M.R.O. (—77-6-37.

(1) Number of pages 240

(2) Date of repair 12-14

(3) Initials of the Reference

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	Press Mis.
Dated — — 18	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 115. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 15th July 1876, No. 1,812:—

Read the following letter from J. H. GARSTIN, Esq., Collector of South Arcot, to C. A. GALTON, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Cuddalore, 20th June 1876, No. 275.

I HAVE the honor to request that the orders of Government may be obtained as to whether a provisional settlement is to be introduced into the Sankarapuram Jaghire or not. I give below an abstract of the correspondence which has passed on the subject, and, at the request of Deputy Collector Stri Baliah, forward his letter of the 20th November 1875, No. 639, (requested to be returned,) and its three enclosures.

2. The Sankarapuram Jaghire comprised a number of villages in the taluqs of Trinomalay, Kallakurchi, and Trikalore, and for many years the question of revising the assessments in that portion of the Jaghire situated in the Trinomalay Taluq, which was known as Chekadi, had engaged the attention of succeeding Collectors, but nothing was done. Mr. Reade, much to his regret, left the district without effecting this reform; but shortly before his departure, he submitted a proposition to the Board from Deputy Collector Stri Baliah offering to undertake the resettlement of the revenue in the Chekadi villages.* The Board referred the matter to the Director of Revenue Settlement and asked him to undertake the settlement, but added that if he could not do it Stri Baliah must. More correspondence took place on the subject which will be found in the Board's Proceedings noted in the margin, and at length on the Board's asking Government to sanction an establishment, estimated by Mr. Banbury to cost Rupees 1,163 a-month, for one year "to settle the Chekadi Jaghire in South Arcot," the Government ordered that "a provisional settlement of this small tract" should be made by the Collector.†

* Board's Procs., dated 11th July 1871, No. 2,860.

Board's Procs., dated 13th Sept. 1871, No. 3,938, and 25th Nov. 1872, No. 2,270.

† G. O. of 14th January 1873, No. 38.

The orders of Government were communicated to the Collector of South Arcot by the Board in their Proceedings of the 15th January 1873, No. 54, and he was directed to report the measures he proposed to adopt. Accordingly, Mr. Sullivan, then Acting Collector, called on‡ Stri Baliah to submit definite proposals "for the provisional settlement of these Jaghire villages as contemplated by Government," referring him at the same time to the correspondence above quoted "on the subject of the settlement of the Chekadi *and Sankarapuram Jaghires.*"

‡ Mr. Sullivan to Stri Baliah, dated 12th February 1873, No. 121.

In his letter of the 19th February 1873, No. 61, Stri Baliah asked whether the provisional settlement was to include Sankarapuram as well as Chekadi, or the latter alone, to which Mr. Sullivan replied§ to the effect that it was advisable that the provisional settlement ordered by Government should include the Sankarapuram Jaghire also, and directed that the Deputy Collector's proposals should relate to both tracts as well as to the two villages of the resumed Rishivanthayam Jaghire in the Trikalore Taluq "where

§ Mr. Sullivan to Stri Baliah, dated 27th February 1873, No. 175.

the assessment on dry lands is regulated according to whether pulses or cereals are grown." Stri Baliah submitted his proposals relative to Chekadi in his letter of the 13th December 1873, No. 581, and Mr. Sullivan forwarded them on to the Board with his report of the 22nd January 1874, No. 41, and the Board to Government with their Proceedings of the 4th July 1874, No. 1,682, in which they expressed a hope that they would soon have before them the report on the Sankarapuram villages. The Government sanctioned* the settlement proposed as a provisional arrangement pending the resurvey and settlement of the district generally, but said nothing about Sankarapuram.

* G.O., dated 5th October 1874, No. 1,267.

3. In the report now forwarded to the Board Stri Baliah submitted to me the results of the classifications of lands in Sankarapuram carried out by the Revenue Inspectors employed by him, and stated various reasons why he "hesitated to proceed further in the absence of instructions to submit definite proposals for the intermediate settlement." The proximate cause of his hesitation was the receipt of the Board's Proceedings of the 21st October 1875, No. 2,024, in which is embodied a letter from me asking for a survey party to be employed in the Kallakurchi Taluq, which I recommended should be first taken up by the Survey Department, but he also urged several other reasons for not going on with the provisional settlement, *viz.*:—

1st.—That the Revenue Inspectors' classifications of land are very high.

2nd.—That the result of the adoption of these classifications would be an increase of assessment which Government would not approve.

3rd.—That the Sankarapuram ryots do not want a change.

4th.—That the obnoxious plough and warappat system of Chekadi do not obtain there except in one small village.

5th.—That Government did not contemplate such a settlement.

4. On receipt of this report, I wrote to the Board my letter, dated 9th December 1875, No. 628, embodied in their Board's Proceedings of the 15th February last, No. 444, and on receipt of those Proceedings requested Stri Baliah to submit definite proposals for the revision of the settlement as desired by Mr. Sullivan. He now requests, in his letter of the 14th instant, No. 441, (copy enclosed,) that I will submit his report for the Board's consideration, and I have accordingly done so, and request instructions whether the provisional settlement is to proceed or not. According to the classifications entered in the Statements A and B, which form two of the enclosures to this report, it appears that the result of the introduction of a provisional assessment based on those classifications, which are Mr. Ravenshaw's, would result in the subjoined increase on the areas of holdings and in the assessments thereon.

	As per Settlement of Fasli 1283.		As per Measurements now made.		Average Increase in Rate per Cawny.
	Holdings.	Assessment.	Holdings.	Assessment.	
	Cawnies.	rs.	Cawnies.	rs.	rs. a. p.
Dry	9,694	30,074	10,464	39,353	0 9 7
Wet	3,096	28,665	3,440	32,078	0 5 9

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
14th August 1876.

The average assessment according to the above would be Rupees 9-9-1 per cawny for nunjah and Rupees 3-12-2 per cawny of punjah instead of Rupees 9-4-1 and Rupees 3-2-6 respectively as at present. The actual assessments on holdings, however, would rise by Rupees 4,312-6-8 for nunjah and Rupees 8,078-11-4 for punjah owing to the holdings being in excess of the extents registered in the Adangal accounts.

5. I request early orders on this reference. As so much has been done, I think it is a pity that the revision should not be completed.

Enclosure No. 1.

From C. STRI BALIAH, Deputy Collector, General Duties, South Arcot, to J. H. GARSTIN, Esq., Collector of South Arcot, dated Trinomaley, 20th November 1875, No. 629.

With reference to the orders noted in the margin, I have the honor to submit as follows on the proposed provisional settlement of Senkarapuram Jaghire.

Board's Proceedings, No. 2,809, dated 11th July 1871, paragraph 8, and Collector Mr. Sullivan's letter, No. 121, dated 12th February 1873.

It consists of sixty-two villages, two* villages lying in Trikalore Taluq and sixty in Kallakurchi Taluq of the sub-division. Of these latter two are Inam villages, and our operations thus include only sixty villages of the Jaghire, and the two villages named Rishivanthayam and Vengalam in Trikalore Taluq which formed a separate Jaghire; the rates of assessment are however governed by the same principles in the villages of both the Jaghires.

* Kavamoor and Chittamore.

2. *Wet.*—As in Chekadi, the warappat system (division of produce between the Government and ryots) was in force in the Jaghire, but in the years 1839 and 1842 an average assessment per cawny, varying from Rupees 12-4-0 to 5 was struck from the amount of revenue derived during the previous thirty-six years, and the wet lands continue to pay the assessment irrespective of the quality of the soil or their position in respect to the source of irrigation. It must be noted here that this average assessment is inclusive of all charge for the cultivation of second crop (*vide* Collector's Order, No. 59, dated 22nd August 1889, to the Tahsildar of Trikalore, and Memorandum, dated 21st June 1842, sent to the sub-Collector); and hence it is, as I infer, that the second crop cultivation in Senkarapuram Jaghire paid no extra assessment in Fasli 1284.

Present system.

For easy reference the present average wet rates are given in the subjoined statement with a number of villages in which the rates are similar; in the remaining villages there is no wet cultivation:—

Number of Villages.	Assessment.			Number of Villages.	Assessment.		
	rs.	a.	p.		rs.	a.	p.
1	12	4	0	11	8	12	0
1	12	0	0	4	8	3	0
3	11	0	0	2	8	0	0
4	10	8	0	1	7	14	0
8	10	0	0	5	7	0	0
5	9	8	0	1	5	8	0
6	9	0	0	1	5	0	0
	Total ...			52			

3. As to dry, the plough system, which was the main feature of the Chekadi Jaghire, does not appear here except in one small village. In the rest the fieldwor assessment is in force, but

the amount varies almost in each village and according to the nature of the crop grown with certain minhas or remissions in favor of the Porackudi, Mussulman, and Brahmin ryots. The assessment is very high in several villages, and varies from Rupees 5-14-6 to Rupees 2-10-0 per cawny. The above is the charge for *kadar* (ear) which, as a rule, is twice that for *kal*. The percentage of remission in favor of the privileged classes varies almost in every village, and I have therefore thought it proper to enclose for easy reference a Statement No. I. showing villagewise, the rate of assessment for "*kadar*" leviable on each cawny for dry cultivation. You will thus observe that neither the barbarous plough, nor the repressive warappat system, which both were the rule in Checkadi, appear in Senkarapuram, of which Checkadi formed a part.

4. The measurement and classification of soils in Senkarapuram commenced on the 1st August 1874, just after the Fasli year 1283 had expired: at the beginning there were three men engaged on it, and they were deputed from my regular establishment. Subsequently in G.Os., Nos. 1,140, 1,502, and 201, dated respectively 8th September 1874, 5th December 1874, and 8th February 1875, temporary hands of the strength marginally given were sanctioned, and the work was concluded by the middle of March 1875.

4 Revenue Inspectors on Rupees 20 per mensem,
4 Peons on Rupees 6 per mensem.

The actual cost to Government was Rupees 310-15-8 on account of the temporary hands. Just as the accounts were coming in, I went away on three months' privilege leave, and in three weeks after my return from it in June 1875, I was sent to North Arcot for about three months; so that the returns received from the Revenue Inspectors engaged on the special duty were not subjected to any examination or scrutiny till my return now towards the close of last month.

5. I have now examined the Registers and framed two Statements, A and B, enclosed showing the result of the measurement and classification of soils by the Revenue Inspectors. I have not yet been to the field myself; but as the features of the present system at Senkarapuram were similar in form to those in the Ryotwar villages settled on Mr. Ravenshaw's principles, I was anxious, in the first instance, to ascertain whether the financial result, according to the classification made by the Revenue Inspectors, would meet with the approval of Government as a measure of relief to the ryot.

As the statement show, the run of classifications has been very high; unlike in the interspersed Ayan Villages, where there are still large tracts of open land available for cultivation, the lower rates of assessment do not at all appear in Senkarapuram, and the average derivable is, except in a few instances, and that to a slight degree, much higher than that now derived in the Jaghire as well as the adjoining Ayan Villages. The above remarks apply equally to both wet and dry rates, and, unless the soils are reduced in class by three or four gradations, I do not think the result will be any thing like what is anticipated.

6. The subjoined table gives the percentage of area measured under each class or taram separately for wet and dry. You will observe that the last three classes in dry and two classes in wet disappear with the exception of but two cawnies measured in the 7th class dry:—

Dry.			Wet.	
Taram.	Per cent.		Taram.	Per cent.
2	29	There is, however, 0-2-11-0 measured in the 7th class.	8	9
3	39		9	29
4	22		10	35
5	7		11	22
6	3		12	4·13
			13	·75
			14	·12
	100			100

The assessment payable on one cawny in each taram is shown in the subjoined table:—

Wet.		Dry.	
Class.	Assessment.	Class.	Assessment.
	Rs. A. P.		Rs. A. P.
8	11 13 0	2	4 4 0
9	10 8 0	3	3 12 0
10	9 3 0	4	3 3 0
11	8 7 0	5	2 10 0
12	7 0 0	6	2 7 0
13	5 10 0	7	1 15 0
14	4 4 0	8	1 8 0
15	2 13 0	9	1 0 0
16	1 7 0		

The first seven classes in wet were the old double crop lands, and the first class in dry is the garden land which pays a uniform rate of Rupees 7 per cawny.

7. The subjoined statement gives in one view the area actually measured under wet and dry, the area now included in the holdings and that available for future cultivation. That the present rates, especially the dry, are heavy, there is additional proof from the percentage of waste which is as high as 68 for dry, while for wet it is only 13 per cent.; and, if the provisional settlement is to be made, it must be certainly to reduce the rates now in force, but the new rates when introduced may not be in force for any number of years, they may be superseded by the rates of the Settlement Department before they can be developed and cultivation extended. It is thus doubtful if the Government would be prepared to forego the present revenue in this transition period:—

Description.	Patent.	Unoccupied Cultivable Waste.	Total.	Percentage of Columns 3 to 4.
1	2	3	4	5
	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	
Wet	3,439 15 0	634 12 2	3,074 11 2	12·44
Dry	10,163 11 0	22,981 10 0	33,145 5 0	68·71

8. I was, however, arranging to go to the spot and examine the soils in comparison with those in the surrounding *Ayan* Villages already settled; in the meanwhile, a copy of the Board's Proceedings, No. 2,924, dated 21st ultimo, was placed in my hands. There it is recommended that the survey and settlement parties, the former being already in the district, should be made to take up Kallakurchi in the first instance, and if the proposal be adopted, and Senkarapuram Villages chiefly lying in that taluq be begun with, the necessity for an intermediate provisional settlement would be obviated. The ryots of Senkarapuram are not anxious for the change, although the assessment they now pay is much higher than that paid in the settled villages. The defects of the warappat and plough systems just abandoned in Checkadi are not to be found in Senkarapuram, and you will observe the Board and Government had not originally intended that Senkarapuram should be taken up for a provisional settlement—*vide* Board's Proceedings, No. 2,270, dated 26th November 1872, and G.O., No. 38, dated 11th January 1873. In communicating, however, the above Government Order directing me to submit proposals for the provisional settlement of Checkadi, Mr. Sullivan, in his letter, No. 121, dated 12th February 1879, included in the Senkarapuram Jaghire also as one to be settled provisionally; thereupon I invited his attention to the orders of the Board and Government which expressly provided for

the settlement of Checkadi alone; but in his reply, No. 175, dated 27th February 1873, Mr. Sullivan reiterated the same order, observing "that as the regular settlement of the district is not likely to be set on foot for some years to come, it is advisable that the provisional settlement ordered by the Government should include the Senkarapuram Jaghire also."

9. Under the altered state of things, and as the present system, while it is not absolutely injurious to the interests of Government, is free from any of the defects common to plough and warappat systems, and as the ryots have never asked for a change, which as I am informed they do not pray for, I hesitate to proceed further, in the absence of instructions, to submit definite proposals for the intermediate settlement.

Awaiting your orders.

Enclosure No. 2.

From C. STRI BALIAH, Deputy Collector, General Duties, South Arcot, to J. H. GARSTIN, Esq., Collector of South Arcot, dated Trikalore, 14th June 1876, No. 441.

In your letter, No. 214, dated 8th March 1876, you directed, in reference to Board's Proceedings, No. 444, dated 15th February 1870, that I should submit my proposals for introducing a provisional settlement into the Senkarapuram Jaghire, and as *all* the reasons assigned for its deference in my letter, No. 629, dated 20th November 1875, had not apparently received consideration, I waited for a personal conference with you on the subject, and when you were here in May 1876, I took occasion to discuss the matter with you and you were pleased to promise a reconsideration of my reasons for dropping the settlement.

2. I beg therefore to resubmit the enclosures to my letter, No. 629, dated 20th November 1875, and to inform you that my proposal to abandon the provisional settlement was not based on the single ground that there was prospect of an immediate extension of settlement operations to this district. My letter above quoted would show besides—

(*a*) that the run of classifications as made by Revenue Inspectors has been very high, and that it would not meet with the approval of Government as a measure of relief to the ryots;

(*b*) that, as it is, the percentage of waste to the ayacut is 68·71 in dry and 13·43 in wet, and that any addition to the present assessment, which must be the case should the soils as classified by Revenue Inspectors be retained, is certain to operate injuriously to the interests of Government as well as of the ryots;

(*c*) that the ryots of Senkarapuram Villages are not anxious for a change, although the assessment they now pay is much higher than that paid in the adjoining settled villages;

(*d*) that the defects of the warappat and plough system just abandoned in Checkadi Jaghire under G.O., No. 1,267, dated 5th October 1874, are not to be found in Senkarapuram Jaghire except in one small village; and

(*e*) that finally the Board and Government had not originally intended that Senkarapuram should be taken up for a provisional settlement—*vide* Board's Proceedings, No. 2,270, dated 25th November 1872, and G.O., No. 38, dated 11th January 1873.

3. The Board of Revenue were not apparently made aware of the reasons above given when they passed their Proceedings, No. 444, dated 15th February 1870. In fact, your letter, No. 528, dated 9th December 1875, embodied in the Proceedings, makes it appear that I had submitted my proposals finally for the provisional settlement. However, the Board's orders do not seem to have any reference to the question of the provisional settlement of Senkarapuram Jaghire, and, as the grounds above enumerated seem to me to be cogent, I beg you will be good enough to submit my letter, No. 629, dated 20th November 1875, to the Board of Revenue with your own opinion in the matter.

4. Since the receipt of your letter of the 8th March 1876, I had the Jamabandi work to do, and had thus no time to spare for field inspection in Senkarapuram.

Awaiting your further orders.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) P. VARADA CHARI, Deputy Collector, for Collector.

Enclosures Nos. 3 and 5.—Statements.

Submitted for the orders of Government.

2. The Board are of opinion that, as a considerable time must elapse before the Settlement Department can commence operations in South Arcot, the provisional settlement should be proceeded with, notwithstanding the objections urged by Stri Baliah.

(True Copies and Extract.)

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

No. 116. Order thereon, 14th August 1876, No. 1,089.

Land Revenue No. 4.

The question for settlement is whether the intermediate assessment of the Jaghire by the Deputy Collector should be undertaken and carried out; much of the preliminary work connected with which has been done. What remains is the revision of the work of the Inspectors by the Deputy Collector. Such a settlement should be insisted on only if the evils of the existing system are so great as to call for speedy remedy and the prospect of the Settlement Department commencing operations is remote. This latter condition is admitted; but so long as the former does not exist, the necessity for an intermediate settlement does not arise. The Government note that the evils of the plough and warappat system found to prevail in Checkadi do not exist in Senkarapuram, and that the people, though paying higher assessments than their neighbours, are contented and do not desire a change. Prompt action was necessary in the case of Checkadi and the new settlement by the Deputy Collector has been introduced there. In the absence of a similar necessity it does not seem desirable to carry out the proposed settlement in Senkarapuram. The Collector will report after personal enquiry whether such necessity exists.

G.O. 5th October 1874, No. 1,267.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) D. F. CARMICHAEL,
Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.

Erd. A. Grubert.

No. 2,924.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 21st October 1875.

Read the following letter from J. H. GARSTIN, Esq., Collector of South Arcot, to H. E. STOKES, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Cuddalore, 2nd October 1875, No. 417 :—

IN forwarding copy of a letter from the Sub-Collector, dated 12th August last, No. 516, bringing to notice a large concealment of cultivation in the Siruvatur village of the Kullakurchi Taluq, I have the honor to suggest that the survey party now employed in the Tindivanum Taluq may be transferred to the Kullakurchi Taluq, and directed to commence operations there, and that the first settlement party be employed, simultaneously if possible, in settling those villages of the present Cuddalore Taluq, which were surveyed by Captain Priestley many years ago. On the completion of the Kullakurchi survey and demarcation, the survey party should be moved to the Cuddalore Taluq to finish the survey and demarcation of the unsurveyed part of it, while the settlement party should go to Kullakurchi and settle it, returning to Cuddalore on the completion of the survey party's work there.

2. By that time a decision on the question of a re-arrangement of the French frontier would probably have been arrived at; and, in that event, the Villapuram Taluq would be the next one to be surveyed and settled. Tindivanum, Trinomalai, Trikalore and Virdachellam might follow in the above order.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From G. D. IRVINE, Esq., Acting Sub-Collector, to J. H. GARSTIN, Esq., Collector of South Arcot, dated Cuddalore, 12th August 1875, No. 516.

IN the village of Siruvatur, Kullakurchi Taluq, so long ago as Fasli 1278, the existence of a large concealment of cultivation, &c., was disclosed by one of the village officers, and, on a partial azmaish by the Revenue Inspector, Muscklian Sahib (since deceased), the amount lost to Government was stated to be Rupees 804-5-10. As the Tahsildar had some doubts about the correctness of the measurement, a re-examination was ordered to be conducted by the 1st Class Revenue Inspector, Ragothma Row, who reduced the amount to Rupees 497-6-10. The informant (who promises to prove a further concealment, &c., to the extent of a thousand Rupees, if a systematic and entire azmaish is conducted by some independent persons) and the present Curnam dispute the correctness of the second measurement, and allege that it contains improper and arbitrary alterations of numbers, position, taram, and classes of various fields. I do not myself think that it can be relied on. As, however, most of the ryots concerned admit their cultivations, and there can be no doubt that the amount at any rate is not exaggerated, I have directed its recovery, leaving the exact amount to be determined by further investigation, which I consider absolutely necessary. The village is a most important one, more so even than Arriagoshti, which was recently azmaished by two classifiers from the Settlement Department specially deputed for the purpose at the instance of my predecessor. I have no one in my division whom I feel disposed to entrust under the present circumstances with this work, or who could be spared from his other duties to undertake it. Several villages in each taluq are now being azmaished under my orders; I request, therefore, that you will be good enough to take the necessary steps to secure the services of one or two sets of men from the Revenue Survey or Settlement Department for the special work under notice.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) J. H. GARSTIN,
Collector.

Referred for the remarks of the Superintendent of Revenue Survey. The Acting Director of Revenue Settlement is also requested to report on the Collector's suggestion as regards the portion of the district to be first taken up for settlement.

(True Copies and Extract.)

(Signed) H. E. STOKES,
Acting Secretary.

To the Superintendent of Revenue Survey.
,, the Director of Revenue Settlement.
Copy to the Collector of South Arcot.

Exd. W. H. French.

No. 444.

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 15th February 1876.

Read the following letters :—

From Colonel F. J. B. PRIESTLEY, Superintendent of Revenue Survey, to H. E. STOKES, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Chepauk, 16th November 1875, No. 3,382-149.

With Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, No. 2,924, of the 21st October 1875, is printed a letter from the Collector of the South Arcot District, requesting that, for certain reasons given in a letter from the Sub-Collector, a survey party said to be employed in the Tindivanum Taluq might be employed in the Kallakurchi Taluq, &c.

2. I have the honor to state that the survey of the Tindivanum Taluq has not been commenced, and that the Head Gumastah now in that taluq is merely engaged in making a preparatory sketch.

3. Mr. Beaumont, the Deputy Superintendent of No. 5 Party, has been directed to proceed with the survey of the Guriattum Taluq, North Arcot District, as soon as he shall have received the necessary sketches and records from the Settlement Department.

4. As it is desirable that the taluqs already demarcated by the Settlement Department should be brought under survey as soon as possible, it is probable that No. 5, Revenue Survey, will be occupied in the North Arcot District for some time to come.

5. Should, however, the Board consider the early demarcation of the village of Siruvatur, Kallakurichi Taluq, desirable, it will be quite possible to detach men from either No. 5 or No. 1 Party to perform that work.

6. I shall have the honor of addressing you again on the arrangements I consider advisable for the survey of the South Arcot District.

From J. H. GARSTIN, Esq., Collector of South Arcot, to H. E. STOKES, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Cuddalore, 9th December 1875, No. 528.

I have the honor to request with reference to the Board's Proceedings of the 21st October last, No. 2,924, that I may be informed as early as possible what taluq the Director of Revenue Settlement proposes to take up first in this district.

2. I am anxious to know as I have just received Deputy Collector Sri Baliah's report on the provisional settlement of the Sankarapuram portion of the Chekadi Jaghire, and, if the Kallakurichi Taluq in which it is almost entirely situated is first surveyed and settled, I think it would be waste of time to submit the report to the Board.

From C. RUNDALL, Esq., Acting Director of Revenue Settlement, to H. E. STOKES, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Madras, 11th December 1875, No. 2,574-87.

With reference to Board's Proceedings of 21st October, No. 2,924, the Superintendent of Revenue Survey has furnished me with a copy of his reply thereto of the 16th instant, No. 3,382-149. It appears that as yet only preliminary operations have been commenced in the Tindivanum Taluq, and that Colonel Priestley proposed addressing you again as to the arrangements he considers advisable for the survey of the South Arcot District.

3. As regards the Collector's suggestion, that the settlement of the villages of the present Cuddalore Taluq, surveyed many years ago by Colonel Priestley, should be put in hand whilst the survey of the first taluq may be proceeding, I have the honor to state that until the party engaged on Chinglepute, or other hands are available for transfer to another district, and, moreover, until the survey may have progressed sufficiently to allow of the employment of a settlement party in South Arcot, I fail to see that settlement can be advantageously extended to that district.

3. The survey must necessarily be two or more taluqs at least in advance of settlement operations, for experience has shown that field classification after survey must await the preparation of survey areas and maps.

Received 27th October 1875.

Registered 28th October 1875, No. 2,924.

Entered

OCTOBER.
No. 2,924.

Endorsed thus:—In South Arcot Despatch.—Referring for remarks of Superintendent of Revenue Survey Collector's suggestion that the survey party now employed in Tindivanum Taluq may be transferred to — and directing to commence operations, and requesting Director of Revenue Settlement to report regarding the portion of the district to be first taken up for settlement.

4. Hence the course the settlement may adopt must accord with the order in which the survey of the district may proceed, and on this point Colonel Priestley will address the Board further.

5. As regards the Cuddalore Taluq, unless the state of the former experimental survey, whether easily identifiable or not, is known, it is impracticable to decide whether a portion of the taluq can be taken up. As a rule, the course is undesirable. Possibly the resurvey of the villages may be necessary, or at all events the restoration of the demarcation; but this point will need to be determined by the Superintendent of Revenue Survey.

6. If the concealed cultivation is merely the difference found by remeasurement of holdings, I much doubt the policy of any additional charge on the ryots being preferred on this account. The asmaish instituted under Mr. Irvine's orders shews how much may depend on the manner in which the measurements may be made; and, barring any check being practicable, the demand on the ryots ought, in my opinion, to remain unchanged. The question should be left for adjustment until the new settlement can in due course be worked out for the district and introduced. The correspondence accorded in G.O., No. 2,012, of 13th December 1870, seems to warrant this view of the question. It has been decisively ruled that the excess area determined by survey cannot equitably be levied, pending the revision of the rates of assessment; and it equally follows that it is undesirable to disturb generally the existing demand upon any variation of area determined by asmaish; for the bearing of the present rates of assessment, whether unduly high or otherwise, cannot as it should form an element of the consideration upon which the ryots' liabilities might be enhanced.

The Collector of South Arcot will observe from the Acting Director's letter that there is no prospect of an immediate or early extension of settlement operations to South Arcot, and that the order of the survey which the settlement will probably follow has not yet been determined. The Board do not consider a partial asmaish previous to regular settlement desirable, except where very cogent reasons exist.

(True Copies and Extract.)

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

To the Collector of South Arcot.
" the Director of Revenue Settlement.
" the Superintendent of Revenue Survey.

Encl. W. H. French.

Proceedings, 15th February 1876, No. 444.

Read

Ordered,

MADRAS,
15th day of February,
1876.

FEBRUARY.
No. 444.

Settlement.—Informs Collector of South Arcot that there is no prospect of an immediate or early extension of settlement operations to South Arcot.

No. 1,812.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 15th July 1876.

Read the following letter from J. H. GARSTIN, Esq., Collector of South Arcot, to C. A. GALTON, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Cuddalore, 26th June 1876, No. 275:—

I HAVE the honor to request that the orders of Government may be obtained as to whether a provisional settlement is to be introduced into the Sankarapuram Jaghire or not. I give below an abstract of the correspondence which has passed on the subject, and, at the request of Deputy Collector Sri Baliah, forward his letter of the 20th November 1875, No. 629, (requested to be returned,) and its three enclosures.

2. The Sankarapuram Jaghire comprised a number of villages in the taluqs of Trinomalay, Kallakurchi, and Trikalore, and for many years the question of revising the assessments in that portion of the Jaghire situated in the Trinomalay Taluq, which was known as Chekadi, had engaged the attention of succeeding Collectors, but nothing was done. Mr. Reade, much to his regret, left the district without effecting this reform; but shortly before his departure, he submitted a proposition to the Board from Deputy Collector Sri Baliah offering to undertake the resettlement of the revenue in the Chekadi villages.* The Board referred the matter to the Director of Revenue Settlement and asked him to undertake the settlement, but added that if he could not do it, Sri Baliah must. More correspondence took place on the subject which will be found in the Board's Proceedings noted in the margin, and at length on the Board's asking Government's sanction an establishment, estimated by Mr. Danbury to cost Rupees 1,163 a-month, for one year † to settle the Chekadi Jaghire in South Arcot," the Government ordered that "a provisional settlement of this small tract" should be made by the Collector.†

* Board's Proc., dated 11th July 1871, No. 2,860.

Board's Proc., dated 18th Sept. 1871, No. 3,038, and 25th Nov. 1872, No. 2,270.

† G. O. of 11th January 1873, No. 68.

The orders of Government were communicated to the Collector of South Arcot by the Board in their Proceedings of the 17th January 1873, No. 61, and he was directed to report the measures he proposed to adopt. Accordingly Mr. Sullivan, then Acting Collector, called on Sri Baliah to submit definite proposals "for the provisional settlement of these Jaghire villages as contemplated by Government," referring him at the same time to the correspondence above quoted "on the subject of the settlement of the Chekadi *and Sankarapuram* Jaghires."

† Mr. Sullivan to Sri Baliah, dated 12th February 1873, No. 121.

In his letter of the 12th February 1873, No. 61, Sri Baliah asked whether the provisional settlement was to include Sankarapuram as well as Chekadi or the latter alone, to which Mr. Sullivan replied § to the effect that it was advisable that the provisional settlement ordered by Government should include the Sankarapuram Jaghire also, and directed that the Deputy Collector's proposals should relate to both tracts as well as to the two villages of the resumed Kilavanthavam Jaghire in the Trikalore Taluq "where

§ Mr. Sullivan to Sri Baliah, dated 27th February 1873, No. 175.

the assessment on dry lands is regulated according to whether pulses or cereals are grown." Stri Baliah submitted his proposals relative to Chekadi in his letter of the 13th December 1873, No. 531, and Mr. Sullivan forwarded them on to the Board with his report of the 22nd January 1874, No. 41, and the Board to Government with their Proceedings of the 4th July 1874, No. 1,682, in which they expressed a hope that they would soon have before them the report on the Sankarapuram villages. The Government sanctioned* the settlement proposed as a provisional arrangement pending the resurvey and settlement of the district generally, but said nothing about Sankarapuram.

* G.O., dated 5th October 1874, No. 1,267.

3. In the report now forwarded to the Board Stri Baliah submitted to me the results of the classifications of lands in Sankarapuram carried out by the Revenue Inspectors employed by him, and stated various reasons why he "hesitated to proceed further in the absence of instructions to submit definite proposals for the intermediate settlement." The proximate cause of his hesitation was the receipt of the Board's Proceedings of the 21st October 1875, No. 2,024, in which is embodied a letter from me asking for a survey party to be employed in the Kallakurchi Taluq, which I recommended should be first taken up by the Survey Department, but he also urged several other reasons for not going on with the provisional settlement, *viz.*:—

1st.—That the Revenue Inspectors' classifications of land are very high.

2nd.—That the result of the adoption of these classifications would be an increase of assessment which Government would not approve.

3rd.—That the Sankarapuram ryots do not want a change.

4th.—That the obnoxious plough and warappat system of Chekadi do not obtain there except in one small village.

5th.—That Government did not contemplate such a settlement.

4. On receipt of this report, I wrote to the Board my letter, dated 9th December 1875, No. 523, embodied in their Board's Proceedings of the 18th February last, No. 444, and on receipt of those Proceedings requested Stri Baliah to submit definite proposals for the revision of the settlement as desired by Mr. Sullivan. He now requests, in his letter of the 14th instant, No. 441, (copy enclosed,) that I will submit his report for the Board's consideration, and I have accordingly done so, and request instructions whether the provisional settlement is to proceed or not. According to the classifications entered in the Statements A and B, which form two of the enclosures to this report, it appears that the result of the introduction of a provisional assessment based on those classifications, which are Mr. Ravenshaw's, would result in the subjoined increase on the areas of holdings and on the assessments thereon.

	As per Survey Measurements of Fasli 1284.		As per Measurements now made.		Average Increase in rate per Cawny.
	Holdings.	Assessment.	Holdings.	Assessment.	
	Cawnies.	rs.	Cawnies.	rs.	rs. a. p.
Dry	9,604	30,674	10,404	39,078	0 0 7
Wet	5,095	28,095	5,440	32,978	0 5 0

The average assessment according to the above would be Rupees 9-9-1 per cawny for nunjah and Rupees 3-12-3 per cawny of punjah instead of Rupees 9-4-1 and Rupees 3-2-6 respectively as at present. The actual assessments on holdings, however, would rise by Rupees 4,312-6-8 for nunjah and Rupees 8,678-11-4 for punjah owing to the holdings being in excess of the extents registered in the Adangal accounts.

5. I request early orders on this reference. As so much has been done, I think it is a pity that the revision should not be completed.

Enclosure No. 1.

From C. STRI BALIAH, Deputy Collector, General Duties, of South Arcot, to J. H. GARSTIN, Esq., Collector of South Arcot, dated Trinomalay, 20th November 1875, No. 629.

With reference to the orders noted in the margin, I have the honor to submit as follow on the proposed provisional settlement of Sankarapuram Jaghire.

Board's Proceedings, No. 2,866, dated 11th July 1874, paragraph 3, and Collector Mr. Sullivan's letter, No. 121, dated 12th February 1873.

It consists of sixty-two villages, two* villages lying in Trikalore Taluq and sixty in Kallakurchi Taluq of the sub-division. Of these latter two are Inam villages, and our operations thus include only sixty villages of the Jaghire, and the two villages named Rishivanthayam and Vengalara in Trikalore Taluq which formed a separate Jaghire; the rates of assessment are however governed by the same principles in the villages of both the Jaghires.

* Kuvanoor and Chittamore.

2. *Wet.*—As in Chekadi, the warappat system (division of produce between the Government and ryot) was in force in this Jaghire, but in the years 1839 and 1842 an average assessment per cawny, varying from Rupees 12-4-0 to 6 was struck from the amount of revenue derived during the previous thirty-six years, and the wet lands continue to pay the assessment irrespective of the quality of the soil or their position in respect to the source of irrigation. It must be noted here that this average assessment is inclusive of all charge for the cultivation of second crop (*vide* Collector's Order, No. 50, dated 22nd August 1839, to the Tahsildar of Trikalore, and Memorandum, dated 21st June 1842, sent to the Sub-Collector); and hence it is, as I infer, that the second crop cultivation in Sankarapuram Jaghire paid no extra assessment in Fasli 1234.

Present system.

For easy reference the present average wet rates are given in the subjoined statement with the number of villages in which the rates are similar; in the remaining villages there is no wet cultivation:—

Number of Villages.	Assessment.	Number of Villages.	Assessment.
	rs. a. p.		rs. a. p.
1	12 4 0	11	8 12 0
1	12 0 0	4	8 8 0
2	11 0 0	2	8 0 0
3	10 8 0	1	7 14 0
8	10 0 0	5	7 0 0
5	9 8 0	1	6 8 0
6	9 0 0	1	6 0 0
	Total	52	

3. As to dry, the plough system, which was the main feature of the Checkadi Jaghire, does not appear here except in one small village. In the rest the fieldwar assessment is in force, but the amount varies almost in each village and according to the nature of the crop grown with certain mirchas or remissions in favor of the Porackudi, Mussulman, and Brahmin ryots. The assessment is very high in several villages, and varies from Rupees 5-14-6 to Rupees 2-10-0 per cawny. The above is the charge for kadar (ear) which, as a rule, is twice that for *kai*. The percentage of remission in favor of the privileged classes varies almost in every village, and I have therefore thought it proper to enclose for easy reference a Statement No. I showing villagewar, the rate of assessment for "*karam*" leviable on each cawny for dry cultivation. You will thus observe that neither the barbarous plough, nor the repressive warapnat system, which both were the rule in Checkadi, appear in Senkarapuram, of which Checkadi formed a part.

4. The measurement and classification of soils in Senkarapuram commenced on the 1st August 1874, just after the Fasli year 1283 had expired; at the beginning there were three men engaged on it, and they were deputed from my regular establishment. Subsequently in G Os., Nos. 1,149, 1,502, and 201, dated respectively 6th September 1874, 5th December 1874, and 8th February 1875, temporary hands of the strength marginally given were sanctioned, and the work was concluded by the middle of March 1875.

4 Revenue Inspectors on Rupees 20 per mensem.
4 Peons on Rupees 6 per mensem.

The actual cost to Government was Rupees 310-15-8 on account of the temporary hands. Just as the accounts were coming in, I went away on three months' privilege leave, and in three weeks after my return from it in June 1875, I was sent to North Arcot for about three months; so that the returns received from the Revenue Inspectors engaged on the special duty were not subjected to any examination or scrutiny till my return now towards the close of last month.

5. I have now examined the Registers and framed two Statements, A and B, enclosed showing the result of the measurement and classification of soils by the Revenue Inspectors. I have not yet been to the field myself; but as the features of the present system at Senkarapuram were similar in form to those in the Hoolons Villages settled on Mr. Ravenshaw's principles, I was anxious, in the first instance, to ascertain whether the financial result, according to the classification made by the Revenue Inspectors, would meet with the approval of Government as a measure of relief to the ryot.

As the statement show, the run of classifications has been very high; unlike in the interspersed Ayan Villages, where there are still large tracts of open land available for cultivation, the lower rates of assessment do not at all appear in Senkarapuram, and the average derivable is, except in a few instances, and that to a slight degree, much higher than that now derived in the Jaghire as well as the adjoining Ayan Villages. The above remarks apply equally to both wet and dry rates, and, unless the soils are reduced in class by three or four gradations, I do not think the result will be any thing like what is anticipated.

6. The subjoined table gives the percentage of area measured under each class or taram, separately for wet and dry. You will observe that the last three classes in dry and two classes in wet disappear with the exception of but two cawnies measured in the 7th class dry:—

Dry.		Wet.	
Taram.	Per cent.	Taram.	Per cent.
2	29	3	9
3	39	9	29
4	22	10	33
5	7	11	23
6	3	12	4·13
		13	·75
		14	·12
100			100

There is however C. 2-11-0 measured in the 7th class.

The assessment payable on one cawny in each Taram is shown in the subjoined table:—

Wet.		Dry.	
Class.	Assessment.	Class.	Assessment.
	Rs. A. P.		Rs. A. P.
8	11 13 0	2	4 4 0
9	10 8 0	3	3 12 0
10	9 3 0	4	3 3 0
11	8 7 0	5	2 10 0
12	7 0 0	6	2 7 0
13	5 10 0	7	1 15 0
14	4 4 0	8	1 8 0
15	2 13 0	9	1 0 0
16	1 7 0		

The first seven classes in wet were the old double crop lands, and the first class in dry is the garden land which pays a uniform rate of Rupees 7 per cawny.

7. The subjoined statement gives in one view the area actually measured under wet and dry, the area now included in the holdings and that available for future cultivation. That the present rates, especially the dry, are heavy, there is additional proof from the percentage of waste which is as high has sixty-eight for dry, while for wet it is only 13 per cent.; and, if the provisional settlement is to be made, it must be certainly to reduce the rates now in force, but, the new rates when introduced may not be in force for any number of years, they may be superseded by the rates of the Settlement Department before they can be developed and cultivation extended. It is thus doubtful if the Government would be prepared to forego the present revenue in this transition period:—

Description.	Patani.	Uncoccupied Cultivable Waste.	Total.	Percentage of Columns 3 to 4.
1	2	3	4	5
	C. A. P.	C. A. P.	C. A. P.	
Wet	3,439 15 0	534 12 2	3,974 11 2	13·43
Dry	10,463 11 0	22,981 10 0	33,445 5 0	68·71

8. I was, however, arranging to go to the spot and examine the soils in comparison with those in the surrounding *Ayan* Villages already settled; in the meanwhile, a copy of the Board's Proceedings, No. 2,924, dated 21st ultimo, was placed in my hands. There it is recommended that the survey and settlement parties, the former being already in the district, should be made to take up Kallakurchi in the first instance, and if the proposal be adopted, and Senkarapuram Villages chiefly lying in that taluq be begun with, the necessity for an intermediate provisional settlement would be obviated. The ryots of Senkarapuram are not desirous for the change, although the assessment they now pay is much higher than that paid in the settled villages. The defects of the warapnat and plough systems just abandoned in Checkadi are not to be found in Senkarapuram, and you will observe the Board and Government had not originally intended that Senkarapuram should be taken up for a provisional settlement—*vide* Board's Proceedings, No. 2,270, dated 25th November 1872, and G.O., No. 38, dated 11th January 1873. In communicating, however, the above Government Order directing me to submit proposals for the provisional settlement of Checkadi, Mr. Sullivan, in his letter, No. 121, dated 12th February 1873, included in the Senkarapuram Jaghire also as one to be settled provisionally; thereupon I invited his attention to the orders of the Board and Government which expressly provided for the settlement of Checkadi alone, but in his reply, No. 175, dated 27th February 1873,

Mr. Sullivan reiterated the same order, observing "that as the regular settlement of the district is not likely to be set on foot for some years to come, it is advisable that the provisional settlement ordered by the Government should include the Senkarapuram Jaghire also."

9. Under the altered state of things, and as the present system, while it is not absolutely injurious to the interests of Government, is free from any of the defects common to plough and warappat systems, and as the ryots have never asked for a change, which as I am informed they do not pray for, I hesitate to proceed further, in the absence of instructions, to submit definite proposals for the intermediate settlement.

Awaiting your orders.

Enclosure No. 2.

From C. STRI BALIAH, Deputy Collector, General Duties, South Arcot, to J. H. GARSTIN, Esq., Collector of South Arcot, dated Trikulore, 14th June 1876, No. 441.

In your letter, No. 214, dated 8th March 1876, you directed, in reference to Board's Proceedings, No. 444, dated 15th February 1876, that I should submit my proposals for introducing a provisional settlement into the Senkarapuram Jaghire, and as *all* the reasons assigned for its delegence in my letter, No. 629, dated 20th November 1875, had not apparently received consideration, I waited for a personal conference with you on the subject, and when you were here in May 1876, I took occasion to discuss the matter with you, and you were pleased to promise a reconsideration of my reasons for dropping the settlement.

2. I beg therefore to resubmit the enclosures to my letter, No. 629, dated 20th November 1875, and to inform you that my proposal to abandon the provisional settlement was not based on the single ground that there was prospect of an immediate extension of settlement operations to this district. My letter above quoted would show besides—

(a) that the run of classifications as made by Revenue Inspectors has been very high, and that it would not meet with the approval of Government as a measure of relief to the ryots;

(b) that, as it is, the percentage of waste to the ayacut is 08·71 in dry and 13·43 in wet, and that any addition to the present assessment, which must be the case should the soils as classified by Revenue Inspectors be retained, is certain to operate injuriously to the interests of Government as well as of the ryots;

(c) that the ryots of Senkarapuram Villages are not anxious for a change, although the assessment they now pay is much higher than that paid in the adjoining settled villages;

(d) that the defects of the warappat and plough system just abandoned in Cheekadi Jaghire under G.O., No. 1,267, dated 5th October 1874, are not to be found in Senkarapuram Jaghire except in one small village; and

(e) that finally the Board and Government had not originally intended that Senkarapuram should be taken up for a provisional settlement—*vide* Board's Proceedings, No. 2,270, dated 25th November 1872, and G.O., No. 58, dated 11th January 1873.

3. The Board of Revenue were not apparently made aware of the reasons above given when they passed their Proceedings, No. 444, dated 15th February 1876. In fact, your letter, No. 528, dated 9th December 1875, embodied in the Proceedings, makes it appear that I had submitted my proposals finally for the provisional settlement. However, the Board's orders do not seem to have any reference to the question of the provisional settlement of Senkarapuram Jaghire, and, as the grounds above enumerated seem to me to be cogent, I beg you will be good enough to submit my letter, No. 629, dated 20th November 1875, to the Board of Revenue with your own opinion in the matter.

4. Since the receipt of your letter of the 8th March 1876, I had the Jamabandi work to do, and had thus no time to spare for field inspection in Senkarapuram.

Awaiting your further orders.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) P. VARADA CHARI, Deputy Collector,
for Collector.

Enclosures Nos. 3 and 5.—Statements.

SUBMITTED for the orders of Government.

2. The Board are of opinion that, as a considerable time must elapse before the Settlement Department can commence operations in South Arcot, the provisional settlement should be proceeded with, notwithstanding the objections urged by Stri Baliah.

(True Copies and Extract.)

Acting Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department,
with three original statements, to be returned, and copies of
Board's Proceedings, dated 21st October 1875, No. 2,924,
and 15th February 1876, No. 444.

Copy to the Collector of South Arcot.
" to the Director of Revenue Settlement.
" to the Superintendent of Revenue Survey.

Ed. A. Grubert.

Rev. 1876. Reports

Board of Revenue,

MADRAS.

PROCEEDINGS, 15TH JULY 1876, No. 1,812.

Received

JULY.

No. 1,812.

Sankarapuram Jaghire—in South Arcot District.—Submitting, for orders of Government, Collector's letter regarding introduction of a provisional settlement into—pending revision of assessment by Settlement Department, and expressing opinion that the same should be proceeded with, notwithstanding objections urged by Deputy Collector.