	3,555	2,544	2,745
Police Servants.				
Taliaris	2,495	772	964	1,074
Grand Total...	6,058	4,327	3,508	3,819

Scale of Salaries, etc., of Village Servants in the Districts of Kurnool, Godavery, Trichinopoly, and Nellore.

Description of Servants.	Kurnool.		Godavery.		Trichinopoly.		Nellore.	
	Scale with reference to the Revenue of each Village.	Rate per Annum.	Scale with reference to the Revenue of each Village.	Rate per Annum.	Scale with reference to the Revenue of each Village.	Rate per Annum.	Scale with reference to the Revenue or population of each Village.	Rate per Annum.
Munsif's or Monigars.	Rs. Up to ... ... 5,000 ,, ... 7,000 ,, ... 9,000, and upwards. 1 Reddy for Nandial Village ... ... 1 Town Munsif ...	Rs. 60 84 96 120 144 240 300	Rs. Up to ... ... 600 ,, ... 1,000 ,, ... 1,500 ,, ... 3,000 ,, ... 5,000 ,, ... 7,000 ,, ... 9,000 Above 22,000	Rs. 60 84 96 120 144 240 300	No scale.	42 Rupees for each Monigar without reference to the Revenue of the Village.		
Curnams.	Rs. Up to ... ... 1,000 ,, ... 1,500 ,, ... 2,000 ,, ... 3,000 ,, ... 4,000 ,, ... 5,000 ,, ... 6,000 ,, ... 7,000 ,, ... 8,000 ,, ... 9,000 Above 9,000	Rs. 60 72 84 96 108 120 132 144 156 168 180	Rs. Up to ... ... 1,500 ,, ... 2,000 ,, ... 3,000 ,, ... 4,000 ,, ... 5,000 ,, ... 6,000 ,, ... 7,000 ,, ... 8,000 ,, ... 9,000 Above ... ... 9,000 ,, ... 22,000	Rs. 60 72 84 96 108 120 132 144 156 168 216 240	Rs. Up to ... ... 1,000 ,, ... 2,000 ,, ... 4,000 Above 4,000	Rs. 72 84 96 108	Rs. For a village, with a population less than ... ... 1,000 Do. from. 1,000 to 4,000 Do. ,, 4,000 to 7,000 For the Town of Nellore 22,000	Rs. 60 72 84 240
							For a village, with a Revenue less than ... ... 1,000 From Rs. 1,000 to 3,000 ,, 3,000 to 5,000 ,, 5,000 to 10,000 ,, 10,000 to 16,000 ,, 16,000 to 31,000	Rs. 72 84 96 108 120 144 180

Scale of Salaries, etc., of Village Servants in the Districts of Kurnool, Godavery, Trichinopoly, and Nellore.—(Concluded.)

Description of servants.	Kurnool.			Godavery.			Trichinopoly.			Nellore.		
	Revenue.	Number of men for each Village.	Rate per Annum.	Revenue.	Number of men for each Village.	Rate per Annum.	Revenue.	Number of men for each Village.	Rate per Annum.	Revenue or Population.	Number of men for each Village.	Rate per Annum
Vettians.	Rs. Up to... 750 ,, ... 1,500 ,, ... 4,000 Above... 4,000	1 2 3 4	48 Rs. for each Vettian.	Rs. Up to... 1,000 ,, ... 3,000 ,, ... 6,000 ,, ... 9,000 Above... 9,000	1 2 3 4 5	48 Rs. for each Vettian.	No scale.	It is not known how many Vettians were allowed for each village.	36 Rs. for each Vettian.	Rs. With a Revenue less than... 3,000 From 3,000 to 6,000 ,, 6,000 to 11,000 Above ... 11,000	1 2 3 4	48 Rs. for each Vettian.
Neerguntees.	None.	.....	.....	No scale.	Not known.	48 Rs. per annum.	None.	.....	.....	No scale.	Not known.	30 Rs. each per annum.
Taliaris.	No scale.	Not known.	48 Rs. each for 2,473 Taliaris, and 60 Rs. for 22 Taliaris.	No scale.	For 714 Villages at 1 Taliari each, and for 29 Villages at 2 Taliaris for each were allowed.	48 Rs. per annum.	No scale.	The number given for each village is not known.	36 Rs. per annum.	With a population less than... 1,000 From 1,000 to 4,000 ,, 4,000 to 7,000 To Nellore... 22,000	1 2 3 4	48 Rs. per annum.

1874.

Board of Revenue

MADRAS.

PROCEEDINGS, 7TH MAY 1874, No. 1,061.

Enel. 3.

Received.

MAY.

No. 1,061.

Village Establishments—of Tinnevelly District.—Proceedings of Government, approving Board's instructions regarding revision of —, and passing orders on certain points, communicated to Collector with certain instructions. Board's Proceedings on Nellore scheme of establishment, submitted to Government for approval.

No. 2,362.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 24th August 1874.

Read the following letter from R. K. PUCKLE, Esq., Collector of Tinnevelly, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Pudukudi, 24th July 1874, No. 383 :—

As required in Board's Proceedings, No. 1,061, dated 7th May 1874, I have the honor to submit, herewith, a detailed scheme for the village establishments of the Tenkasi Taluq. This is based on the Kurnool scheme slightly modified to suit the peculiar circumstances of this district.

2. The grouping of villages in the sense intended by the Board in the above Proceedings has been already effected by merging seventy-three villages as per the old taluq accounts in forty villages as per settlement. The scheme now submitted gives each settlement village a separate establishment, and divides the taluq into three circles for the purposes of the Village Cess Act.

3. A glance at the accompanying map will show the geographical position of the several circles. The first contains twelve villages north of the Bandanadiswara River, with an area of forty-seven square miles, a population of 22,817, and a revenue of Rupees 65,558 ; the second contains fifteen villages at the head of the Sittar Valley, with an area of fifty-eight square miles, a population of 30,562, and a revenue of Rupees 79,210 ; and the third contains thirteen villages lower down the Sittar Valley, with an area of seventy square miles, a population of 22,528, and a revenue of Rupees 51,560.

4. These village cess circles are so nearly conterminous with the three Revenue Inspectors' ranges, that I propose slightly altering the latter to suit the former ; and, as the forty new villages of the taluq were laid out and numbered at settlement with reference to geographical position, the first village cess circle will include Nos. 1 to 12, the second Nos. 13 to 27, and the third Nos. 28 to 40, inclusive. The revenue of these circles, as recorded above, includes the full assessment of Inam lands included in Government Villages, on which assessment, and not on the quit-rent, the service cess is to be levied.

5. The seventy-three old villages of this taluq have been hitherto officered by forty-four Munsifs, seventy-one Mirassidars, thirteen Nattamagars, and forty-five Curnams. The forty new villages will, by my schemes, be officered by forty Munsif Monigars, thirty-six Monigars, forty Curnams, fifty-three Police Taliaries, seventy-six Revenue Vettians, and twenty-one Water-distributors.

6. The fixed deductions for village establishment, including Curnams' pay on the old system, were in all Rupees 5,318, or Rupees 1,475 in the first, Rupees 1,702 in the second, and Rupees 2,141 in the third circle ; and, if the Board approve of the circles as now proposed, the outlay of the several sums mentioned above might be confined to making up the deficiencies of village service cess in the several circles to which these sums belong.

7. By the scheme now proposed, we shall have a small balance* in hand in each circle, after having subsidized from the general fund the cess receipts in nearly every village.

	Rs.
* 1st circle	459
2nd do.	161
3rd do.	60
Total...	680

8. The accompanying statement exhibits the villages comprised in each circle with the area, population, and revenue of each; the mode in which each was formed; the former and proposed establishments; the salaries and classes of Munsifs and Curnams according to the Kurnool scale; and the extent to which each village needs assistance from the general fund.

9. From this, it will be seen that the old establishments have been cut down by four Munsifs, thirty-five Monigars, thirteen Nattamagars, and five† Curnams. Great pains were taken during the five months that I spent in this taluq while making the settlement last year, as well as during the Jummabandy that has just now been made on the settlement, to secure the best men procurable, and to reconcile conflicting interests. On the whole, I am greatly pleased with the selections made, and believe that we now have an intelligent body of men who, as fairly paid Government servants, will perform their duty in a very different way from that in which it has hitherto been nominally performed by a crowd of officers who received little or no pay, and were hardly under control. As, however, the rejected fifty-seven are likely to trouble the Board for some time to come with appeals, I here record my reasons for making the selections I have made for each separate village—

† Four minors and one working Curnam.

10. No. 1, *Krishnapuram*—A large village at the foot of the hills occupying an area of seven square miles. The present Munsif and the best of the two Curnams are retained; the other Curnam is transferred to No. 4. One of the two Mirassidars is appointed as Channel Monigar. The cost of this establishment will be Rupees 540, or Rupees 98 in excess of the assets of service cess. This village yields, however, resumed deductions, amounting to Rupees 235. The Police Taliaries and Revenue Vettians have been chosen from the Kavalgars. The Water-distributor is a fisherman.

1 Munsif Monigar.	2 Taliaries.
1 Monigar.	2 Vettians.
1 Curnam.	1 Water-distributor.

11. No. 2, *Kadayanallur*—A large village at the foot of the hills occupying an area of nine square miles. The present Munsif and the best of the 3‡ Curnams are retained, as are also two of the six Mirassidars who, as Monigars, will represent the Brahmin and Hindu populations, respectively. A Maravar has also been added as Monigar at the earnest request of the villagers, in consequence of his efficiency in managing the irrigation works. The inferior officers have been chosen as in No. 1. The cost of this establishment will be Rupees 828, or Rupees 166 less than the assets of service cess. This village will, therefore, need no aid from the general fund.

‡ One of these is a minor, and employment cannot be found for the other.

1 Munsif Monigar.	2 Taliaries.
3 Monigars.	4 Vettians.
1 Curnam.	1 Water-distributor.

12. No. 3, *Edakal*—A small village requiring the lowest class of establishment costing Rupees 252, or Rupees 71 in excess of the assets of service cess, to which extent it will need aid from the general fund. The late Munsif who has no putta in the village has resigned, and one of the most considerable of the ryots has been appointed in his stead. The Curnam is a minor. His gumastah has been retained to act for him until he is of age. No Monigar is needed. The Police Taliari and Revenue Vettian have been chosen from the Kavalgars.

1 Munsif Monigar.	1 Taliari.
1 Curnam.	1 Vettian.

13. No. 4, *Kasidarmam*.—The late Munsif, the agent of the Inamdar who holds the greater part of the village, has been dismissed by his employers, and his successor has been employed as Munsif. There is no resident Puttadar. The office of Curnam was vacant. The former Curnam having been retained in the larger of his two villages (Neduvayel), the surplus Curnam of Krishnapuram has been appointed to the vacancy. The Police Taliari and Revenue Vettian are chosen from the Kavalgars. This small village requires the lowest class of establishment costing Rupees 240, or Rupees 141 in excess of the assets of service cess, to which extent it will require aid from the general funds.

1 Munsif Monigar.	1 Taliari.
1 Curnam.	1 Vettian.

14. *No.* 5, *Neduvayel*—A highly irrigated village adjoining the Travancore territory. One of the three Mirassidars is made Munsif, and the late Munsif is made Monigar. This was done with the mutual consent of the parties concerned and in consultation with the villagers, as it was necessary to have a Maravar to manage the Maravar population. The Curnam is retained. A Channel Monigar is specially needed, and is, therefore, appointed. The Police Taliari and Revenue Vettian are chosen from the Kavalgars. This village requires an establishment costing Rupees 384, or Rupees 77 in excess of the service cess. The resumed deductions, however, yield Rupees 96 in this village.

1 Munsif Monigar.	1 Taliari.
1 Monigar.	2 Vettians.
1 Curnam.	

15. *No.* 6, *Kodikurichi*—A small village requiring the lowest class of establishment costing Rupees 228, or Rupees 133 in excess of the assets of service cess, to which extent it will require aid from the general fund. The late Munsif died, and the vacancy has now been filled by the Mirassidar. The office of Curnam was vacant. The former Curnam having been retained in the larger of his two villages (Edakal), the third Curnam of Tenkasi is appointed to the vacancy. The Police Taliari and Revenue Vettian have been chosen from the Kavalgars.

1 Munsif Monigar.	1 Taliari.
1 Curnam.	1 Vettian.

16. *No.* 7, *Vadakarei Kilpidagei*—A large village at the foot of the hills occupying an area of eight square miles. The present Munsif and the better of the two Curnams are retained. The other Curnam is transferred to No. 11, as is also one of the two Mirassidars who, as Monigar, will represent the Mahomedan population which is numerous in this village. Another Monigar has been appointed at the earnest request of the villagers, in consequence of his efficiency in managing the

irrigation works. The inferior officers have been chosen as in No. 1. The cost of this establishment will be Rupees 720, or Rupees 4 less than the assets of service cess. This village will, therefore, need no aid from the general fund.

1 Munsif Monigar.	2 Taliaries.
2 Monigars.	3 Vettians.
1 Curnam.	1 Water-distributor.

17. *No.* 8, *Vadakarei Melpidagei*—A village at the foot of the hills occupying an area of two square miles. This formed a portion of the old village of Vadakarei, and consequently had no separate Munsif. One of the late Mirassidars has now been appointed as Munsif, and one of the ryots, a late Mirassidar of Ayilapere, thrown out of employ in the new arrangement, has been appointed as Channel Monigar. The former Curnam is retained. The Police Taliari and Revenue Vettians have been chosen from the Kavalgars. The cost of this establishment is Rupees 384, or Rupees 82 in excess of the assets of service cess. This village yields, however, resumed deductions amounting to Rupees 91.

1 Munsif Monigar.	1 Taliari.
1 Monigar.	2 Vettians.
1 Curnam.	

18. *No.* 9, *Panpuli*—A highly irrigated village. The former Munsif is now dismissed for opposing vaccination, and so indirectly causing numerous deaths in his village from small-pox. The population is mostly Mahomedan, and one of the most considerable of the Mahomedan ryots is, therefore, appointed to be Munsif. The better of the two Curnams is retained. The other Curnam is transferred to No. 14. One of the two Mirassidars is appointed as Channel Monigar. The inferior officers have been chosen as in No. 1. The cost of this establishment is Rupees 468, or Rupees 161 in excess of the assets of the service cess. This village, however, yields resumed deductions, amounting to Rupees 175.

1 Munsif Monigar.	2 Taliaries.
1 Monigar.	2 Vettians.
1 Curnam.	1 Water-distributor.

19. *No.* 10, *Kanakapillai Valasei*—A large village at the foot of the hills mostly dry occupying an area of six square miles. The present Munsif and the Curnam are retained, as is also one of the Mirassidars who, as Monigar, will represent the Shanar population. The Police Taliari and Revenue Vettian have been chosen from the Kavalgars. The cost of this establishment is Rupees 384, or Rupees 124 in excess of the assets of the service cess. This village, however, yields resumed deductions, amounting to Rupees 128.

1 Munsif Monigar.	1 Taliari.
1 Monigar.	2 Vettians.
1 Curnam.	

20. *No.* 11, *Periapillai Valasei*—A small village adjoining the Travancore territory, requiring the lowest class of establishment costing Rupees 240, or Rupees 163 in excess of the assets of the service cess, to which extent it will require aid from the general fund. The late Munsif has been retained. The office of Curnam was vacant. The former Curnam having been retained in the larger of his two villages (Kuttukal Valasei), the surplus Curnam of Vadakarei Kilpidagei has been appointed to the vacancy. The Police Taliari and Revenue Vettian have been chosen from the Kavalgars.

1 Munsif Monigar.	1 Taliari.
1 Curnam.	1 Vettian.

21. *No.* 12, *Kuttukal Valasei*—A large village occupying an area of four square miles. The late Munsif, who is illiterate and has greatly neglected his duty, is now dismissed, and one of the Mirassidars is appointed as Munsif. Another Mirassidar has now been appointed to represent the Brahmin population, the Munsif being a Shanar. The Curnam has been retained. The inferior officers have been chosen as in No. 1. The cost of this establishment is Rupees 456, or Rupees 136 in excess of the assets of service cess. This village, however, yields resumed deductions, amounting to Rupees 130.

1 Munsif Monigar.	1 Taliari.
1 Monigar.	2 Vettians.
1 Curnam.	1 Water-distributor.

22. *No.* 13, *Piranur*—A small village adjoining the Travancore territory and requiring the lowest class of establishment costing Rupees 252, or Rupees 108 in excess of the assets of service cess, to which extent it will need aid from the general fund. The late Munsif is now dismissed as too old to perform the duty, and the Mirassidar has been appointed in his stead. The Curnam has been retained. No Monigar is needed. The Police Taliari and Revenue Vettian have been chosen from the Kavalgars.

1 Munsif Monigar.	1 Taliari.
1 Curnam.	1 Vettian.

23. *No.* 14, *Nagalkadu*—A small village at the foot of the hills requiring the lowest class of establishment costing Rupees 252, or Rupees 109 in excess of the assets of the service cess, to which extent it will need aid from the general fund. There was no separate Munsif for this village, but one of the most considerable of the ryots has now been appointed. There were no Mirassidars in this village. The former Curnam of Kumarakovil, a great portion of which village is included in Nagalkadu, is incapable of doing his duty, and has been before suspended and removed. The second Curnam of Pampuli has been appointed in his stead. The Police Taliari and Revenue Vettian have been chosen from the Kavalgars.

1 Munsif Monigar.	1 Taliari.
1 Curnam.	1 Vettian.

24. *No.* 15, *Ilanji*—A large and highly irrigated village at the foot of the hills occupying an area of five square miles, and requiring an establishment costing Rupees 720, or Rupees 52 in excess of the assets of service cess. The resumed deductions, however, yield Rupees 207 in this village. The present Munsif and the best of the three Curnams are retained. One Curnam is transferred to No. 24, and the other is a minor, as are also the two Mirassidars, one to represent the Brahmin population, and the other as Channel Monigar. The inferior officers have been chosen as in No. 1.

1 Munsif Monigar.	2 Taliaries.
2 Monigars.	3 Vettians.
1 Curnam.	1 Water-distributor.

25. *No.* 16, *Courtalam*—A large and highly irrigated village at the foot of the hills occupying an area of three square miles, and requiring an establishment of Rupees 456, or Rupees 108 in excess of the assets of service cess, which, however, yields Rupees 93 in this village. One of the ryots has been appointed as Channel Monigar. The inferior officers have been chosen as in No. 1.

1 Munsif Monigar.	1 Taliari.
1 Monigar.	2 Vettians.
1 Curnam.	1 Water-distributor.

26. No. 17, *Melagaram*—A large and highly irrigated village at the foot of the hills occupying an area of three square miles, and requiring an establishment of Rupees 468, or Rupees 81 in excess of the assets of service cess. The resumed deductions, however, yield Rs. 76 in this village. There were two Munsifs in this village: one has been retained as Munsif, and the younger brother of the other, who is an old man, has been appointed Monigar to manage the irrigation works in addition to his revenue duties. The inferior officers have been chosen as in No. 1.

1 Munsif Monigar.	1 Taliari.
1 Monigar.	2 Vettians.
1 Curnam.	1 Water-distributor.

27. No. 18, *Ayiraperi*—A large and highly irrigated village at the foot of the hills occupying an area of three square miles, and requiring an establishment of Rupees 420, or Rupees 69 in excess of the assets of service cess. The resumed deductions, however, yield Rs. 90 in this village. This village formed part of Guuaramanallur which had two Munsifs and two Curnams. The Munsif and Curnam attached to this part of the parent village have been retained, and one of the two Mirassidars has also been retained to represent the Brahmins. The Police Taliari and Revenue Vettian have been chosen for the Kavalgars.

1 Munsif Monigar.	1 Taliari.
1 Monigar.	2 Vettians.
1 Curnam.	

28. No. 19, *Mattalamparei*—A large irrigated village at the foot of the hills occupying an area of four square miles, and requiring an establishment of Rs. 312, or Rupees 56 in excess of the assets of service cess. The resumed deductions, however, yield Rupees 55 in this village. The late Munsif who holds no putta in the village has been dismissed, and one of the most suitable of the ryots has been appointed. The Curnam has been retained. No Monigar is needed. The inferior officers have been chosen as in No. 1.

1 Munsif Monigar.	1 Vettian.
1 Curnam.	1 Water-distributor.
1 Taliari.	

29. No. 20, *Pattapat*—A small village, mostly Inam, requiring the lowest class of establishment costing Rupees 252, or Rupees 99 in excess of the assets of service cess, to which extent it needs aid from the general fund. This village had no Munsif. A Nattamagar of the village has now been appointed; the Curnam has been retained; the Police Taliari and Revenue Vettian have been chosen from the Kavalgars.

1 Munsif Monigar.	1 Taliari.
1 Curnam.	1 Vettian.

30. No. 21, *Tenkasi*—A large and highly irrigated village occupying an area of six square miles, and requiring an establishment of Rupees 648, or Rs. 163 in excess of the assets of service cess. The resumed deductions, however, yield Rupees 198 in this village. The Munsif and the best of the three Curnams have been retained. One Curnam is appointed to No. 6, and the other is a minor, as have also two of the three Mirassidars who will represent the Brahmin and Sudra populations, respectively. The inferior officers have been chosen as in No. 1.

1 Munsif Monigar.	2 Taliaries.
2 Monigars.	3 Vettians.
1 Curnam.	1 Water-distributor.

31. No. 22, *Puliur*—A highly irrigated village occupying an area of four square miles, and requiring an establishment of Rupees 660, or Rupees 116 in excess of the assets of service cess. The resumed deductions yield, however, Rupees 160 in this village. This village is formed by the amalgamation of Melapuliur and Kilapuliur, each of which had separate establishments. As the ryots of either village opposed the nomination of the opposite Village Munsif, a neutral man was selected, and the two Munsifs were appointed as Monigars to represent their respective factions. One of the two Curnams has been retained; the other is a minor. The inferior officers have been chosen as in No. 1.

1 Munsif Monigar.	2 Taliaries.
2 Monigars.	3 Vettians.
1 Curnam.	1 Water-distributor.

32. No. 23, *Gunaramanallur*—A large village occupying an area of four square miles, and requiring an establishment of Rupees 456, or Rupees 123 in excess of the assets of service cess. The resumed deductions, however, yield Rupees 128 in this village. The Munsif has been retained, as also one of the former Curnams. The other Curnam has been transferred to No. 18. The present Mirassidar having been several times fined and suspended has been dismissed, and one of the ryots has been appointed as Monigar to represent the Brahmin population. The inferior officers have been chosen as in No. 1.

1 Munsif Monigar.	1 Taliari.
1 Monigar.	2 Vettians.
1 Curnam.	1 Water-distributor.

33. No. 24, *Tippanampatti*.—A large village, mostly dry, occupying an area of seven square miles, and requiring an establishment of Rupees 516, or Rupees 107 in excess of the assets of service cess. The resumed deductions in this village, however, yield Rupees 148. One of the three Munsifs is retained, and one of the Mirassidars is appointed as Monigar to represent the Melapavur Brahmins, who own the greater part of the village. The Curnam having been convicted of various offences is dismissed,* and the surplus Curnam of Ilanji has been appointed. The inferior officers have been chosen as in No. 1.

1 Munsif Monigar.	2 Taliaries.
1 Monigar.	2 Vettians.
1 Curnam.	1 Water-distributor.

* *Vide* my letter to the Board, No. 314, dated 29th June last.

34. No. 25, *Avudayanur*.—A dry village which formed part of Kulasegarapatti, occupies an area of four square miles, and requires an establishment costing Rupees 312, or Rupees 104 in excess of the assets of service cess. The resumed deductions in this village, however, yield Rupees 112. The more efficient of the two Munsifs has been retained. The Curnam is a minor. His Gumastah has been appointed to act for him until he is of age. The Police Taliari and Revenue Vettian have been chosen from the Kavalgars.

1 Munsif Monigar.	2 Taliaries.
1 Curnam.	1 Vettian.

35. No. 26, *Kulasegarapatti*—A nearly dry village occupying an area of nine square miles, and requiring an establishment costing Rupees 432, or Rupees 123 in excess of the assets of service cess. The resumed, deductions, however, yield

1 Munsif Monigar.	2 Taliaries.
1 Monigar.	2 Vettians.
1 Curnam.	

Rupees 113 in this village. The son of one of the late Munsifs, an old man, is appointed; the other is non-resident. One of the two Mirassidars has been appointed as Monigar to represent the Shanar population. The Curnam has been retained. The Police Taliari and Revenue Vettian have been chosen from the Kavalgars.

36. No. 27, *Pattakurichi*—A highly irrigated village occupying an area of three square miles and requiring an establishment costing Rupees 408, or Rupees 183 in excess of the assets of service cess. The resumed deductions, however, yield Rupees 103 in this village. The late Munsif is transferred to the post of Monigar, as, from a defect in his eye sight, he is unfit for that of Munsif, and one of the ryots has been appointed as Munsif. The former Mirassidar not being a Puttadar, the Curnam has been retained. The inferior officers have been chosen as in No. 1.

1 Munsif Monigar.	1 Taliari.
1 Monigar.	2 Vettians.
1 Curnam.	1 Water-distributor.

37. No. 28, *Sundrapandiapuram*—A large and highly irrigated village occupying an area of three square miles and requiring an establishment costing Rupees 456, or Rupees 109 in excess of the assets of service cess. The resumed deductions, however, yield Rupees 150 in this village. The more respectable of the two Village Munsifs has been retained, and one of the Mirassidars has been selected for the post of Monigar, the nomination either of the other Munsif or of the other Mirassidar to the post of Monigar being objected to by the villagers. The registered Curnam is a minor, but his claim was rejected on appeal to the Collector in 1871, and the Gumastah was confirmed in the post. This appeal decision was never carried out, and the Gumastah continued to act. He has now been confirmed. The inferior officers have been chosen as in No. 1.

1 Munsif Monigar.	1 Taliari.
1 Monigar.	2 Vettians.
1 Curnam.	1 Water-distributor.

38. No. 29, *Surandei*—A large and highly irrigated village occupying an area of nine square miles and requiring an establishment costing Rupees 600, or Rupees 122 in excess of the assets of service cess. The resumed deductions, however, yield Rupees 140 in this village. The late Munsif who has no putta in the village has been dismissed, and one of the most respectable of the Mirassidars has been appointed in his stead. The Munsif of Kurungavanam, which village has been incorporated with Surandei, has been nominated as Channel Monigar. Another Mirassidar has been retained as Monigar to represent the Shanar population. The best of the two Curnams has been retained. The inferior officers have been chosen as in No. 1.

1 Munsif Monigar	1 Taliari.
2 Monigars.	3 Vettians.
1 Curnam.	1 Water-distributor.

39. *No.* 30, *Tiruchitambalam*—A small village requiring the lowest class of establishment costing Rupees 252, or Rupees 120 in excess of the assets of service cess. This village had no separate Munsif. One of the more respectable ryots has, therefore, been appointed as Munsif. The Curnam has been retained. The Mirassidar has been transferred to No. 28, where he resides. The Police Taliari and Revenue Vettian have been chosen from the Kavalgars.

1 Munsif Monigar.	1 Taliari.
1 Curnam.	1 Vettian.

40. *No.* 31, *Melapavur*—A large and highly irrigated village occupying an area of three square miles and requiring an establishment of Rupees 504, or Rs. 6 less than the assets of service cess. The Munsif and the better of the two Curnams have been retained; the other Curnam cannot be provided for. One of the three Mirassidars has been appointed as Channel Monigar. The inferior officers have been chosen as in No. 1.

1 Munsif Monigar.	1 Taliari.
1 Monigar.	2 Vettians.
1 Curnam.	1 Water-distributor.

41. *No.* 32, *Kilapavur*—A large and highly irrigated village occupying an area of eight square miles requiring an establishment of Rupees 804, or Rupees 226 in excess of the assets of service cess. The resumed deductions, however, yield Rupees 467 in this village. The former Munsif and better of the two Curnams have been retained. The other Curnam has been transferred to No. 34. Three of the Mirassidars have also been appointed as Monigar. The inferior officers have been chosen as in No. 1.

1 Munsif Monigar.	2 Taliaries.
3 Monigars.	4 Vettians.
1 Curnam.	1 Water-distributor.

42. *No.* 33, *Pulankulam.*—Newly formed from Kilapavur, requires an establishment of Rupees 408, or Rupees 235 in excess of the assets of service cess. The resumed deductions, however, yield Rupees 295 in this village. The former Munsif of this portion of Kilapavur has been appointed as Munsif, and one of the Nattamagars as Monigar. One of the surplus Curnams of Surandie is appointed. The Police Taliari and Revenue Vettians have been chosen from the Kavalgars.

1 Munsif Monigar.	2 Taliaries.
1 Monigar.	2 Vettians.
1 Curnam.	

43. *No.* 34, *Andipatti*—A small dry village, requires the lowest class of establishment costing Rupees 216, or Rupees 167 in excess of the assets of service cess, to which extent this village needs aid from the general fund. The Munsif has been retained. The Curnam's post is vacant, and the second Curnam of Kilapavur is appointed. The Police Taliari and Revenue Vettian have been chosen from the Kavalgars.

1 Munsif Monigar.	1 Taliari.
1 Curnam.	1 Vettian.

44. *No.* 35, *Alankulam*—One of the three villages transferred to this taluq from Ambasamudram, occupies an area of five square miles, and requires an establishment of Rupees 456, or Rs. 335 in excess of the assets of service cess. The resumed deductions, however, yield Rupees 278 in this village. The Munsif has been retained. One of the Mirassidars has been appointed as Monigar to represent the Vellalar, and a ryot has also been appointed as Monigar to represent the Shanar populations. The Curnam is a minor. His Gumastah has been appointed to act for him until he is of age. The Police Taliari and Revenue Vettian have been chosen from the Kavalgars.

1 Munsif Monigar.	1 Taliari.
2 Monigars.	3 Vettians.
1 Curnam.	

45. *No.* 36, *Mayamankurichi*—A large village occupying an area of six square miles, requires the lowest class of establishment costing Rupees 252, or Rs. 87 in excess of the assets of service cess, to which extent it needs aid from the general fund. The Munsif and Curnam have been retained. The Police Taliari and Revenue Vettian have been chosen from the Kavalgars.

1 Munsif Monigar.	1 Taliari.
1 Curnam.	1 Vettian.

46. *No.* 37, *Nettur*—A small, though highly irrigated village, transferred from Tinnevelly occupying an area of three square miles, requires the lowest class of establishment costing Rupees 300, or Rupees 75 in excess of the assets of service cess. The resumed deductions, however, yield Rupees 103 in this village. The Munsif and Curnam have been retained. The inferior officers have been chosen from the Kavalgars.

1 Munsif Monigar.	1 Vettian.
1 Curnam.	1 Water-distributor.
1 Taliari.	

47. *No.* 38, *Aiyanarkulam*—A very small village transferred from Tinnevelly, requires the lowest class of establishment costing Rupees 216, or Rupees 177 in excess of the assets of service cess, to which extent it will need aid from the general fund. The Munsif has been retained. The Curnam's office is vacant. The late Curnam having been retained in the larger of his two villages (Mayamankurichi), one of the surplus Curnams of Kadayanallur is appointed. The Police Taliari and Revenue Vettian have been chosen from the Kavalgars.

1 Munsif Monigar.	1 Taliari.
1 Curnam.	1 Vettian.

48. *No.* 39, *Sevalarkulam*—A large and highly irrigated village transferred from Ambasamudram, occupying an area of ten square miles, requires an establishment costing Rupees 408, or Rupees 178 in excess of the assets of service cess. The resumed deductions, however, yield Rupees 232 in this village. The Munsif and Curnam have been retained, and one of the Mirassidars has been appointed as Channel Monigar. The inferior officers have been chosen as in No. 1.

1 Munsif Monigar.	2 Taliaries.
1 Monigar.	2 Vettians.
1 Curnam.	1 Water-distributor.

49. *No.* 40, *Marandai*—A large village transferred from Ambasamudram, occupying an area of thirteen square miles, requires an establishment costing Rupees 444, or Rupees 256 in excess of the assets of service cess. The resumed deductions, however, yield Rupees 258 in this village. The Munsif and Curnam have been retained. One of the three Mirassidars has been appointed as Channel Monigar. The inferior officers have been chosen as in No. 1.

50. The Board will observe that I have departed from the Kurnool scheme only—

(1.) In the appointment of Monigars in certain villages;

(2.) In the attachment of a Vettian to each Munsif Monigar or Monigar; and

(3.) In the appointment of a Nirkotti or water-distributor on a somewhat lower pay than the Vettian.

51. My reasons for these departures from the Kurnool scheme are—

Firstly.—As regards the Monigars, we have now clubbed many villages, and have conflicting interests and factions to deal with. Where funds admit, it is well that each party should be represented by the man in whom they feel confidence, and to whom they are accustomed to pay their assessment. The Munsif, moreover, may be sick or absent, and it will be well to have some one on the spot to perform ordinary revenue duties.

52. The Board, in Proceedings, No. 568, dated 13th March 1874, have recognized the advantage of having Monigars to manage the irrigation works in addition to their duties as Revenue Officers. It is proposed that these men should superintend the operations of the water-distributor; see that the customary labor of the village (Kudimaramut) is properly carried out; execute emergent repairs under the provisions of Act I. of 1858; and be the vehicle of communication between the villagers and the Engineer Officers.

Secondly.—As regards the Vettians, one man to attend each Munsif Monigar or Monigar will be sufficient, and such an allotment is fairer than one made according to a numerical scale, for many of our villages are almost uninhabited, the ryots residing in the principal towns near, while in two villages of the same population, there may be twenty hamlets, or only one compact nattam according to circumstances, and the same number of Vettians would hardly be required for both.

Thirdly.—As regards the water-distributors, it is very necessary to put them on a lower salary than the Taliaries and Vettians, for it is of the first importance to the peace of the district that the Maravers should accept office as Taliaries and Vettians; and, if they find that a fisherman or a low Pallan or Pariah Nirkotti is classed on the same category with themselves, they are likely enough to despise their new offices, if not to reject them altogether.

53. A small issue of stationery might, in future, be made to all the Munsifs and Monigars.

54. I request to be favored with early instructions on this report, as the material for a similar scheme for the Tinnevelly Taluq has been collected, and I only await orders to appoint the new village establishments in both Tenkasi and Tinnevelly.

55. It has been suggested to me by the Superintendent of Police that the Police Taliaries should draw their pay through him. Whether this proposition is sanctioned or not, I have so arranged that the Taliaries will be employed entirely on Police duties, and will have nothing to do with revenue work. Two Taliaries have been allowed for the larger, and one for the smaller villages, giving altogether a force of fifty-three village Policemen.

Enclosure No. 1.—Statement.

Enclosure No. 2.—Map.

This scheme for revising the village establishments of the Tenkasi Taluq of Tinnevelly will be submitted for the favorable consideration of Government.

2. The Collector says very little about the grouping. He has grouped seventy-three "villages as per the old taluq accounts into forty villages as per settlement." The maximum, minimum, and average area, population, and revenue of the new villages, are as follow:—

——	Area.	Population.	Revenue.
	Acres.		Rs.
Average	2,778	1,898	4,908
Maximum...	8,002	11,554	15,932
Minimum	527	200	616

3. The Collector explained the principles adopted by him in grouping in his letters of the 22nd April 1873, No. 201, and 27th June 1873, No. 339, and they were approved by the Board who thought the Collector might be left to his discretion in the matter. Government remarked that especial attention must be paid to the grouping, and that it must not be carried too far. It would have been better if the Collector had given more information on the subject in the letter now under consideration, but the Board think the grouping has been properly done. The village which is largest in area (No. 40, Marandai) is one of the original villages. The map shows that none of the new villages are of inconvenient extent. The column in the statement which purports to show the "old villages merged by settlement" contains the names of 130 villages instead of 73, and this should have been explained. The new villages in which the greatest number of these old villages have been merged are—

G. O., 23rd March 1874, No. 375.

——	No. of Villages merged.	Area.	Population.	Revenue.
		Acres.		Rs.
16. Courtalam	15	1,823	951	5,563
17. Melagaram	12	1,825	1,905	6,174
19. Mattalamparei	9	2,591	525	4,099

None of these are too large. The fact that the Collector has visited each village himself, and arranged the grouping on the spot, makes the Board accept his conclusions with great confidence.

4. The assets are given by the Collector as—

	Rs.
Village service cess	12,306
Fixed deductions to be contributed by Government under G. O., 23rd March 1874, No. 375, paragraph 3	5,318
Total ...	17,624

The Collector says nothing about Service Inams. In his letter of the 22nd April 1873, No. 201, he stated that such Inams were rare in Tinnevelly, but presumed that they should all be brought to full assessment. In his letter of the 19th August 1873, No. 431, he argued in favor of resuming instead of enfranchising these Inams, and supposed that, if enfranchisement took place, a small minority of the holders would be paid in land, and a majority in ready money. This error was pointed out in Board's Proceedings, dated 5th September 1873, No. 1,748.

5. Mr. Puckle will now report if there are any Village Service Inams, whether now held by village servants or not, in Tenkasi. If there are, they must be enfranchised at five-eighths of the full value (*i.e.*, assessment, *minus* quit-rent), *plus* the old quit-rent; and the new quit-rent, *minus* the old quit-rent, must be added to the Village Service Fund.

6. Mr. Puckle says he has divided the taluq into three circles for the purposes of the Village Cess Act, but the Board find it impossible to determine why this has been done, or what advantage Mr. Puckle thinks he gains by doing it. The provision of the law that the cess shall be spent *within the village* in which it is levied cannot thus be evaded. The phrase, "group of villages" in Section 5. of the Act, evidently refers to grouped villages like the forty into which the seventy-three old villages of Tenkasi have been grouped, not to circles containing many groups. As it happens, the assumption that each circle will have a separate fund introduces no error, because the establishment proposed for each village, except Melapavur, No. 31, costs more than the cess levied in the village, but the idea of these circles is a new one, foreign to the law, and may cause confusion in accounting in other taluqs if not in Tenkasi. The Board think it should be relinquished.

7. The establishment proposed is in accordance with the Kurnool scheme, which the Collector was directed by Government to adopt, except as regards Assistant Monigars, Vetties, and Nirkotties, and these deviations are justifiable as will be explained hereafter. The Board, as they have told Government, prefer the scheme which has been devised for Nellore; but the difference between the practical result of the two schemes in Tenkasi is very slight, except as regards the pay of the officers, which is a matter that can safely be left to the discretion of the Collector limited by the understanding that he must not exceed his assets.

8. There is a headman, called a Munsif and Monigar, for each of the forty villages, paid Rupees 5, 7, 8, 10, and 12 according to the Kurnool scheme. The number drawing each rate of pay is as follows:—

Rs.	
5	24
7	7
8	5
10	1
12	3
Total ...	40

9. The Collector proposes to have Assistant Monigars, called "Monigars," to look after the channels and collect revenue. His reasons are given in paragraph 51, and seem to the Board to be satisfactory. The appointments seem to the Board not to be repugnant to the law, and, though they have not been made before in similar revisions, they may be allowed under the peculiar circumstances detailed by the

Collector. The men are to be paid Rupees 5 each, and eighteen villages are to have one, six two, and two three.

10. There is to be a Curnam to each village, paid according to the Kurnool scale from Rupees 5 to Rupees 15, and the number drawing each rate of pay is as follows :—

	Rs.
15	4
14	2
13	3
12	2
11	5
10	6
9	4
8	8
7	3
6	1
5	2
Total ...	40

11. There is a Vetti for each headman and Assistant Monigar paid Rupees 4 a month. This is a deviation from the Kurnool scheme which determines the number of Vetties allowed for each village according to its revenue, but it must be allowed if the appointment of Assistant Monigars is allowed. Altogether there are seventy-six Vetties.

12. In Kurnool the Taliaries were distributed according to circumstances. Mr. Puckle proposes to have fifty-three Taliaries paid Rupees 4, two for the larger, and one for the smaller villages. Thus thirteen villages are to have two and twenty-seven villages one Taliari.

13. It is proposed to have a Nirkotti in twenty-one villages, and the pay is to be Rupees 3 a month. In Kurnool these servants do not form any part of the Village Service Establishment, but they are very useful, and some will probably have to be added to the existing establishment before long. The reason which the Collector gives for fixing the rate of pay below that of Taliaries and Vetties is satisfactory. The allotment to villages has, no doubt, been made with due consideration.

14. The annual cost of the proposed scheme is—

	Rs.
40 Headmen	3,060
36 Assistant Monigars	2,160
40 Curnams	4,836
76 Vetties	3,648
53 Taliaries	2,544
21 Nirkotties...	756
Total...	17,004

and this is Rupees 620 less than the assets.

15. There is only one village as already mentioned in which the establishment costs less than the cess levied, and there the surplus is only Rupees 6 per annum. The Collector must see that this surplus is expended within the village.

Revenue Department

No. 710

Proceedings of the Madras Government
Under date the 11 [illegible]

Read [illegible]

Pros. Board of Revenue

Comm: to Sec. Pros. Govt. approving Bds instructions regarding revision of Village Establishments of Tinnevelly Dt. - } dated 7th May 1874, No. 1061.

Pros. Board of Revenue

Subms: Scheme for revision of Village Estbts Tenkasi Taluq, Tinnevelly Dt. } dated 24th Augt 1874, No. 236.

Read the Hon. Mr. Robertson - 8th Jany 1875.
Do. - Hon. Mr. Scrie - 11th January 1875.
Do. - H. E. the Governor - 15th January 1875.

The Board will be [illegible]
in Commencement with
Mr. Pack [illegible]
revised by

[illegible]

Read Proceedings 18th Aug. 1874 Nos 203-206

Pros. 20-8-74

Rec'd 24th Aug. 1874

Board of Revenue,
MADRAS.

Proceedings, 24th August 1874, No. 2,362.

Read Pros. 10 11th May 1875 Encl. 2
Rec'd 6-12-75.

Received Govt. Secretariat

AUGUST.
No. 2,362.

Revision of Village Establishments — of Tenkasi Taluq of Tinnevelly District.—Scheme for — submitted for favorable consideration of Government, with remarks.

Read Proceedings 18th Aug. 1874 Nos 203-206

Pros. 20-8-74

Rec'd 24th Aug. 1874

Board of Revenue,
MADRAS.

Proceedings, 24th August 1874, No. 2,362.

Read Pros. 10 11th May 1875 Encl. 2
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Received Govt. Secretariat

AUGUST.
No. 2,362.

Revision of Village Establishments — of Tenkasi Taluq of Tinnevelly District.—Scheme for — submitted for favorable consideration of Government, with remarks.

Revenue Department

No. 710

Proceedings of the Madras Government
Under date the 11th

Read

Pros. Board of Revenue

Comm: to Govt. Pros. Govt. approving Bds instructions regarding revision of Village Establishments of Tinnevelly Dt. } B. of R. 7th May 1874, No. 1811.

Pros. Board of Revenue

Subms: Scheme for revision of Village Offices Tenkasi Taluq, Tinnevelly Dt. } 24th Augt 1874, No 236.

Minute by the Hon. Mr. Robinson - 8th January 1875.
Do. - Hon. Mr. Scott - 11th January 1875.
Do. - H. E. the Governor - 15th January 1875.

The Board will be informed in connection with Mr. Pack's revised [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

G.O. 2: Board 1874 Rs. 203-246

20 pasd

Encl. to G.O. No. 710 dated 8th Sept. 1874

Encl. 2

Board of Revenue,

MADRAS.

PROCEEDINGS, 24TH AUGUST 1874, No. 2,362.

Read Sept 8 Sept 1874

Pros. No. 710 11 Sept 1874 Encl. 2

Received 9th Sept 1874

AUGUST.

No. 2,362.

Revision of Village Establishments — of Tenkasi Taluq of Tinnevelly District.—Scheme for — submitted for favorable consideration of Government, with remarks.

74

C14 Apl 25 126 27 Apl 25.

C9 Board 25 165 18/1/26.

reference to the instructions
given the Pro: of Govt
dated 3 - April 1875, No. 523.

2. The absolute suppression of the Kavali system with its heavy exactions Primarily must be a condition precedent to the introduction of any new scheme of village establishments and the imposition of the cess in that District

Board of Revenue, 18 May

No. 912.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 2nd June 1873.

Read the following letter from G. VANSAGNEW, Esq., Collector of Nellore, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Ongole, 9th January 1873, No. 87 :—

WITH reference to the correspondence marginally noted regarding the revision of village establishments I have the honour to submit nine* detailed statements for the nine taluqs in this district with the following abstracts :—

Board's Proceedings, No. 2,655, dated 17th April 1866.
To Board, No. 187, dated 24th June 1867.
Board's Proceedings, No. 5,605, dated 29th August 1867.
To Board, No. 9, dated 3rd January 1868.
,, ,, 10, ,, 4th ,, ,,
Board's Proceedings, No. 6,671, dated 19th September 1868.
Board's Proceedings, No. 4,868, of 14th July 1870.

* To be returned when no longer required.

A.—Present emoluments of the Village Servants.

B No. 1.—Proposed emoluments of Curnams.

B No. 2.—Proposed emoluments of Munsif.

B No. 3.—Proposed emoluments of Kavilgar.
B No. 4.— Do. of Vetti.
B No. 5.— Do. of Nirganti.

C.—Comparative Abstract of Present and Proposed Emoluments.

D.—Abstract showing the number of Villages in which the Cess at 6¼ per cent. exceeds, and the number of Villages in which it falls short of the proposed emoluments.

2. The above statements are based on the figures of Fasli 1276 (1866-67).

3. According to the accounts now submitted the present emoluments amount to Rupees 2,22,288, or Rupees 6,612 in excess of the figures given by Mr. Boswell. In explanation of this difference, as well as of similar disagreements observable between the present figures and those entered in Mr. Boswell's statement, it may be mentioned once for all that the returns now submitted have been carefully revised and may be accepted as the more accurate.

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4. The following abstract shows the description of offices now existing; the number of working office-bearers, and shareholders who do no work and enjoy the service inams; and the details of emoluments attached to each office:—

Abstract.

Office.	Number of Office-holder.	Number of Share-holder.	Value of landed emoluments.	Value of Fees.	Value of cash payments.	Deduction from Beriz.	Total Emoluments.
			RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
1. Curnam	1,548	3,679	44,519	73,494	1,593	986	1,20,592
2. Munsif and Peddakapu.	1,500	348	26,399	197	13	226	26,835
3. Kavilgar	612	217	5,231	2,160	34	7,950	15,363
4. Taliari	9	8	72	15	...	41	128
5. Vetti	2,542	912	10,868	19,703	53	273	30,897
6. Mohatad	341	72	3,624	1,933	8	...	5,565
7. Bandelavandlu	156	24	672	569	4	...	1,245
8. Madiga	112	36	370	1,287	...	...	1,657
9. Nirganti	389	170	1,965	2,408	26	...	4,399
10. Shroff	684	231	3,799	9,731	62	46	13,638
Total ...	7,893	5,697	97,519	1,11,497	1,793	9,522	2,20,331
Russum or fee to Curnams paid for the jungle rent of Striharikotta							1,189
Do. to Saraf do. do.							768
Total Emoluments...							2,22,288

5. The present employments are classed under four heads as above shown, viz., Land, Fees, Cash payments, and Deductions from Beriz. The first consists of inam lands, which are in a few cases subject to payment of jodi or quit-rent to Government. The second and third are called "Kalavasam" or "Mera," paid by ryots direct to village servants. Payments made in kind are shown under the head of "Fees" in the above abstract. Cases in which money payments are made are very few. Each village seems to have its own rate, at which the grain and money payments are calculated; but there is no standard account showing the details thereof distinctly. When complaints are made about non-payment of Kalavasam the Tahsildars seem to make the best arrangement they can with reference to information furnished by the village officers without any reliable data in their own offices to check it with. Fees are allowed not only to village servants but also to village artisans, the village goddess, and for various other objects; and it is impossible to superintend the correct calculation and distribution of the fees as originally intended. There are some old accounts in the records showing the Kalavasams; but the information is recorded without any system, so that it is not possible to make anything of it. These accounts have seldom been used for reference in any case, and are quite useless for any purpose. The fourth item, viz., "Deduction from Beriz," consists of the following:—

(1.) Assessment of lands assigned as inam to village servants instead of the actual lands and deducted from the total beriz of the village. This item does not exist at present to the same extent as it did, for in several cases the lands themselves have since been confirmed as inam. In some cases the assessment was remitted in the first instance without being brought to account.

(2.) In the Striharikotta Division fees are calculated on the beriz at certain rates which appear to differ for each village, and the amount thus calculated is entered in the ryots' puttas and deducted from the total beriz of the village.

(3.) Fees payable to Kavilgars out of the Chittetiwar, Urtawar, etc., Russums are calculated at certain rates, which differ in each village and at certain fixed sums in some villages, and the amount thus calculated is entered in the puttas of the ryots and finally deducted from the total beriz of the village.

6. There are ten descriptions of village servants, as detailed in the abstract appended to paragraph 4 of this letter. The third and fourth, viz., Kavilgar and Taliari, attend to Police duties. There are only nine Taliaries in the Gudur and Udayagiri Taluqs; the fifth is a Revenue servant; the sixth, seventh, and eighth are also supposed to attend to revenue work chiefly.

7. As a rule the Village Munsifs are remunerated in land. There are only twenty-one villages in which they have fees valued at Rupees 197, and six villages in which they realize cash payments to the extent of Rupees 13. The remaining classes of villlage servants have both lands and fees.

8. As will be seen from the detailed statements there are some villages in which the village servants have no emoluments at all. Some villages have too many village servants while others have too few. The emoluments are divided in a very unequal manner, while the amount entered as emolument under the head of "Land" is not exclusively enjoyed by the actual office-holders, the numerous share holders often enjoying half of it, if not more.

9. Mr. Boswell proposed to retain only five classes of village servants, viz., Curnam, Munsif, Kavilgar, Vetti, and Nirganti, fixing the Curnams and Vetties with reference to the revenue of villages as grouped in the demarcation and survey, regulating the number of Munsifs and Kavilgars with reference to the villages which have been clubbed, and retaining the existing number of Nirganties without any modification for the present.

10. The grouping of villages cannot now be altered without serious inconvenience and trouble. Mr. Boswell's plan seems to overcome, as far as possible, the difficulty arising from wrong clubbing.

11. Mr. Boswell's scheme is as follows:—

Curnam.—The lowest pay is Rupees 10 per mensem for a village yielding up to 1,000 Rupees, one Rupee to be added for every 1,000.

Munsif.—The lowest pay is Rupees 4 for a village with a population up to 2,000. One Rupee to be added for every 2,000 Rupees.

Kavilgar.—One Kavilgar for every 1,000 of population, with pay of 3 Rs. each per mensem.

Vetti.—One Vetti for every 2,000 Rupees of the beriz, with pay of Rupees 3 each.

Nirganti.—Rupees 3 to each of the present Nirganties to be employed only for six months in the year.

12. According to this scale the cost of the proposed establishments would be Rupees 2,28,858, as detailed below :—

	No.	Amount.
		Rs.
Curnam	596	90,936
Munsif	869	45,384
Kavilgar	1,134	40,824
Vetti	1,243	44,748
Nirganti	387	6,966
Total...	4,229	2,28,858

13. The total number of Government villages is 869, of which forty-one are uninhabited. The number of Munsifs and Kavilgars has, therefore, been fixed with reference to the remaining 828 villages. There are certain hamlets which are now provided with separate Munsifs. Mr. Boswell gave the number of such Munsifs at eight, viz., three for the three hamlets of Tammavaram in the Ongole Taluq, and five for the five hamlets of Atmakur. There are other villages in which hamlets have separate Munsifs. In the village of Duttalur, Udayagiri Taluq, for instance, there are two Munsifs for two of its hamlets. Information has not been collected as to the number of such hamlets. I believe that the number cannot be more than thirty or forty. As it is proposed to give a separate Munsif for each of such hamlets Rupees 1,968 may be added for forty-one Munsifs at Rupees 4 each per month. I have selected forty-one because the total number of proposed Munsifs will then be equal to the total number of villages including the uninhabited villages, for which it is not intended to give any Munsifs. Out of the forty-one additional Munsifs thus provided for allotment can be made for the hamlets which have now separate Munsifs, and also for other hamlets for which separate Munsifs may be considered necessary, and doubtless there are such cases.

14. There are 389 villages with 389 Nirganties at present. But in the proposed scale of establishments two of these Nirganties are not included, one in the village of Bhimavaram, in the Udayagiri Taluq, and the other in the village of Kondamanzulur, in the Ongole Taluq, as in both these villages the tanks have been in a ruined condition for many years and there is no wet cultivation.

Rs.
2,28,858
2,22,288
6,570

15. From Statement C the Board will observe that the cost of the proposed establishment exceeds the value of the existing emoluments only by Rupees 6,570, as shown in the margin.

16. To meet the cost of the proposed establishment we have an assessment of Rupees 2,04,278, which consists of the cess at 6¼ per cent. and the proceeds of enfranchisement, leaving a deficit of Rupees 24,580.

17. With reference to the difficulty notice in paragraph 10 of the Board's Proceedings it will be seen from Statement D that in forty-five villages the cess at 6¼ per cent. leaves a surplus of Rupees 4,077, while in 551 villages the cess fall short of the cost of Rupees 89,834. As the proceeds of the enfranchisement for the whole district amount to Rupees 63,145 for the whole district, the whole of this sum is available to supplement the deficit in the 551 villages referred to. The establishment on Mr. Boswell's scale requires a grant of Rupees 23,529, as detailed below :—

		Rs
Deficit		89,834
Deduct assets available		68,273
Proceeds of enfranchisement	63,145	
Do. of Kattubadi land referred to in paragraph 8 of Mr. Boswell's letter	5,128	
	68,273	
Difference	... ...	21,561
Add additional provision for Munsifs of hamelts	... ...	1,968
Total...		23,529

18. The foregoing is the result of the scheme proposed by Mr. Boswell. I would modify it slightly by abolishing the Nirganties altogether. From Enclosure B No. 5 the Board will observe that in the Rapur Taluq we have seventy Nirganties while Gudur has only thirty-eight. In Kanigiri there are ten against seven in the Ongole Taluq. The distribution of Nirganties is most unequal. If we can do without them in many villages I see no reason to keep them in others, and it will be by no means easy to get a Nirgantie for only half the year as no one would consider it worth his while to seek an employment which would pay him only for a portion of the year. If the Nirganties are dispensed with there will be a saving of Rupees 6,966, and the grant to be provided for by Government will be reduced to Rupees 16,563, which is nearly equal to the amount commented on by the Board in paragraph 8 of their Proceedings under reply as a reasonable expenditure to be borne by Government to secure a really efficient village establishment. I have only two more remarks to offer before concluding this report.

19. The holders of inams are also liable to pay the cess at 6¼ per cent. They are now paying the road-cess and the amount charged on the excess found in their inam lands by the new survey. The Inamdars, it is true, were liable to pay "Kalavasams," but they did not do so regularly. The imposition of the cess at the present time will, therefore, be especially unpopular with the privileged class of landholders.

20. The Village Cess Act applies only to Curnams, Munsifs, Vetti, and Police servants, etc. The cess collected at 6¼ per cent. can only be applied to remunerate them. Of the present "Kalavasam," which with the imposition of the cess must be wholly dispensed with, the village artisans, etc., had a share, and these will, therefore, in future lose a portion of their emoluments and feel aggrieved.

Enclosures Nos. 1 to 9.—Detailed Statements.

Enclosures Nos. 10 to 17.—Abstract Statements.

On re-examining this scheme of village establishments the Board are convinced that the salary proposed for Curnams is too high whilst that proposed for Munsifs, Kavilgars, Vettyans, and Nirganties is too low, and that the number of Kavilgars is too great.

2. The salary of Curnams in the three districts were village establishment, have already been revised varies from Rupees 5 to Rupees 15 in Kurnool, from Rupees 5 to Rupees 18 in Godavery, and from Rupees 6 to Rupees 9 in Trichinopoly. The means of the Nellore District do not allow of salaries beginning at Rupees 10 and ending at Rupees 40, and the average emoluments of Curnams at present are only between Rupees 6 and Rupees 7 a month. The scale must accordingly be revised as follows :—

One to each village whose beriz is less than Rupees 1,000 at Rupees 6.
Do. do. from Rs. 1,000 to Rs. 3,000 at ,, 7.
Do. do. from ,, 3,000 to ,, 5,000 at ,, 8.
Do. do. from ,, 5,000 to ,, 10,000 at ,, 9.
Do. do. from ,, 10,000 to ,, 16,000 at ,, 10.
Do. do. from ,, 16,000 to ,, 31,000 at ,, 15.

3. The cost of this establishment will be as follows :—

Salary.	Number of Villages	Total Cost.
		Rs.
6	58	4,176
7	315	26,460
8	132	12,672
9	70	7,560
10	17	2,040
15	4	720
10	596	53,628

4. An officer in the position of a Village Munsif should not, in the opinion of the Board as at present constituted, be paid less than Rupees 5 a month. The number of grades fixed for these servants as well as Kavilgars and Vetties seems unnecessarily great. The scale will be revised as follows :—

One to each village with a population of less than 1,000 at Rupees 5.
,, to do. do. 1,000 to 4,000 at ,, 6.
,, to do. do. 4,000 to 7,000 at ,, 7.
,, to Nellore ... ... 22,000 at ,, 20.

5. The case of Nellore is exceptional, and the amount of Judicial work is, the Board believe, enough to take up all the Munsif's time and to necessitate a considerable expenditure in stationery.

6. Taking into account that there are forty-one hamlets to which it is expected that separate Munsifs (at Rupees 5 a month) will have to be appointed, the cost of this establishment will be—

Salary.	Number of Villages.	Total Cost.
		Rs.
5	674	40,440
6	186	13,392
7	8	672
20	1	240
6	869	54,744

7. The pay of the Kavilgars should be Rupees 4 a month, but the scale proposed by the District Officers makes the number far too great in the larger villages. Thus in Nellore the number would be twenty-three, a force which would require paid supervision, and which is quite unnecessary at the head-quarters of the District Police. The Board think the following scale will be sufficient :—

One to each village with a population of less than 1,000.
Two ,, ,, from 1,000 to 4,000.
Three ,, ,, ,, 4,000 ,, 7,000.
Four to Nellore ... ... 22,000.

8. Remembering that each of the forty-one extra Munsifs referred to above will require a Kavilgar the cost will be—

	Number of Kavilgars.	Number of Villages.	Total Cost.
			Rs.
	1	674	32,352
	2	186	17,856
	3	8	1,152
	4	1	192
	1,074	...	51,552

9. The salary of the Vetties should be the same as that of the Kavilgars, viz., Rupees 4 a month, and the scale as follows :—

One to each village whose beriz is less than Rupees 3,000.
Two ,, ,, Rs. 3,000 ,, ,, 6,000.
Three ,, ,, ,, 6,000 ,, ,, 11,000.
Four ,, ,, above Rupees 11,000.

10. The cost will be—

	Number of Vetties.	Number of Villages.	Total Cost.
			Rs.
	1	373	17,904
	2	163	15,648
	3	46	6,624
	4	14	2,688
	893	...	42,864

Experience has shown that Nirganties are a useful class of servants with whom it is inexpedient to dispense, and it is impossible to secure their services for less than 2½ Rupees a month paid throughout the year. The cost for 387 Nirganties will be Rupees 11,610.

11. In the following statement the scheme now proposed is compared with that of the Collector:—

	As proposed by the Board.		As proposed by the Collector.	
	No.	Emoluments.	No.	Emoluments.
		Rs.		Rs.
Curnams	596	53,628	596	90,936
Munsifs	869	54,744	869	45,384
Kavilgars	1,074	51,552	*1,175	42,300
Vetties	893	42,864	1,243	44,748
Nirganties	387	11,610	...	...
Total...	...	2,14,398	...	2,23,368

*Including forty-one for the forty-one villages to which extra Munsifs are to be appointed.

12. The assets are stated by Mr. VansAgnew to be—

	Rs.
Cess at 6¼ per cent. on demand	1,41,133
Quit-rent at five-eighths on enfranchised inams ...	63,145
Total...	2,04,278

13. It is to be observed, however, that the quit-rent on enfranchised inams will be five-eighths of their annual value (*i. e.*, of their full assessment *minus* jodi), or Rupees 60,949 not Rupees 63,145. On the other hand, the Board have no doubt that Government will contribute the average amount paid to village servants by deductions from the beriz. In paragraph 4 this is given as Rupees 9,522 for Fasli 1276, but the Jamabandi Report of that fasli gives the amount as Rupees 331 only, so that there would seem to be some mistake in the figures. The Collector will explain what the real amount has been for the last ten years, and Government will be requested to contribute the average sum to the new Village Service Fund.

14. The deficit (not considering that some villages will have a surplus) will be between Rupees 2,800 and Rupees 12,300, but the revenue of the district has risen since Fasli 1276 and it will be increased by the new settlement. The Collector will report how far these circumstances will reduce the deficit.

15. The Collector will examine the Board's scheme and report whether he thinks it suitable. The list of villages in which the cess is insufficient should be revised with reference both to the alterations in the scheme and to the addition to the assets shown to be probable in paragraph 14.

16. With regard to paragraph 20 it is observed that the introduction of the Village Service Cess Act will have no effect on the position or emoluments of artisans.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) J. GROSE,
Secretary.

To the Collector of Nellore, with nine detail statements.

Rev. 12 Sept 74

1873.

Board of Revenue,

MADRAS.

PROCEEDINGS, 2ND JUNE 1873, No. 912.

Encl

Received

JUNE.

No. 912.

Village Establishment—of Nellore District.—Collector's proposals for revision of—reviewed and Collector requested to report on scheme of establishment as proposed by Board.

32

No. 2,529.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 10th December 1873.

Read the following letter from R. K. PUCKLE, Esq., Collector of Tinnevelly, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 24th November 1873, No. 666 :—

WITH reference to Board's Proceedings, No. 2,197, dated the 28th October last, I have the honour to request final orders on the Village Service Cess of the Tenkasi, Taluq as the revision of the land assessment of that taluq is now nearly completed.

2. The accompanying statement shows the actuals of the first seven villages in the taluq, the present and proposed establishments, the amount of cess leviable, and the outlay proposed.

3. The points on which I request to be favoured with instructions are—whether the cess shall be charged on tree-tax, tank-fishery, grass-rents, etc., as well as on land assessment. The first is a more important item than the land assessment itself [illegible] parts of the district, and accounting for it is quite as laborious to the Curnam. The two last items form assets of Local Funds, and are no real trouble to the Curnam. In the following statement I have charged the Village Service Cess on the taram assessment of inam lands agreeably to the provisions of Section 3, Act IV. of 1864, and on the tree-tax, but not on the fisheries and grass-rents. The existing ready-money maniems or deductions from revenue for the pay of the present establishment are brought to account and with the cess now to be levied will make up a sum quite sufficient for the pay of the future establishment in at least five-sixths of the villages as now formed by settlement :—

32

Number and Name of Village.		Area.	Land Assessment in Rupees as per Settlement.		Village Service Cess in Rupees at 1 Anna per Rupee of Assessment.		Present Establishment.			Proposed Establishment.			Remarks.
No.	Name.		Government.	Inam.			Rank.	Name.	Pay.	Rank.	Name.	Pay.	
		Acres.	Rs.	Rs.		Rs.			Rs.			Rs.	
1	Pirapur	522	2,261	...	Village Service Cess.	142	Munsif-Merassdar.	Arunachalakaraya la Pillai.	...	Munsif-Monegar.	Ramanada Pillai	84	
					Dupatti Maniem ...	6	Curnam	Sinia Pillai, Goomastah for Minor, Arunachalam Pillai.	52½	2nd-Class Curnam.	Sinia Pillai, Goomastah for Minor, Arunachalam Pillai.	84	
					Stalam Kaval	22	Kavalgar	Irulapan	...	Talayari	Irulapan Servei	42	
					Ready-money allowance	52						210	
						222							
2	Nagalkadu	461	2,191	32	Village Service Cess.	140	Munsif-Merassdar.	Muttaya Pillai	...	Munsif-Monegar.	Muttaya Pillai	84	
					Stalam Kaval	5	Curnam	Piramanayagam Pillai	52½	2nd-Class Curnam.	Piramanayagam Pillai	84	
					Ready-money allowance	53	Kavalgar	Pechimutu Tevan	...	Talayari	Kottamada Tevan	42	
						198						210	
3	Elanji	2,772	9,800	1,072	Village Service Cess.	680	Munsif-Merassidar.	Subramania Pillai	...	Munsif-Monegar.	Subramania Pillai	84	There are anicuts on two rivers and numerous channels and tanks to be regulated in this extensive village, and the appointment of a Channel Monegar is very desirable.
					Stalam Kaval	102	Merassidar ...	Ramakrishnaiyer	...	Monegar	Ramakrishnaiyer	60	
					Ready-money allowance	105	Do. ...	Shanmugavelayudam Pillai.	...	Do. ...	Shanmugavelayudam Pillai	60	
						887	Curnam ...	Subramania Pillai	52½	Do. ...	Sivaramakrishnaiyer	60	
							Do. ...	Subbaiyer	52½	Channel Monegar.	Subramania Pillai	60	
							Kavalgar ...	Shanmuga Tevan	...	1st-Class Curnam.	Subbaiyer	108	
										Do. ...	Subramania Pillai	108	
										Talayari ...	Pechimutta Tevan	42	
										Do. ...	Shanmuga Tevan	42	
										Do. ...	Madapa Tevan	42	
										Do. ...	Vellayapa Tevan	42	
										Nirkatti ...	Toppei	36	
										Do. ...	Kattapa Tevan	36	
												780	
4	Courtallum	1,276	3,773	1,840	Village Service Cess.	351	Munsif-Merassidar.	Adimulam Pillai	...	Munsif-Monegar.	Adimulam Pillai	84	
					Stalam Kaval	41	Curnam	Nallasivan Pillai	52½	Monegar	Subramanien	60	
					Ready-money allowance	53	Kavalgar	Ramasami Tevan	...	1st-Class Curnam.	Nallasivan Pillai	108	
						445							
										Talayari ...	Rama Tevan	42	
										Do. ...	Ladamutu Tevan	42	
										Nirkatti ...	Madappan	36	
												372	
5	Melagaram	1,366	5,363	928	Village Service Cess.	375	Munsif Merassidar.	Tirukada Maharaja Pillai.	...	Munsif-Monegar.	Tirukada Maharaja Pillai.	84	
					Stalam Kaval	23	Do.	Subbaiyer	...	Monegar	Subbaiyer	60	
					Ready-money allowance	53	Curnam	Kailasanada Mudali ...	52½	1st-Class Curnam.	Kailasanada Mudali ...	108	
						451	Kavalgar	Ramasami Tevan		Talayari	Sivanu Tevan	42	
										Do.	Ramasami Tevan	42	
										Do.	Sorimutu Tevan	42	
										Nirkatti	Vellayan	36	
												414	
6	Pattapat	437	691	1,344	Village Service Cess.	127	Munsif Merassidar.	Tirukada Maharaja Pillai.	...	Munsif-Monegar.	Govindapa Naick	84	
					Stalam Kaval	30	Curnan	Ramasami Mudali	52½ ...	2nd-Class Curnam.	Ramasami Mudali	84	
					Ready-money allowance	52	Kavalgar	Sivanu Tevan	...	Talayari	Nallakannu Tevan	42	
						209	Do.	Ramasami Tevan				210	
7	Tenkasi	3,023	7,108	416	Village Service Cess.	470	Munsif-Merassidar.	Subbaiyer	...	Munsif-Monegar.	Subbaiyer	84	There are an anicut and numerous channels and tanks to be regulated in this extensive village, and the appointment of a Channel Monegar is very desirable.
					Stalam Kaval	72	Merassidar ...	Andi Aiyer	...	Monegar	Andi Aiyer	60	
					Ready-money allowance	158	Do. ...	Ramalingam Pillai	...	Do.	Ramalingam Pillai	60	
						700	Do. ...	Perumal Naick	...	Channel Monegar.	Anantakrishnaiyer	60	
							Curnan ...	Subbaiyer	52½	1st-Class Curnam.	Subbaiyer	108	
							Do ...	Subramania Pillai	52½	Do.	Subramania, Goomastah for Minor, Shanmugam Pillai.	108	
							Do ...	Shanmugam Pillai	52½	Talayari	Vagamala Tevan	42	
							Kavalgar ...	Vagamala Tevan	...	Do.	Virudaya Tevan	42	
							Do. ...	Virudayan	...	Do.	Sivanu Tevan	42	
										Nirkatti	Rama Tevan	36	
										Do.	Palani	36	
												678	

4. Piranur is a small village, and a Munsif-Monegar, a Curnam, and a Talayari will be amply sufficient. The village service cess on land and trees is Rupees 142 and the resumed ready-money allowances Rupees 80, total Rupees 222. If the Munsif-Monegar is paid Rupees 84, a 2nd-Class Curnam Rupees 84, each at Rupees 7 a-month, and a Talayari Rupees 42, at Rupees 3½ a-month, total Rupees 210, we have a surplus of Rupees 12 per annum for this village.

5. Nagalkadu is a village of about the same size and revenue as Piranur, and a similar establishment will be sufficient. The village service cess on land and trees is Rupees 140 and the resumed ready-money allowances Rupees 58, total Rupees 198. An establishment costing Rupees 210 will require assisting from general funds to the extent of Rupees 12 per annum.

6. Elanji is a very large village. The service cess on trees and land is Rupees 680 and the resumed ready-money allowances Rupees 207, total Rupees 887. A Munsif-Monegar at Rupees 7, three Monegars at Rupees 5 each, and a Channel Monegar at Rupees 5, two 1st-Class Curnams at Rupees 9 each, four Talayaris at Rupees 3½ each, and two Nirkattis or Water-distributers at Rupees 3 each, will cost Rupees 780, leaving a balance of Rupees 107 per annum to the credit of this village. The necessity for the appointment of Channel Monegars in the larger irrigated villages is strongly urged by the villagers. At present there is a great waste of water, sluices are imperfectly closed, the channels are opened at will and often for much longer periods than needed, the banks are cut, bunds are thrown up and much injury is done to the works for want of local control, and, where the funds admit, as in the present instance, the appointment of a Channel Monegar will be most valuable. This officer could, moreover, be made responsible for the execution of kudimaramut, definite arrangements for which have been made in each village settled.

7. Courtallum is a medium-sized village. The service cess on trees and land is Rupees 351 and the resumed ready-money collections Rupees 94, total Rupees 445. A Munsif-Monegar at Rupees 7, one Monegar at Rupees 5, one 1st-Class Curnam at Rupees 9, two Talayaris at Rupees 3½ each, and a Water-distributer on Rupees 3, will cost Rupees 372, leaving a surplus of Rupees 73 per annum for this village.

8. Melagaram is a large village. The service cess on land and trees is Rupees 375 and the resumed ready-money allowances Rupees 76, total Rupees 451. A Munsif-Monegar at Rupees 7, a Monegar at Rupees 5, a 1st-Class Curnam at Rupees 9, three Talayaris at Rupees 3½, and a Water-distributer at Rupees 3, will cost Rupees 414 per annum, leaving Rupees 37 to the credit of this village.

9. Pattapat is a small village, mostly inam. The service cess on land and trees is Rupees 127 and the resumed ready-money allowances Rupees 82, total Rupees 209. A Munsif-Monegar at Rupees 7, a 2nd-Class Curnam at Rupees 7, and a Talayari at Rupees 3½, will cost Rupees 210, so that this village will need assistance from a general fund to the extent of 1 Rupee per annum.

10. Tenkasi is a very large village and the cusbah of the taluq. The service cess on land and trees is Rupees 470 and the resumed ready-money allowances Rupees 230, total Rupees 700. A Munsif-Monegar at Rupees 7, two Monegars at Rupees 5 each, a Channel Monegar at Rupees 5, two 1st-Class Curnams at Rupees 9 each, three Talayaris at Rupees 3½ each, and a Water-distributer at Rupees 3, will cost Rupees 678, leaving Rupees 22 to the credit of this village.

11. From the above it appears that to give each of these villages a complete and efficient establishment two villages out of seven will need aiding to the extent of 12 and 1 Rupee per annum, respectively, and that the remainder will have an annual balance in hand varying from Rupees 12 to Rupees 107 each, which amounts may be spent to advantage on village improvements or to aid kudimaramut.

The Collector will be requested to give the population and total revenue of each village and the cess at 1 Anna in the Rupee of land assessment and water-tax.

2. The Board do not see how a cess on tree-tax can be imposed under Madras Act IV. of 1864.

3. The Collector will also explain the terms "Dupatti Maniem" and "Stalam Kaval," and show which of the classes of village servants enumerated in Section 7, Act IV. of 1864, includes "Channel Monegars."

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) J. GROSE,
Secretary.

To the Collector of Tinnevelly.

Copy to the Director of Revenue Settlement.

1873.

Board of Revenue

MADRAS.

PROCEEDINGS, 10TH DECEMBER 1873, No. 2,5

Received

DECEMBER.

No. 2,529.

Village Service Cess—in Tenkasi Taluq Tinnevelly District.—Collector to furnish furt information on certain points connected v levy of —.

No. 568.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 13th March 1874.

Read the following letter from R. K. PUCKLE, Esq., Collector of Tinnevelly, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Pudukudi, 17th December 1873, No. 719:—

I HAVE the honour to forward the revised statement, called for in Board's Proceedings, dated 10th instant, No. 2,529.

2. The population and total revenue of each village are given and the Cess at 1 Anna in the rupee of land assessment and water-tax, both Ayen and Inam. No cess on the tree-tax is charged in the revised statement.

3. Dupati Maniyam is a small ready money deduction from the land assessment in favour of Mirasidars, and Stalam Kaval is a like deduction in favour of Kavalgars; these deductions now cease to exist, but their respective amounts are, I think, fair assets for the Village Service Cess, as the Moneagars and Taliaries now to be paid correspond to the Mirassidars and Kavalgars of the former system.

4. The Channel Monegar in those villages specially requiring an officer to attend to the storage and distribution of water, might be entertained merely as Moneagars under the Act, and their special mode of employ might be ordered departmentally by the District Officers. Of course, such additional Moneagars would be entertained only in those villages that have a large balance of cess appropriated.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.—Statement.

THE Board do not altogether approve of the arrangements proposed by the Collector. The pay of the Village Heads should not be so high as that of the Curnams. There should be a revenue servant of the same grade as the Taliari (who is liable to be continually called away on Police business) even in the smaller villages. The number of Moneagars proposed for some villages seems to be unnecessarily large. The Dupati Maniyam, Stalam Kaval and Ready Money Allowances should be treated as a General Fund.

2. In the statement submitted with the former letter the Land assessment included the tree-tax. In that now submitted tree-tax is omitted, but the sum is greater in the case of Peranur, Nagulkadu, Courtallum and Pattipatu. This should have been explained.

3. The general views of the Board as to the number and pay of village servants are recorded in Board's Proceedings, 2nd June 1873, No. 912, and they seem to be as applicable to Tinnevelly as to Nellore.

4. The case of each village will be dealt with separately:—

1. PERANUR.—The pay of the Munsif-moneagar should be Rupees 60 and that of the Taliari Rupees 48. There should also be a Vetty on Rupees 48. With the Curnam on Rupees 84 the total cost will be Rupees 240 of which Rupees 140 (allowing a small margin) will be paid from the Village Service Cess, and Rs. 100 must be taken from the General Fund.

2. NAGULKADU.—The establishment should be the same as in Peranur. Rupees 100 will have to be paid from the General Fund.

3. ELANJI.—According to the Nellore scheme the establishment should be—

	RS.
1 Munsif-moneagar	72
1 Curnam	108
2 Taliaries	96
3 Vetties	144
Total ...	420

If the Collector considers it necessary the Board will not object (as the cess proceeds are so large) to one additional Moneagar and one channel Moneagar who should look after collections as well as channels on Rupees 60 each, but they altogether disapprove of the proposal to employ two Curnams. One Curnam must be responsible for the whole village and if he wants assistance enough pay must be given him to enable him to keep a Gumastah. It will be better to have two Taliaries and three Vetties than four Taliaries. The two Nirkatties on Rs. 36 are approved. Altogether the amount of the Cess will be ample for all requirements and the Collector will probably be able to reduce it.

4. COURTALLUM.—The pay of the Munsif-moneagar should be only Rupees 60. A second Moneagar is not wanted. There should be one Taliari and two Vet[illegible] on Rupees 48. The Nirkatti on Rupees 36 may be retained.

5. MELAGARAM.—The pay of the Munsif-moneagar should be Rupees 72. There should be no second Moneagar. There should be two Taliaries and two Vetties on Rupees 48. The Nirkatti on Rupees 36 may be retained. This will require that Rupees 24 should be taken from the General Fund.

6. PATTIPATU.—The establishment should be the same as in Peranur. Rupees 115 will have to be paid from the General Fund.

7. TENKASI.—According to the Nellore scheme the establishment should be—

	RS.
1 Munsif-moneagar	96
1 Curnam	108
3 Taliaries	144
3 Vetties	144
Total ...	492

5. As in the case of Elanji the Board will not object to an additional Moneagar and channel Moneagar on Rupees 60 each but there must be no second Curnam. The Collector proposes no Vetties but the Board think there should be two at least. The two Nirkatties on Rupees 36 are approved. This establishment will cost Rupees 636, and Rupees 170 will have to be taken from the General Fund.

6. Thus in the case of these seven villages about Rupees 509 will have to be taken from the General Fund which amounts so far as they are concerned to Rupees 597 and Rupees 88 will be left for other villages or as a Reserve Fund.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) J. GROSE,
Secretary.

To the Collector of Tinnevelly.

Copy to the Director of Revenue Settlement.

6

No. 172 of 1874.

1874.

Board of Revenue, MADRAS.

PROCEEDINGS, 13TH MARCH 1874, No. 568.

Read

Encl.

MARCH.

No. 568.

Village Establishment—of Tenkasi Taluq, in Tinnevelly District.—Orders passed on Collector's proposals regarding —.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

MINUTE BY THE HON. W. ROBINSON, C.S.I.

IN approaching the question of organizing a new Village Establishment in the District of Tinnevelly under the Act, we have to bear in mind—

First, that the district is already burdened with an average land tax—a demand which the settlement may adjust more equitably but cannot materially reduce—which is in excess that of any other district in the country. A new burden of 6½ per cent. or about one-and-a-half lakh of Rupees for local administration is therefore—*unless accompanied with important and much needed relief*—a matter for serious consideration;

And *secondly*, that under the exceptional continuance of the *Kavili* system in this district the population of Tinnevelly is already burdened with many special and very heavy local cesses for the maintenance of the existing and recognized village service. These *Kavili* cesses run in some villages as high as 12 per cent. on the Land Revenue, and include House-tax, Profession-tax, Moterfa-taxes, tolls on traffic, etc., etc. They certainly do not fall short of two lakhs of Rupees a year throughout the district; probably very much exceeds this sum. The country is therefore already assessed for local services beyond what the Act allows; and this, in a very oppressive and barbarous form.

It is I think to be regretted that this exceptional condition of the country—this insuperable objection, as it seems to me, to additional taxation—except under the pre-cedent suppression of the *Kavili* system—has not been thrown into the prominence it deserves either by the local officers or the Board of Revenue when recommending the introduction of the Village Service Cess Act.

A full understanding of the *Kavili* condition of Tinnevelly is so important to the consideration of this matter that I must venture to submit for the perusal of my Honorable Colleagues a memorandum of information drawn from the records of Tinnevelly, which I wrote when I was carefully examining the question, in the district in 1860:—

> Long prior to the introduction of the British administration into the Province of Tinnevelly, the Poligars—who were almost without exception the heads of the Maraver or professional robber-caste of the country—had entirely usurped the so-called *Kavil* or watch-and-ward of the country. We found the Poligar *Kavili* system, with all its terrible oppression, in full force here as it had been throughout the Southern countries. We endeavoured to maintain it in our first arrangement for the administration of the province; but the utter lawlessness of the Poligars and their hordes of *Kavilgars* and the oppression they exercised were such that it became necessary to put them down with a high hand; to interdict their interference with the watch-and-ward of the country, and to forbid the collection of any fees from the people by them. The privileges of the Poligar *Kavilgars* were resumed and commuted. Their exactions however ceased very gradually.
>
> The *Kavili* system of Tinnevelly was at that time a thoroughly organized one. Under the Maraver Poligars were *Mén* or Head *Kavilgars* drawn from the same licentious race who "watched" from one to eight and ten villages each, and distributed their charge amongst their numerous fellow-castemen or *Stalam-Kavilgars* residing in each village. All of these Head and Under *Kavilgars* had done the "watching," etc., under the Poligars; and had likewise levied large and almost uncontrolled exactions from the villagers. This part of the *Kavili* system was continued under our rule, and is in full force to this day. The country was in fact left as heretofore to the so-called protection of the thievish, lawless races of professional robbers who have been subsided by the honest and industrious in consideration of their own forbearance from robbery and a species of assurance against losses at the hands of their thievish fraternity. The exactions of these Maraver *Kavilgars* have been very large from the beginning; and they are still the hereditary watchers of the country and exercise privileges and functions in their different grades which are to this day wholly inconsistent with law and order.

The records of the district reiterate from year to year the disorders attributable to the *Kavilgars* and Maraver race. In 1830 Mr. Hall wrote: "Robbery in its various forms of gang robbery, torch-light robbery and highway robbery, has been the crime of most frequent occurrence, and its commission also is confined almost exclusively to the Maraver or *Kavilgar* race." He describes their habits and influence as follows:—"It is an acknowledged fact that no theft can be committed in a village without their knowledge. They are possessed in an eminent degree of hardihood, acuteness and activity; but they are all reckless and sanguinary and so addicted to plunder that they are looked upon by the other caste as robbers by nature as well as by profession. This class came generally to fill the office of village watcher partly on account of peculiar qualifications and partly from the idea that none but their own tribe could be capable of restraining the depredations of the Maravers. Allowances in land and grain are allotted to them in each village. In many villages the safety of the Circar* grain has been provided for in a similar manner by a contribution in the shape of fees on the produce." Such are the *Mên* and *Stallam Kavil* or village Watch-and-ward of Tinnevelly. It consists of Head—who have more or less usurped the place of the Poligars—and Under *Kavilgars*, and of many thousand co-sharers who collect and participate in grain fees and other exactions levied on the people.

* N.B.—The sharing system and Ooloongu-system prevailed at that period.

The Village *Kavilgars* were nominally subordinated to the Heads of villages created by the Regulation of 1816; but in fact they look entirely to their own castemen and the Head *Kavilgars*, and are almost independent even of the European Magistrates. The Police responsibilities of the Potail have been virtually exercised by the Head *Kavilgars*, who have been officially recognized as the preventers and detectors of crime. Indeed it was not in the nature of things that their mere transfer by law should have altered their habits or institutions. They hang together as a caste and have continued a living menace on the country. And no practical step has been possible towards removing their abuses, for from 9,000 to 10,000 of these men have been kept officially registered within the 1,200 villages of this small district; and are supported chiefly by a share of all crops and other cesses which they themselves assess and levy from the people. The actual sharers of these fees have been probably twice the registered number. The exactions of the *Kavilgars* from the people remain to this day almost without control or regulation; an opprobrium to the administration and burden on the people.

The official records of the district are full of futile proposals for the regulation of these anomalous relations and the narration of the tyranny exercised by these lawless watchers. Endeavours have been made from time to time to check the irregularities perpetrated by the *Kavilgars* but in vain. Daily musters were sought to be established without success, the institution of passports was ineffectual, security-bonds (readily entered into by the Heads of the caste for their lawless Under *Kavilgars*) could never be enforced, dismissal was ineffectual as a punishment for the Maravers "cared little whether the name of the father, of the son, or of the nephew was entered in the Circar accounts; though dismissed, they continued to share the fees.

N.B.—The Head Sheristadar of the District told the Collector and myself in the course of our joint inquiry the story of his own recent contention with the *Kavilgars*. The house in which he lived had been assessed by the *Kavilgar* at eight Annas a year. A few years previous to our inquiry, he had enlarged and improved his house and the *Kavilgars* had at once assessed him at Rs. 3-8-0. He was dissatisfied but admitted that contention was hopeless and that he had quietly submitted as was usual in the district. The Collector admitted that he was powerless.

In 1830 the Magistrate earnestly pressed for a "remedy for the increasing evil." The *Kavilgars* and Maravers had become aware, he wrote, "how far the power of the Magistrate is paralyzed as it affects them, and their increasing insubordination shows they are disposed to take advantage of the circumstance."

"It may be thought," he adds, "that the general provisions of the regulations are as adequate to the maintenance of order among them as amongst any other class of persons—but practically this is not found to be the case. The Maravers are held in greater fear generally than the Magistrate, and they contrive but too successfully to maintain the terror of their name by selecting as the subjects of their depredations all such as may have exposed themselves to their resentment. It is not the richest or most defenceless houses which are plundered, but those whose inhabitants have in any way offended the Maraver or assisted in bringing him to justice. For instance, among the houses in which robberies have been committed during the last year will be found those of the Police *Rayasum* or clerk of Vedoogramum, the Jemadar of the Magistrate's guard, and of several Mirasidars who have given evidence against Maravers. The outrages at Padookyput which will come before the Court at the ensuing Sessions (a case in which 509 Maravers were accused) appear to have been committed on the Shanars in revenge of the assistance which they had afforded to the taluq peons in the apprehension of some of their tribe. The remedy usually suggested by the Tahsildars and natives in general for curbing the licentious habits of the Maravers is to vest the Magistrate with discretion to remove the Maravers altogether from the office of the *Kavilgars*, and to appoint successors to them from among different castes." And he considered that were the suggestion adopted with reference to "any disorderly villages the good effect of the example might be felt very extensively." But he strongly recommended as "the most effectual way of securing an entire reform would be to assume the whole of the *Caval* fees and commuting them into a fixed monthly pay either in grain or money to establish in each village a competent Police establishment consisting of one Head *Kavilgar* and a sufficient number of subordinates, to be selected from such Maravers as may be deemed worthy of confidence. The whole would be put under the superintendence, of course, of the Village Munsif who should be called to make periodical reports of their general behaviour and diligence to the Taluq authorities for the information of the Magistrate and his subordinates."

The above plan recommended itself to the Magistrate as one which would substitute a regular payment disbursed at short and convenient monthly intervals for half-yearly payments which were recklessly squandered as soon as received, leaving the watchmen to live by booty or by the exaction of "large additional fees" extorted from the inhabitants; and as bringing the *Kavilgar* under control and raising his condition and general tone. And he added "if this system could be abolished, if a number of the Maravers as *Kavilgars* had a regular and competent means of living, *i.e.*, if they had a fixed monthly pay either in grain or in money, if they had a badge of office, if a register of them was formally made out; and if the Magistrate, in case of neglect on their part, was allowed to dismiss them from their situations and to appoint persons from different families, if not from different castes, much of the inconvenience which is at present experienced might be overcome"; and he anticipated "a rapid and most important improvement in the temper and spirit of this important class."

There were about this time 7,825 registered *Kavilgars* besides a large body of unregistered persons who likewise levied shares of alleged fees, etc., etc. These men were then collecting upwards of 70,000 Rupees worth of recognized grain-fees from the people, but there were also private and unregistered exactions on the trade, cultivation, and property at varying rates; and also taxes on all houses and shops, on goods in transit, carts, cattle, sheep, looms, back-yards, public and domestic ceremonies, and the various other sources of exaction, which, as he described it, "it had pleased the Maraver to lay under contribution to their emoluments." The Magistrate considered all this "extremely objectionable opening a door to infinite abuse from its not being defined, and from the difficulty of substantiating individual cases of abuse." He therefore proposed to reduce the number of registered *Kavilgars* to about 2,000 and to remunerate them by direct pay from Government.

His successor (Mr. Eden) however deprecated change chiefly on the ground that "nearly 6,000 Maravers who hitherto participated in the fees, will be deprived of all means of livelihood and left to prey on the inhabitants if the latter are allowed to withhold the exactions levied on them." In short the robber race of the land was beyond control and the unhappy people must, he thought, be left to bear the burden of these thieves whom the law could not coerce. In the meantime the exactions from the ryots had increased by Rs. 9,000 between 1830 and 1836 and seventy more men had been officially registered by the local officials.

The Board of Revenue reviewed this report under date 2nd October 1843 and remarked that emoluments derived "from moterfas and from many of the sources contributed by the ryot direct, appear to be objectionable in principle and the levy of them should be discouraged as much as possible." The Board added "their success in collecting their customary fees from the inhabitants individually sufficiently shows on how firm a footing the influence of the

Kavilgars is at present established, but when the Board shall have the satisfaction of seeing an efficient Police established in large villages they will look forward with confidence to the time when the inhabitants fully relying on the protection thus afforded them shall show a disposition to resist these demands; and feeling less dependent on this class of persons may be therefore relieved from the heavy tax with which under pretence of protection they are obliged to purchase their forbearance." The subject remained without further notice by the local officers until revived with reference to Extract of Minutes of Consultation of 1st November 1853 when it was found that the number of registered *Kavilgars* had risen to the enormous number of 9,038, who were then still levying on the people recognized fees to the sum of 90,000 Rs. besides large unregistered and unauthorized exactions. The actual sharers in the emoluments were supposed to be double the number returned and the contribution levied from the inhabitants were known to largely exceed the sum openly returned as the fees exacted. Indeed many sources of emolument were incapable of calculation such as the tax on carts and goods halting within villages, taxes on houses, shops, looms, ceremonies, etc., which were assessed by the *Kavilgars* according to the condition of the house owner or his trade or manufacture; and were wholly beyond control.

When in communication with Mr. Silver, the Magistrate, I made a careful local inquiry into the working of the system I found that things were exactly in the position sketched in the above-cited records. The official *Kavilgars* were absolutely masters of the position; the Magistracy was powerless; the people were their prey; and, large as the officially returned exactions certainly appeared, instances came before me in which the *Kavilgars* admitted that their actual receipts were 25 to 50 per cent. and upwards above the amounts so shown in the returns.

I laid the contents of the above paper before the Government (Sir Charles Trevelyan) of 1860 and was directed to estimate for a specially strong Police force for the district, so that this great evil might be effectively grappled with when the force became sufficiently strong to enable the firm suppression of the *Kavali* system throughout the district.

Subsequent experience of the Police officers and Mr. Puckle's letters show that the condition of the country is in the main but little changed as respects the enormous force of *Kavilgars*; and he estimates the actual burden of the *Kavili* system on the population of Tinnevelly at between 2 and 4 lakhs of Rupees a year.

Proceedings of Government of Madras, dated 26th December 1870.

As to the duties performed by the *Kavilgars* I may add that they have practically done much of the Revenue duties of their respective villages, such as the summoning of defaulters, guarding remittances, enforcing communal labor and the like.

Now I submit that Mr. Puckle's proposals and estimates fail to give due weight to existing conditions. It is simply futile to talk of treating the ancient public hereditary local service of the country—who have for centuries been remunerated by general fees, contributions and allowances levied and demanded on the strength of an official position—as the "private servants of the people." We cannot legally shut our eyes and ignore that which it was the first object of the Law (Act IV. of 1864) to regulate; and leaving untouched this vast evil proceed to lay on further taxation for the carefully devised scheme which Mr. Puckle places before us in such seductive completeness. Either we must graft our new arrangements on existing conditions and bring them under regulation—with large reduction of cost to the people—or we must sweep the whole thing away with absolute assurance against the oppression and pecuniary burden which attaches thereto—as a condition pre-cedent to establishing a new and costly local service at the cost of the people.

I think therefore that the only alternative is to return these papers to the Board and Mr. Puckle and tell them that the absolute suppression of the *Kavili* system—with its heavy exactions—must be a condition pre-cedent to the consideration of Mr. Puckle's scheme. And that if this cannot be effected with certainty and safety, the re-organization of the village establishment must be based on existing conditions and involve no additional burden. I very much prefer the former solution.

Mr. Puckle's scheme, as it is placed before us, is as absolutely complete; but the system of clubbing up villages has been carried too far, when some 280 villages reappear as 143 rural Unions. The guiding object of the reconstruction has apparently been to have a sufficiently extended area from which to raise sufficient funds for a complete village establishment.

Every new rural circle has its Accountant—an unnecessary charge I think; for Indian *Karneeks* or Kurnam charges are not necessarily conterminous with Villages. Everywhere two, in some places three, Mirassidars appear as paid officials—one as Munsif and head of the village (Regulation IV. of 1816) and another as Revenue Collector; while occasionally a third is added as Manager of irrigation, etc. Each is to have his attender. A sufficient establishment of paid village watchers or *talaris* and of revenue peons (*Vettians*) and water bailiffs is provided. And the selection of persons for these respective duties appears perfect.

But I believe that the whole is open to legal objection that neither the Regulation of 1816 nor the Village Cess Act of 1864 contemplates the heavy establishment of superior village servants proposed—with divided duties—alth h the proposals are not inconsistent with the joint Mirassidar constitution of village societ ongst Tamulian nationalities. The irrigation Monegar clearly belongs to an irrigation cess establishment.

I think, too, that perhaps the whole scheme is unduly strong and costly. But if the *Kavili* system is to be combated, some such powerful arrangement is indispensable. And if it can absolutely prevent *Kavili* exactions for all future time, even this costly arrangement will prove a great relief to the people, and I should be willing to consider it favorably on that condition pre-cedent.

I understand that Mr. Puckle has absolutely carried the thing out in one or two taluqs under the orders of Government, dated 3rd March 1874; and it will probably be wise to give effect to the arrangement. But for the future a carefully and complete scheme should be submitted for discussion before it is carried out.

8th January 1875. (Signed) W. ROBINSON.

P.S.—With reference to the Hon. Mr. Sim's remark—I know of no decision of Government to allow Assistant Monegars. If more Heads are required in a circle than one, it shows that the circle is too large and must be broken up to meet the requirement of the Law.

(Signed) W. ROBINSON.

39

No. MINUTE BY THE HON. W. ROBINSON, C.S.I.

IN approaching the question of organizing a new Imperial Village Establishment in the District of Tinnevelly under the Act, we have to bear in mind—

First, that the district is already burdened with an average land tax—a demand which the settlement may adjust more equitably but cannot materially reduce—which is—with a few exceptions—nearly double that of any other district in the country. A new burden of 6½ per cent. or about one-and-a-half lakh of Rupees for local administration is under the circumstances a matter for serious consideration;

And *secondly*, that under the exceptional continuance of the *Kavili* system in this district the population of Tinnevelly is already burdened with many special and very heavy local cesses for the maintenance of the existing ancient and recognized village services. These cesses run in some villages as high as 12 per cent. on the Land Revenue, and include general House-tax, Profession-tax, Moterfa-taxes, tolls on traffic, etc., etc. They certainly do not fall short of two lakhs of Rupees a year throughout the district; probably very much exceeds this sum. The country is therefore already assessed for local services far beyond what the Act allows; and this, in a very oppressive and barbarous form.

It is I think to be regretted that this exceptional condition of the country—this insuperable objection, as it seems to me, to additional taxation—except under the precedent suppression of the *Kavili* system—has not been thrown into the prominence it deserves either by the local officers or the Board of Revenue when seeking sanction for a heavy addition to the burden of the people.

A full understanding of the *Kavili* condition of Tinnevelly is so important to the consideration of the matter that I must venture to submit for the perusal of my Honorable Colleagues a memorandum of information drawn from the records of Tinnevelly, which I wrote when I was carefully examining the question in the district in 1860:—

> Long prior to the introduction of the British administration into the Province of Tinnevelly, the Poligars—who were almost without exception the heads of the Maraver or professional robber caste of the country—had entirely usurped the so-called *Kavil* or watch-and-ward of the country. We found the Poligar *Kavili* system with all its terrible oppression in full force here as it was throughout the Southern countries. We endeavoured to maintain it in our first arrangement for the administration of the province; but the utter lawlessness of the Poligars and their hordes of *Kavilgars* and the oppression they exercised were such that it became necessary to put them down with a high hand; to interdict their interference with the watch-and-ward of the country, and to forbid the collection of any fees from the people by them. The privileges of the Poligar Kavilgars were resumed and commuted. Their exactions however ceased very gradually.
>
> The *Kavili* system of Tinnevelly was at that time a thoroughly organized one. Under the Maraver Poligars there were Head *Kavilgars* drawn from the same licentious race who "watched" from one to eight and ten villages each and distributed their charge amongst their numerous fellow-castemen and connexions residing in each village. All of these Head and Under *Kavilgars* had done the "watching," etc., under the Poligars and had likewise levied large and almost uncontrolled exactions from the villagers. This part of the *Kavili* system was continued under our rule and is to this day in full force. The country was in fact left as heretofore to the so-called protection of the thievish lawless races of professional robbers who were subsided by the honest and industrious in consideration of their own forbearance from robbery and a species of assurance against losses at the hands of their thievish fraternity. The exactions of these Maraver *Kavilgars* have been very large from the beginning and they are still the hereditary watchers of the country and exercise privileges and functions in their different grades which are to this day wholly inconsistent with law and order.
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> The records of the district reiterate from year to year the disorders attributable to the *Kavilgars* and Maraver race. In 1830 Mr. Hall wrote: "Robbery in its various forms of

gang robbery, torch by highway robbery and highway robbery, was the crime of most frequent occurrence and its commission also was confined almost exclusively to the Maraver or Kavilgar race." He describes their habits and influence as follows:—"It is an acknowledged fact that no theft can be committed in a village without their knowledge. They are possessed in an eminent degree of hardihood, acuteness and activity, but they are all reckless and sanguinary and so addicted to plunder that they are looked upon by the other caste as robbers by nature as well as by profession. This class came generally to fill the office of village watcher partly on account of peculiar qualifications and partly from the idea that none but their own tribe could be capable of restraining the depredations of the Maravers. Allowances in land and grain are allotted to them in each village. In many villages the safety of the Circar* grain was provided for in a similar manner by a contribution in the shape of fees on the produce." Such are the Mênaud Stallam Kavil or village Watch-and-ward of Tinnevelly. It consists of Head—who more or less usurped the place of the Poligars—and under Kavilgars and many thousand co-sharers collect and participate in grain fees and other exactions levied on the people.

*N.B.—The sharing system and Oolcongu-system prevailed at that period.

The *Kavilgars* were placed in nominal subordination to the Heads of villages created by the Regulation of 1816, but in fact they entirely look to their own castemen and the Head Kavilgars and are almost independent even of the European Magistrates. The Police responsibilities of the Potail have been virtually exercised by the Head *Kavilgars*, who have been officially recognized as the preventers and detectors of crime. Indeed it was not in the nature of things that their mere transfer by law should have altered their habits or institutions. They hang together as a caste and have continued a living menace on the country, and no practical step has been possible towards removing their abuses; from 9,000 to 10,000 of these men have been kept officially registered within the 1,200 villages of this small district, and these are supported chiefly by fees or share of all crops and other cesses which they themselves assess and levy from the people. The actual sharers of these fees have been probably twice the registered number. The exactions of the *Kavilgars* from the people remain to this day almost without control or regulation.

The official records of the district are full of futile proposals for the regulation of these anomalous relations and the narration of the tyranny exercised by these lawless watchers. Endeavours have been made from time to time to check the irregularities perpetrated by the *Kavilgars* but in vain. Daily musters were sought to be established without success, the institution of passport was ineffectual, securities of Bonds (readily entered into by the Heads of the caste for their lawless under *Kavilgars*) could never be enforced, dismissal was ineffectual as a punishment for the Maravers "cared little whether the name of the father, of the son, or of the nephew be entered in the Circar accounts."

N.B.—The Head Sheristadar of the District told the Collector and myself in the course of our joint inquiry the story of his own recent contention with the *Kavilgars*. The house in which he lived had been assessed by the *Kavilgar* at eight Annas a year. A few years previous to our inquiry, he had enlarged and improved his house and the *Kavilgars* had at once assessed him at Rs. 3-8-0 He was dissatisfied but admitted that contention was hopeless and that he had quietly submitted as was usual in the district.

In 1830 the Magistrate earnestly pressed for a "remedy for the increasing evil." The *Kavilgars* and Maravers had become aware, he wrote, "how far the power of the Magistrate is paralized as it affects them, and their increasing insubordination shows they are disposed to take advantage of the circumstance."

"It may be thought," he adds, "that the general provisions of the regulations are as adequate to the maintenance of order among any other class of persons—but practically this is not found to be the case. The Maravers are held in greater fear generally than the Magistrate, and they contrive but too successfully to maintain the terror of their name by selecting

as the subjects of their depredations all such as may have exposed themselves to their resentment. It is not the richest or most defenceless houses which are plundered, but those whose inhabitants have in any way offended the Maraver or assisted in bringing him to justice—for instance among the houses in which robberies have been committed during the last year will be found those of the Police royasoor or clerk of Vedoogramum, the Jemadar of the Magistrate's guard and of several Mirasidars who have given evidence against Maravers. The outrages at Padookyput which will come before the Court at the ensuing Sessions (a case in which 509 Maravers were accused) appear to have been committed on the Shanars in revenge of the assistance which they had afforded to the taluq peons in the apprehension of some of their tribe. The remedy usually suggested by the Tahsildars and natives in general for curbing the licentious habits of the Maravers was to vest the Magistrate with discretion to remove the Maravers altogether from the office of the Kavilgars and to appoint successors to them from among different castes," and he considered that were the suggestion adopted with reference to "any disorderly villages the good effect of the example might be felt very extensively." But he strongly recommended as "the most effectual way of securing an entire reform would be to assume the whole of the *Caval* fees and commuting them into a fixed monthly pay either in grain or money to establish in each village a competent Police establishment consisting of one Head Kavilgar and a sufficient number of subordinates to be selected from such Maravers as may be deemed worthy of confidence. The whole would be put under the superintendence, of course, of the Village Munsif who should be called to make periodical reports of their general behaviour and diligence to the Taluq authorities for the information of the Magistrate and his subordinates."

The above plan recommended itself to the Magistrate as one which would substitute a regular payment disbursed at short and convenient monthly intervals for half-yearly payments which were recklessly squandered as soon as received leaving the watchmen to live by booty or by the exaction of "large additional fees" extorted from the inhabitants; as bringing the watcher under control and raising his condition and general tone. And he added "if this system could be abolished, if a number of the Maravers as Kavilgars had a regular and competent means of living, *i.e.*, if they had a fixed monthly pay either in grain or in money, if they had a badge of office, if a register of them was formally made out; and if the Magistrate, in case of neglect on their part, was allowed to dismiss them from their situations and to appoint persons from different families, if not from different castes, much of the inconvenience which is at present experienced might be overcome" and he anticipated "a rapid and most important improvement in the temper and spirit of this important class."

There were about this time 7,825 registered *Kavilgars* (exclusive of a largy body of unregistered persons who likewise levied shares of alleged fees, etc., etc). These men were then collecting upwards of 70,000 Rupess worth of recognized grain-fees from the people, but there were also private and unregistered exactions on the trade, cultivation, and property at varying rates; and also taxes on all houses and shops, on goods in transit, carts, cattle, sheep, looms, back-yards, public and domestic ceremonies, and the various other sources of exaction, which, as he described it, it had pleased the Maraver to lay under contribution to their emoluments. The Magistrate considered all this "extremely objectionable opening a door to infinite abuse from its not being defined, and from the difficulty of substantiating individual cases of abuse." He therefore proposed to reduce the number of registered Kavilgars to about 2,000 and to remunerate them by direct pay from Government.

His successor (Mr. Eden) however deprecated change chiefly on the ground that "nearly 6,000 Maravers who hitherto participated in the fees will be deprived of all means of livelihood and left to prey on the inhabitants if the latter were allowed to withhold the exactions levied on them."

In short the robber race of the land was beyond control and the unhappy people must, he thought, be left to bear the burden of these thieves whom the law could not coerce. In the meantime the exactions from the ryots had increased by Rs. 9,000 between 1830 and 1836 and seventy more men had been officially registered.

The Board of Revenue received this report under date 2nd October 1843 and remarked that emoluments derived "from motorfas and from many of the sources contributed by the

ryot direct appear to be objectionable in principle and the levy of them should be discouraged as much as possible." The Board added "their success in collecting their customary fees from the inhabitants individually sufficiently shows on how firm a footing the influence of the Kavilgars is at present established, but when the Board shall have the satisfaction of seeing an efficient Police established in large villages they will look forward with confidence to the time when the inhabitants fully relying on the protection thus afforded them shall show a disposition to resist these demands and feeling less dependent on this class of persons may be therefore relieved from the heavy tax with which under pretence of protection they are obliged to purchase their forbearance." The subject remained without further notice by the local officers until revived with reference to Extract of Minutes of Consultation of 1st November 1853 and Extract of Proceedings from the Board of Revenue of 21st idem when it was found that the number of registered Kavilgars had risen to the enormous number of 9,038 who were levying on the people recognized fees to the sum of 90,000 Rs. besides large unregistered and unauthorized exactions. The actual sharers in the emoluments were supposed to be double the number returned and the contribution levied from the inhabitants were known to largely exceed the sum openly returned as the fees exacted. Indeed many sources of emolument were incapable of calculation such as the tax on carts and goods halting within villages, taxes on houses, shops, looms, ceremonies, etc., which were assessed by the *Kavilgars* according to the condition of the house owner or his trade or manufacture.

When in communication with Mr. Silver the Magistrate, I made a careful local inquiry into the working of the system I found that things were exactly in the position sketched in the above-cited records. The official *Kavilgars* were absolutely masters of the position; the Magistracy was powerless; the people were their prey and large as the officially returned exactions certainly appeared, instances came before me in which the *Kavilgars* admitted that their actual receipts were 25 per cent. and upwards above the amounts so shown.

I laid the contents of the above papers before the Government (Sir Charles Trevelyan) of 1860 and was directed to estimate for a specially strong Police for the district, so that this great evil might be effectively grappled with when the force became sufficiently strong to enable the firm suppression of the Kavili system throughout the district.

Proceedings of Government of Madras, dated 26th December 1870.

Subsequent experience of the Police officers and Mr. Puckle's letters show that the condition of the country is in the main but little changed as respects the enormous force of *Kavilgars*; and he estimates the actual burden of the Kavili system on the population of Tinnevelly at between 2 and 4 lakhs of Rupees a year.

As to the duties performed by the *Kavilgars* I may add that they have practically done much of the Revenue duties of their respective villages, such as the summoning of defaulters, guarding remittances, etc., etc., enforcing communal labor and the like.

Now I submit that Mr. Puckle's proposals and estimates for the costly introduction of a new *quasi* imperial village service fail to give due weight to existing conditions. It is simply futile to talk of treating the ancient public hereditary local service of the country—who have for centuries been remunerated by general fees, contributions and allowances levied and demanded on the strength of an official position as the "private servants of the people." We cannot legally shut our eyes and ignore that which it was the first object of the Law (Act IV. of 1864) to regulate; and leaving untouched this vast evil proceed to lay on further taxation for the carefully devised scheme which Mr. Puckle places before us in such seductive completeness. Either we must graft our new arrangements on existing conditions and bring them under regulation—with large reduction of cost to the people—or we must sweep the whole thing away with absolute assurances against the oppressive and pecuniary burden which attaches thereto as a condition precedent to establishing a new and costly local service at the cost of the people.

I think therefore that the only alternative is to return these papers to the Board and Mr. Puckle and tell them that the absolute suppression of the Kavili system with its heavy exaction must be a condition precedent to the consideration of Mr. Puckle's scheme, and that if this cannot be effected with certainty and safety the re-organization of the village establishment must be based on existing conditions and involve no new burden.

Mr. Puckle's Scheme.

THE scheme before us is—as a new device—as absolutely complete as it is revolutionary. It is a State local service that is to be organized rather than a local communal service to be comforted and regulated under the color of reconstruction and amalgamation the old village constitution of society is virtually swept away and some 280 villages reappear as 143 rural circles. The guiding object of the reconstruction has apparently been to have a sufficiently extended area from which to raise sufficient funds for a large establishment and not to maintain existing conditions as desired by Government.

Every new rural circle has its Accountant—an unnecessary charge I think, for Indian *Kadneeks* are not necessary conterminous with villagers—and everywhere two, in some places three Mirassidars appear as paid officials—one as Munsif and head of the village (Regulation IV. of 1816) and another as Revenue Collector and occasionally a third is added as Manager of irrigation, etc.—each with his attender. A sufficient establishment of paid village watchers or *talaris* and of revenue peons (Vettians) and water bailiffs is provided—and the selection of persons for these respective duties appear perfect.

But I believe that the whole is open to legal objection that neither the Regulation of 1816 nor the Village Cess Act of 1864 contemplates the heavy establishment of superior village servants proposed—with divided duties—although the proposals are not inconsistent with the joint Mirassidar constitution of village society amongst Tamulian nationalities. The irrigation Monegar clearly belongs to an irrigation cess establishment.

I think too that perhaps the whole scheme is unduly strong and costly, but if the *Kavili* system is to be combated such powerful arrangement is indispensable, and if it can absolutely prevent *Kavili* exactions for all future time, even this costly arrangement will prove a relief to the people and I should be willing to consider it favorably on that condition precedent.

I understand that Mr. Puckle has absolutely carried the thing out in one or two taluqs without presanctioned estimate or scheme. I protested in the strongest—*vide* note to Proceedings of Government, dated 3rd March 1874—against this process in regard to a matter of such importance and difficulty and must again urge that precipitation in this matter is fraught with serious embarrassment not only from an administrative point of view but as carrying an additional burden on the people which cannot be justified.

8th January 1875. (Signed) W. ROBINSON.

P.S.—With reference to the Hon. Mr. Sim's remark—I know of no decision of Government to allow Assistant Monegars. If more Heads are required in a circle than one, it shows that the circle is too large and must be broken up to meet the requirement of the Law.

(Signed) W. ROBINSON.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

MINUTE BY HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR.

UPON this proposal for the re-organisation of the village service in Tinnevelly under the Act of 1864, I have only to observe that, in a recent Minute on a similar subject, I have asked for full information as to the origin, objects, and effect where already introduced of the Act of 1864, including a statement of the amount which is paid by the ryots under the Act where introduced on account of village service, as compared with the aggregate amount of all payments to which they are liable on the same account wherever the Act has not been introduced. I shall then be better able to judge as to the expediency of the proceedings which have been hitherto taken, or are proposed to be taken, by Government under the Act.

2. The more heavily Tinnevelly is taxed for revenue purposes, the more desirable it is that Tinnevelly should obtain the relief which will be afforded by the introduction of the Act; and, as regard the "Kavili" system, as described by the Hon. Mr. Robinson, there could surely be no stronger reason for the introduction of the Act than that it would sweep away a system so oppressive to the people and so discreditable to our administration.

15*th January* 1875.

(Signed) HOBART.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

MINUTE BY THE HON. J. D. SIM, C.S.I.

THE Collector's letters and the Board's Proceedings contain but the scantiest particulars of the grouping of villages, which is one of the most important points in the revision of village establishments. I would call for a statement showing, for the Tenkasi Taluq, the names, area, population, and revenue of each village in each group, and its distance from the chief village or head-quarters of the group. We shall then be able to judge whether the grouping has been carried too far, or is otherwise inexpedient, and the orders passed will serve as a guide for the grouping of the rest of the district.

2. I agree with the Board that the system of "Circles" should be abandoned. As regards Assistant Monigars, the Government, after full consideration, have decided that there shall be but one village head for revenue, magisterial, and other business, and that where the work is too heavy for one individual, his pay shall be fixed on such a scale as to enable him to employ one or more assistants as may be necessary. I would not depart from this principle: otherwise the responsibility and influence of the village head will be impaired.

3. The offices of Vetty and Taliary should certainly, as a rule, be filled from the Maraver class. The suggestion of the Superintendent of Police, that the pay of the Taliaries should be disbursed by him, should be positively negatived. These servants are part of the village establishment, and must look to the Munsif as their local, and the Collector and Magistrate as their departmental, superiors.

4. The cavelly system of Tinnevelly, so fully described by the Hon. Mr. Robinson cannot be suffered to continue. We can no longer suffer several thousands of Maravers to prey on the people, and levy black-mail at their own will and pleasure, as they still do to a considerable extent. What is actually levied by these men cannot be ascertained, still less is it known what offences are committed and screened by them. The whole system is a disgrace to our administration, and its suppression is essential for good government and the protection of the people. The introduction of the Village Cess Act, Act IV. of 1864, will bring about this result, as surely and as rapidly as it can be effected by law.

5. The people will be gainers by the introduction of the Act, inasmuch as 6¼ per cent. on the assessment will represent all that they will have to pay for village service of all kinds. At present, they pay at least twice as much in some form or other.

6. As regards the Cavilgars, so many of them as are required will be employed on fixed salaries as Vetties and Taliaries, and their landed Inams will be enfranchised at five-eighths of their assessment. We can neither ourselves employ, nor can we require the people to pay for several thousands of watchmen in excess of their real requirements. Under the Cess Act, the demand, levy, or receipt of any fees for village service other than the 6¼ per-centage authorised by it is a penal offence. At first, very probably many of the people will continue to submit to the illegal exactions of the Maravers; but every encouragement must be held out to them to emancipate themselves from the tyranny of this class, and the Magistracy and Police must take effective measures to afford them full protection in so doing.

7. The assessment is and indeed always has been comparatively higher in Tinnevelly than elsewhere; but Mr. Puckle's assessment certainly does not exceed the half-net, and the difference must be ascribed to local peculiarities of irrigation, soil, etc. There is no reason to suppose that the ryots cannot afford to pay the village service cess, which, as I have pointed out, is not an additional burden, but is actually a relief, as it supersedes much larger payments which they now have to make for the same object.

11*th January* 1875.

J. D. SIM.

The Colo. Collector
& the Govt. Surv.
Contain but the
scantiest par-
ticulars of the
surveying & Villag-
ing which is one of
the most important
points in the Duties
of Village Establish-
ment. I would
call for a State-
ment showing, for
the Tenkati Taluk,
the names - area -
Population & Income
of Each Village in
Each Group - and
the Distance from

the chief village or Head Quarters of the Parish. He should then be able to judge whether the Parishing has been carried too far - or is thereunder in Extendiment - and the orders headed with Lime as a guide for the Parishing of the next of the District.

I agree with the Idea that at the System of "Circles" should be abandoned

As regards Asst. Surveyors - the put a the fule em. siderater have decided that there shall be but one Village Head for ~~ob~~ Taluka, Magisterial & other Purposes - & that where the work is too heavy for one in District - his pay shall be fixed on such a scale as to enable him to employ ~~one or more~~ assistants as may be necessary I would not depart from this principle

determine them re-
spon sibility &
influence of the
Village Chief while
he is employed.

The duties of
Patty & Taliary
should certainly
as a rule be filled
from the Mariam
class. The suggestion
of the Sub. of Police
that the pay of
the Taliaries should
be increased by Govt
should be particularly
reflected - These
Servants are part
of the Village Es-

tablishment of the
Village Cesses Act
Act IV of 1864 while
being about three
result. as surely &
as rapidly as it
can be effected
by law.

The people while
be farmers by the
be introduction
of the Act - viz.
much as 6¼ per
cent on the assess
ment will be due.
- Sent also that
they will have to
pay for village ser-
vice of all kinds.

at present they
pay at least twice
as much in those
farms or others.

As regards the
Civil Servants - so many
of them as are re-
quired will be
employed as first
Salaries as Pettah
& Talaiaries - and
their hundred loans
will be redeemed.
- closed at 5/8th
of their allotment
We can with them
our Volunteers employ
how can we dispense
the double Pay
for Lance at Kandy

- establishment and
must look to the
~~Chiefship~~ Korales
Chiefs in their local
Superiors and the
Colr & Magts in their
departments at
Superiors.

The Cavelly
System of Jaffna
Valley - & fully de-
scribed by the Govt
Agt Jaffna - can
not be introduced to
Continue - We can
not pay in the
Lance at the rate
of Mareaves to pay
on the double - and
pay black mail

at their own rule
& pleasure - as they
still do to a
considerable extent.
What is actually
levied by them cannot be ascer-
-tained - Still less
is it known what
offences are com-
-mitted and screened
by them - The whole
system is a disgrace
to our administra-
-tion - and its rep-
-ression is essential
to good government
and the protection
of the people. The

of what channels an
excess of their col-
-lections - Under
the Cess Act, the
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receipt of any fee
for village service
other than the 6 fs
per cent to go another
by that it, is a penal
offence. At first t
very few likely many
of the people will
continue to submit
to the illegal exac
-tions of the Karanam
but every encourage
ment must be held out to them
to denounce to the

Selves from the ty
Tranny of this class
and the Magistracy
& Police must take
effective measures to
afford them full
protection in so
doing.

The assessment
is and indeed
always has been
comparatively higher
in Limerick - than
the Parliamentary assess-
-ment, certainly
does not exceed the
half-but-and
the Difference could
be accounted for

Recommended 55/-
description, till he
There is no doubt
but the Parish that the
Poor consist of
food to buy the
Village Service Cop
which as I have
mentioned out, is
not an additional
burden - but is
actually a relief,
as it has been calcu
lated that labour by
means of Trial Hay
has been done for
for the sum of
Cost.

Jos

11. 1. 75

No 1475.
Messrs. [illegible]
Solrs.
Re Mrs. [illegible] Sum £[illegible]
Dated 4th January 1875.

Gall Chambers
No 710

76

Rec'd 4th Jan 75.

Rev.

GO 11 May 75 No 710

Memorandum No 336.

The undersigned requests that the Deputy Registrar, Revenue Department will be good enough to return as soon as possible the two original enclosures (Map & Statement) sent to Government with Board's Proceedings 24th August 1874 No 2362 and which should have accompanied the G. O. dated 11th May 1875 No 710 relative to village Establishment in Tinnevelly District.

The papers are urgently required by 3d Member of Board.

Revenue Board Office,
Madras, 5th July 1875.

Hamphton
Registrar

To
The Deputy Registrar
Government Office Rev Dept.

Upon the proposal for the re-organization
of the Village termed in Piccadilly
under the Act of 1864 I have only
to observe that in all cases of a
similar nature I have adopted the
practice in operation at the time of
the, and effect alone already
introduced, of the Act of 1864 —
viz leading a Valuation of the
amount which is paid by the
Ratepayers under the Act, whereas
the proposed arrangement

village termini, as compared with the aggregate amount of all expenses to which they are liable on the same account wherever the Act has not been introduced. I should then be better able to judge as to the expediency of the proceedings which have been taken, or are pursued & be taken, & [illegible] under the Act.

I remain dear Mr. Ramsden, at last with it's "Kandjar" lying to Yours respectfully

[illegible] Ramsden, the case hardly Immediately is [illegible] for Revenue purposes, the case [illegible] Immediately
down with it is that [illegible] Hundred Thousand the relief which will be afforded by the introduction of the Act[illegible] upon the

G.O.H. May 1/75 No 710

[illegible] system, as described by
the Hon'ble Sir Richard Temple, have called only
for such changes and reserve for the
introduction of the Ash. Tenancy Act
[illegible] system
application of the principle and to
[illegible] to
administration

Hobart

Jan 15/75

C No 224 - Board's No 2362 & 26 Sept 1874

Memo

I think under the circumstances there is no alternative but to order the preparation of a revised scheme for the Jeu Rasi taluq of the Tinnevelly District. This could be easily prepared by the officer who submitted the original scheme but would be a difficult work for a new Collector unacquainted with the ground & the people of that particular taluq. if the Govt wish it I can revise the scheme on the spot & submit a report in June but this may interfere with the submission of a revised scheme for the Daraapuri taluq of Salem lately ordered. However I can but try & may possibly be able to do both. I have also a scheme in hand for a part of the Sydapet taluq of the Chingleput dist & if I receive sufficiently detailed instruction to enable me to draw up my schemes entirely in accord with the wishes of Govt these 3 will be amply sufficient to enable the Collectors of Salem Tinnevelly & Chingleput to appt village establishments throughout their districts on the principles approved for one taluq in each - as I understand the wishes of Govt, the assumed (5/8) Manigams & cudy money allowances should be thrown into a common fund to pay Curnams - IInd Curnams should be appointed to a single village or a group of villages with reference to the size population &c or situation or all these circumstances combined of that village or group. The scale of salaries for Curnams should be [illegible] to that given in para 2 of the Bd's pro on the revision of the Rellore establishments (No 912 of 2nd June 1873)

V any surplus from the maniyams enfranchised at $\frac{5}{5}$ of their taram account & from the ready money allowances, after paying the Cernams should be credited to the general fund - V each village that now has a munsiff shall continue to have one except in special cases such as beckiray or uninhabited villages & any small and easily [illegible] that can clearly [illegible] advantage by the munsiff of the large parent village close by - VI this munsiff should be also the moneyar or rev collector and if the size of the village prevents his performing the work himself he must keep his own gomastas to help him - VII he should be paid not according to population as proposed by the Bd for Rellore but according to rev like the Cernams as Shelvas was sanctioned for Kurnool - for practically in many rich villages near large towns the ryots are mostly non residents & the population would be no guide for determining the munsiffs emoluments - VIII The munsiff should be paid from the service cess - IX there should be no moneyar to assist the munsiff moneyar in collecting the revenue - (this is the weak point of the scheme I think, as during the absence of the munsiff on duty at the Courts & Catcheries which in his double capacity is likely to be very frequent there will be no officer left in the village to manage the village police, make reports, hold inquests, make remittances & collect the rev - if the munsiff is summoned to a Court during jamabundy it will be most inconvenient & when the munsiff is sick everything will come to a standstill - there will be more or a vast body of intelligent and

useful officers (now known as nattamaigars mirasidars &c &c whose rights & privileges have till now been guarded with the utmost care by Govt & the Bd) suddenly thrown out of employ & there will be no one in training to succeed the munsiff when from old age or misconduct he is removed from office - as I read the act a moneyar can be appointed & in order to avoid the necessity of amending the act in this respect, than have everything fall into confusion by being entrusted to the care of one man possibly an ignorant sickly or careless man who is as the Bd require to be paid less than the Cernams. X one or more talaries are to be attached to the munsiff for the performance of village police duties - XI the number of talaries required to be determined with reference to the situation of the village its size & criminal population, or the prevalence of crime in the neighbourhood rather than with reference to beriz - XII one or more vettiyans are to be attached to the munsiff moneyar for the performance of rev duties - carrying reports - escorting remittances assembling the ryots - &c &c - XIII both talaries & vettiyans to be selected from the classes now filling such offices, & where practicable as in the South to be selected from the Maravar & Kallar tribes - XIV - the pay of the talary & vettiyan to be 4 Rs a month as proposed by the Bd for Rellore -

XV The munify monigar the talariers & Vettijans to be paid from the service cess -

XVI The cess only to be imposed at such a rate as will provide the needful estabt -

XVII all unexpent surplus cess to be carried to the credit of the village in which it may be collected & laid out on village improvements -

XVIII Nirgunties or water distributors if required must be paid from Imperial funds & form no part of this scheme -

In a highly irrigated country the people are more anxious for the appointment of a nirgunty to each village than for any number of vettijans - the nirgunty must be a fisher - or a man accustomed to the water who can swim & dive and close the sluice vent with turf & straw or open it again sometimes in 8 or 10 feet of water - no one of the vettijans or talariers might possibly be able to perform this duty & if a nirgunty can be provided by the act I would strongly advocate one for each village treasured by a large channel or supplied from an important tank -

Finally the village estabt must be appointed & be in strong working order I think before the Kaval exactions can be put down - to put them down we must have an organized village police, a great addition to the adunary for constabulary and numerous village subordinates who can act as watchmen & patrol - now we employ the very Kavalgars whom we wish to put down as unpaid police men & revenue officers and we must subsidize a large proportion of this tribe [illegible] before we can touch Kaval fees - however much we may talk & advise individuals will not be left helpless & exposed to robbery unless we show them that we can and will protect them - when they see that there is a strong force already on the ground to protect them they will desist from paying Kaval fees particularly if ordered not to pay - but to attempt to put down the Kaval system before orga izing new village estabt would be utterly futile - the suppression of the Kaval systems can only be done by degrees - slowly & patiently taluq by taluq - commencing in the locality where the Kavalgars are least influential - this happens to be Tenkasi & there with a strong village police - double the present force of constables - increased inspection & supervision good village officers - one always present in the village an active sub magistr & great nursing & care on the part of the European officer who should specially

67

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

C No. 1728.

From Board of Revenue.
Dated 7th May 1874.

FOR ORDERS.

Rde Memorial of
Mun.ty of Pro Ot. Ltd
Augt. 1874 & 2562

RKD

enlist the sympathies of the Maravar Zemindars on his side by making them honorary Magts. - Members of L.C. Bds. &c &c instead of driving them to distraction as at present with the rent recovery act, the thing might be done & when done in one taluq it could be gradually [illegible] hot bed of Maravar Lawlessness & Rampanery. But the operation must needs be a slow one & can be effected only by personal influence & exertion & not by any general order.

RKD

GO No. 710 dy 11th May 1875

(10)

FOR ORDERS.

ac. 8/1/35: pd 18/1/35:

Cut June/34 pd

/ 63

Village Estates
of Lawrence
Precinct

Board Proceedings D 24 Aug 1874
No 2867.

In approaching the question of organizing a new Imperial Village Establishment in the District of Limerally under the Act, we have to bear in mind:—

First that the District is already burdened with an average land-tax — a demand which the Settlement may adjust more Equitably but cannot materially reduce — which is — with a few Exceptions — nearly double

No 7414
Memde by
H.E. the Governor.
20 Dec 1864

Dated 15th January 1865.

Go 11 Regt 1/65 Rec 7/10

11.

C 14 Regt Rec'd 23 Feb/65

double that of any other District in the Country. A new burden of 6½ per cent or about one-and-a half lakh of rupees for local administration is under the circumstances a matter for serious Consideration:—

And Secondly that under the Exceptional Continuance of the Kamil system in this District the population of Tinnevelly is already burdened with many special and very heavy local cesses for the maintenance of the Existing ancient and recognized Village Services. These cesses rise in some Villages as high as 12 percent on the land-revenue, and includes General House tax, profession tax, Motor tax, tolls on traffic &c &c. They certainly do not fall short of two lakhs of rupees a year throughout the District; probably very much exceeds this sum. The Country is therefore already assessed for local Services far beyond what the Act allows; and this, in a very oppressive and barbarous form.

It is I think to be regretted that this Exceptional Condition of the Country — this

this insuperable objection,
as it seems to me, to
additional taxation
except under the precedent
suppression of the Kaisli
System – has not been
thrown into the prominence
it deserves either by the
local officers or the Board
of Revenue when seeking
sanction for a heavy
addition to the burdens
of the people.

A full understanding
of the Kaisli Condition
of Limerick is so
important to the
consideration of the
matter that I must
venture to submit for
the perusal of my
honorable Colleagues
a

a Memo of information
drawn from the records
of Limerick, which I
wrote when I was carefully
Examining the question
in the District in 1860:-

Long prior to the
introduction of the
British administration
into the Province of
Limerick, the Poligars
– the more almost
without exception the
Heads of the Maravers
or professional robbers
Caste of the country –
had entirely usurped
the Kaisli &
the so-called, Watch and
Ward of the country;
thus formed the Poligar
Kaisli System with all
its terrible oppression
in full force here
as it was throughout
the

the Southern Countries and We endeavored to maintain it in our first arrangement for the administration of the province; but the utter lawlessness of the Poligars and their hordes of Kavilgars and the oppression they Exercised were such that it became necessary to put them down with a high hand; to interdict their interference with the watch and ward of the Country, and to forbid the Collection of any fees from the people by them. The privileges of the Poligars Kavilgars were resumed and Commuted. Their Exactions however ceased very gradually.

The Kavilly System of Tinnevelly was at that time a thoroughly organized one. Under the Maravar Poligars there were Head Kavilgars drawn from the same Kallen race who "watched" from 8 and 10 villages. Each and distributed their charge amongst their numerous fellow Countrymen and Connections residing in Each village. All of these Head and Under Kavilgars had done the watching for under the Poligars and had likewise levied large and almost uncontrolled Exactions from the

villagers. This part
of the Kaville system
was continued under
our rule and is to
this day in full force.
The country was in
fact left as heretofore
to the so called protection
of the thievish lawless
race of professional
robbers who were
subsided by the honest
and industrious in
consideration of their
non forbearance from
robbery and as a premium
of assurance against
losses at the hands
of their thievish
fraternity. The
Exactions of these
Maravar Kallars
have been very
large from the
beginning and they
are

are still the hereditary
watchers of the Country
and exercise principally
and functions in
their different grades
which are to this day
wholly inconsistent
with Law and Order.

The Records of
the District recite that
from your Boyhood
the disorders attributable to the Kallars
and Maravar Race
In 1830 Mr. Hull wrote
"Robbery in its various
"forms of Gang robbery
"Theft by highway robbery
"and Highway robbery,
"was the crime of
"most frequent occurrence
"and its commission
"also was confined to
"almost exclusively to
"the Maravar or Kallar
"race". He describes

the c

their habits and influence
as follows:- "it is an
"acknowledged fact
"that no theft can be
"committed in a village
"without their knowledge.
"They are possessed
"in an Eminent degree
"of hardihood, acuteness
"and activity, but they
"are all reckless and
"sanguinary and so
"addicted to plunder
"that they are looked
"upon by the other Caste
"as robbers by nature
"as well as by profession.
"They class came frequently
"to fill the office of
"Village Watchers partly
"on account of peculiar
"qualifications and
"partly from the idea
"that none but their
"own tribe could be
Capable

[illegible] The sharing system
& Oolooun-system prevailed
at that period

"Capable of restraining
"the depredations of the
"manners. Allowances
"in land and grain
"are allotted to them
"in each village. In
"many villages the
"safety of the Circar
"grain was provided
"for in a similar
"manner by a Contri-
"bution in the shape
"of fees on the Produce
Such are the Men and
~~and the~~ Stallions
Kavil or Village
Watch-and ward
of Limewalls. It consists
of Heads-who more
or less usurped the
place of the Poligars
and Under Kavilgars
and many thousand
Watchers collect and
participate in Grain
fees

fees and other exactions
levied on the people.

The Kaivalgars
were placed in a
nominal subordination
to the Heads of Villages
created by the Regulations
of 1816 but in fact
they entirely look to
their own Castemen
and the Head Kaivalgars
and are almost
independent even
of the European Ma-
gistrates. The
Police responsibilities
of the Potail have
been virtually Exercised
by the Head Kaivalgars,
who have been officially
recognized as the
preventers & detectors
of Crime. Indeed
it was not in the
native
nature of things that
there were transfers
they have should have
altered their habits
or institutions. They
hang together as a
caste and have
continued a living
menace on the Country
and no practicable
slip has been possible
towards removing
their abuses; from
9,000 to 10,000 of these
men have been
kept officially registered
within the 7,200 villages
of this small District
and these are
supported chiefly
or wholly at the cost of all cultivators
by fees which they
assess and
themselves levy from
the people. The
actual shares of
these

these fees have been probably twice the registered numbers.

The Exactions of the Kavilgars from the people remain to this day almost without Control or regulation

The official records of the District are full of futile proposals for the regulation of these anomalous relations and the narrations of the tyranny Exercised by these lawless Dalehs Endeavours have been made from time to time to check the irregularities so perpetuated by the Kavilgars but in vain. Daily Musters were sought to be Established without success, the inhabitants

NB. The Head Shirestadar of the District told the Collector & myself in the Course of our joint inquiry the story of his own recent contention with the Kavilgars. The house in which he lived had been assessed by the Kavilgars at Das: a year. A few years previous to our inquiry, he had Enlarged & improved his house and the Kavilgars had at once assessed him at 3 Pks: He was dissatisfied but admitted that Contention was hopeless & that he had quietly submitted as was usual in the District

of passport was ineffectual, Security of Bonds (readily Entered into by the Heads of the Caste for their lawless underlings Kavilgars) could never be enforced, dismissal was ineffectual as a punishment for the Marauders "Cared little whether "the name of the "father, of the son, "or of the nephew "he entered in the "Circars Accounts"

In 1830 the Magistrate Earnestly pressed for a "remedy for the "increasing Evil"

The Kavilgars and Marauders had become aware,

he

he wrote, "how far
"the power of the
"Magistrate is es-
"paralized as it
"affects them and
"their increasing is
"insubordination is
"shews they are disposed
"to take advantage
"of the circumstances
"It may be thought,
he adds, "that the
"General provisions of
"the Regulations are as
"adequate to the main-
"tenance of order is
"among any other class
"of persons. but in
"practice this is
"not found to be the
"case. The Maroons
"are held in greater
"fear generally than
"the Magistrate and
"they contrive but
"too successfully to

Maitland

"maintain the terror
"of their name by
"selecting as the
"subjects of their ex-
"depredations all
"such as may have
"expressed themselves
"to their recruitment.
"It is not the richest
"or most defenceless
"houses which are
"plundered, but
"those whose inhabi-
"tants have in any
"way offended the
"Maroons, or assisted
"in bringing him
"to justice. for instance
"among the houses
"in which robberies
"have been committed
"during the last year
"will be found those
"of the Police Magistrate
or Clerk
"of Vendue Master

"the Jemadars of the
"Majestrate's guard
"and of several
"Marauders who
"have given Evidence
"against Maravers.
"The outrage at
"Padookyputt which
"will come before the
"Court at the Ensuing
"Sessions (a Case in
"which 509 Maravers
"were accused) appears
"to have been Committed
"on the Chauars in
"revenge of the violence
"which they had
"afforded to the Salary
"peons in the apprehension
"of some of their tribe.
"The remedy usually
"suggested by the
"Tahsildars and Natives
"in General for curbing
"the licentious habits
of

"of the Maravers was
"to vest the Magistrate
"with discretion to
"remove the Maravers
"altogether from the
"office of the Kavilgars
"and to appoint in
"Successors to them
"from among different
Castes" and he
Considered that
were the suggestion
adopted with reference
to "any disorderly village"
"the good effect of the
"example might be felt
"very Extensively" but
he strongly recommended
as "the most effectual
"way of securing an
"entire reform would
"be to assume the
"whole of the Cavalgees
"and Commuting them
"into a fixed monthly
pay

"pay Cutters in Grain
"or money to Establish
"in Each Village a
"Competent Police
"Establishment Consist
"ing of one Head Bailiff
"and a Sufficient
"number of Subordinates
"to be selected from
"such Naravers as
"may be deemed
"worthy of Confidence.
"The whole would be
"put under the
"Superintendence, of some
"of the Village Munsiffs
"who should be called
"to make periodical
"reports of their general
"behaviour and
"deligence to the
"Salary Authorities for
"the information of
"the Magistrate and
"his Subordinates"

The

The above plan
recommended itself
to the Magistrate as
one which would
substitute a regular
payment disbursed
at short & convenient
monthly interval
for half-yearly pay-
ments which were
recklessly squandered
as soon as received
leaving the Watchmen
to live by booty or
by the extortion of
large additional
fees extorted from
the inhabitants; as
bringing the Watches
under Control and
raising his Cast[e]ion
and general tone.
And he added
"if this system could
be abolished, if a
number

"member of the Maravas
"as Kavilgars had a
"regular & competent
"means of living i.e.
"if they had a fixed
"monthly pay either
"in grain or in money
"if they had a badge
"of office, if a register
"of them was formally
"made out; and if
"the Magistrate, in
"case of neglect on their
"part, was allowed
"to dismiss them
"from their Situations
"and to appoint persons
"from different families,
"if not from different
"Castes, much of the
"inconvenience which
"is at present ~~is~~
"experienced might
"be overcome" and
he anticipated "a
rapid & most important
improvement

"improvement in
"the temper & spirit
"of this important cla

There were abo
this time 7,825 regist
Kavilgars (Exclusi
of a large body of
unregistered perso
who likewise levie
shares of alleged fo
These men were the
Collectors upwards
of 70,000 Rupees wor
of recognized grain-fe
from the people, bu
there were also priv
and unregistered
Exactions on the tra
Cultivation, and
property at varyin
rates; and also ta
on all houses & shop
on goods in transi
Carts, Cattle, Sheep
looms, back-yard
public

public and domestic
Ceremonies and the
various other Sources
of Taxation, which, as
he described it, it
had pleased the
Maravers to lay under
Contribution to their
Emoluments. The
Magistrate Considered
all this "Extremely
"objectionable opening
"a door to infinite
"abuse from its not
"being defined and
"from the difficulty
"of substantiating in
"individual cases
"of abuse". He therefore
proposed to reduce
the number of registered
Kavilgars to about
2000 and to remunerate
them by direct pay
from Govt.

His Lieutenant
Mr Eden

(Mr Eden) however
deprecated change
chiefly on the ground
that "nearly 6000 Maravers
"who hitherto participated
"in the fees will be
"deprived of all
"means of livelihood
"and left to prey
"on the inhabitants
"if the latter are
"were allowed to
"withhold the Exactions
"levied on them".

In short the
Robber race of the land
Control and the unhappy
people must, he thought,
be left to bear the
burden of these thieves
whom the law could
not coerce. In the
meantime the Exactions
from the Ryots had
increased by Rs: 9000
between 1830 and 1836

and 70 more men had been officially registered

The Board of Revenue received this report under date 2d Oct. 1843 and remarked that Emoluments derived "from Mats for and "from many of the "sources contributed "by the Ryots direct "appear to be objectionable "in principle and the "levy of them should "be discouraged as "much as possible". The Board added "their success in "collecting their Customary "fees from the inhabitants "individually sufficiently "shows on how firm "a footing the influence "of the Kavilgars is at present

"present established "but when the Board "shall have the satis- "faction of seeing an "Efficient police in "established in large "Villages they will look "forward with confidence "to the time when the "inhabitants fully "relying on the protection "thus afforded them shall "shew a disposition to "resist these demands "and feeling less "dependent on the "class of persons may "be therefore relieved "from the heavy tax with "which under pretence "of protection they are "obliged to purchase "their forbearance" The Subject remained in this unsettled footing & relief by the Local Officers until

received with reference to Extract of Minutes of Consultations of 1st Novr 1853 and Extract of Proceedings from the Board of Revenue of 21st idem when it was found that the number of Registered Kavilgars had risen to the Enormous number of 9038 who were levying on the people recognized fees to the Sum of 90,000 Rs. besides large unregistered and unauthorized Exactions

The actual sharers in the Enrolmentnbers were supposed to be double the numbers returned and the contributions levied from the inhabitants were known to largely Exceed the Sum openly returned as the fees

Exacted. Indeed many Sources of Emolument were incapable of Calculation Such as the Tax on Cattle and goods bartered within villages, taxes on houses, shops, looms, Ceremonies &c. which were assessed by the Kavilgars according to the Condition of the house owner or his trade or manufacture

Whereupon in Communication with Mr Silver the Magistrate I made a careful Local inquiry into the working of the System I found that things were Exactly in the positions sketched

in the above cited records
The official Kavilgars
were absolutely masters
of the position, the Magis-
-tracy was powerless,
the people were their
prey & large sums the
officially returned Exactions
certainly appeared, instances
came before me in
which the Kavilgars
admitted that their
actual receipts were
25 per cent & upwards
above the amounts so
shewn.

I laid the contents
of the above papers before
the Govt (Sir Charles Trevelyan)
of 1860 and was directed
to estimate for a
special

Proceedings of Govt of Madras
of 26th Dec. 1870

special Army Police
for the District - So that
this great Evil might be
Effectively grappled with
when the force became
sufficiently strong to
Enable the firm suppression
of the Kavil System throughout
the District.

Subsequent experience
of the Police Officers and
Mr Pinkie's letters shew
that the condition of the
Country is in the main
but little changed as
respects the enormous
force of Kavilgars, and
he estimates the actual
burden of the Kavalg
System on the population
of Tinnevelly at between
2 and 4 lakhs of Rupees

a year.

As to the duties performed by the Kavdyurs I may add that they have practically done much of the Revenue duties of their respective Villages such as the Summoning of defaulters, Guarding remittances of the Agency Communal Calm & the like

Now I submit that Mr Puckle's proposed Estimate for the costly introduction of a new grasi imperial Village service fail to give due weight to existing conditions. It is simply futile to talk of treating the ancient public hereditary local service of the country - who have for centuries been remunerated by Grazing fees, Contributions and allowances levied and demanded by the Breath of an official position as the "private servants of the people". We cannot legally shut our Eyes & ignore that which it was the first object of the Law (Act 17 of 1864) to regulate & leaving it untouched this vast Evil proceed to lay on further taxation for the carefully devised Scheme which Mr Puckle places before us in such

such reductions
completeness - Either
we must proffer our
new arrangements
on existing conditions
and bring them under
regulation - with large
reduction of cost
to the people - or we
must sweep the
whole thing away -
with absolute assurance
against the oppressive
and pecuniary burden
which attaches thereto
as a condition precedent to Hostility by a new & costly local service
at the cost of the people

I think therefore
that the only alternative
is to return these
papers to the Board
& Mr Purkis & tell
them that the absolute
suppression of the
Ravitt

Ravitt's system with its
heavy taxation must
be a condition precedent
to the consideration of
Mr Purkis's scheme, and
that if this cannot be
effected with certainty
& safety the reorganization
of the Village Establishment
must be based on
existing conditions and
involve no new burdens

Mr Purkis's Scheme

The scheme before
us is - as a new device -
as absolutely complete
as it is revolutionary.
It is a State local service
that is to be organized &
rather than a local
Communal Service to be
Comforted and regulated.
by

under the Color of Recon-
-struction & Amalgamation
the old Village Constitution
of Society is virtually swept
away and some 280 Villages
reappear as 145 rural
circles. The guiding object
of the reconstruction has
apparently been to have
a sufficiently extended
area from which to raise
sufficient funds for a
large Establishment and
not to maintain existing
conditions as desired
by Govt.

Every new rural
circle has its Accountant
- an unnecessary charge
I think for Indian Karnam
are not necessary Contermen
with Villages - and Everywhere
two, in some places three

Munsiffdars appears
as paid officials - one
as munsif & Head of the
Village (Reg.n IV of 1816) and
another as Revenue Collector
and occasionally a third
is added as Manager
of irrigation &c - Each with
his attenders. A sufficient
Establishment of paid
Village watchers or Talaris
and of Revenue peons
(Vettiens) and watchmen
bailiffs is provided -
and the Selection of persons
for these respective duties
appear perfect.

But I believe that
the whole is open to legal
objection that neither the
Reg.n of 1816 nor the Village
Cess Act of 1864 contemplate
the heavy Establishment

of Superior Village
Servants proposed – with
divided duties – although
the proposals are not
inconsistent with the
joint Mussulman Constitution
of Village Society amongst
Samulcian Nationalities
The Irrigation Manager
clearly belongs to an
irrigation Cess Establish-
ment.

I think too that
perhaps the whole scheme
is undely strong and
costly but if the Kurli
System is to be combated
such powerful arrangement
is indispensable and if
it can absolutely prevent
Kurli Exactions for all
future time Even this
costly

cost, arrangement will
prove a relief to the people
and I should be willing
to consider it favourably
on that condition precedent.

I understand that
Mr Pinckle has absolutely
carried the thing out in
one or two talugs without
presentimed Estimate
or Scheme. I protested
in the Strongest – vide
note to Proceedings of Govt
of 3rd March 1874 – against
this process in regard
to a matter of such
importance & difficulty
and must again urge
that precipitation in
this matter is fraught
with serious Embarrassment
not only from an Adminis-
trative point of view

but as carrying an additional burden on the people which cannot be justified

P. H. Robinson

P.S. With reference to the Bonds issued under an Act of this State for the erection of Gov. & Col. Gov. asst. Bridges - I now send an Ordinance of this State repealing the Act - & directing the Return of the Bonds

P.H.

Minute

Reserve 1875 Dept.

Minute by the
Honble W. Robinson C.S.I.

Dated 8th January 1875. —

Rec'd

Sec. GO 11 May 1875

No. 710