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# MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

## GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. ~~B.P. No.~~ 221

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## *Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 15th February* 1876.

No. 181. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 4th August 1875, No. 2,168:—

Read letter from the Acting Director of Revenue Settlement, to Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Chittoor, 9th June 1875, No. 1,099A-31A.

ABSTRACT.—Reporting the results of the Settlement of a portion of the Principal Division of the Chingleput District.

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ENCLOSURE No. 1.—Specimen of Settlement Register.

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ENCLOSURE No. 2.—Scroll Map.

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ENCLOSURE No. 3.—Descriptive Memoir.

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IN this letter the Acting Director of Revenue Settlement reports the result of the introduction of the new settlement in a tract of sixty-nine villages in the neighbourhood of Madras, and details what he has done in pursuance of the orders of Government conveyed in G.O., dated 13th April 1875, No. 590, for the registration and settlement of mirasi rights.

2. He has not experienced any difficulty in carrying out the orders of Government in this matter. The mirasi shares have been ascertained and recorded in each village. The lands occupied by Mirasidars, as such, have been entered in the puttas and in the chittah or Curnam's copy of the puttas as pungu lands, and all other occupied lands, whether held by Mirasidars or others, as held on durkhast tenure. The swatantram fee has been recorded against each pungu and waste field on a uniform scale of 2 Annas in the rupee of assessment.

3. This rate has been arrived at as follows:—The swatantram fee was formerly taken from the gross produce before the division of the crop, and was then paid both by ryots and Government. The charge as against Government has not been directly allowed, for, in arriving at the money rates now imposed, any distinct claim had virtually fallen into desuetude, and the liberal allowances (from 16 to 25 per cent.) made for various contingencies in arriving at the new rates rendered any revival of the swatantram claim as against Government unnecessary, whilst it would have undesirably complicated calculations. Further, the pymaish assessments were made on calculations of the gross produce after the deduction of the swatantram. The portion of the swatantram, therefore, which came out of the ryot's share, is now alone represented by Mr. Puckle's 2-Anna rate. This is based upon 3 per cent. of the gross produce, which is taken as a rough average of the rates given in the old panguvali accounts. These rates ranged, for the ryot's payment, from 1 to 7 per cent.; but, for the reasons stated by Mr. Puckle, chiefly the difficulty of identifying the lands liable to the varying rates, he has found it necessary to take the uniform rate of 3 per cent. above mentioned.

4. To apply this to the rates of assessment he has taken the gross produce of the highest taram, 840 measures, and the highest rate, Rupees 7-8-0, proposed by

Mr. Banbury, and finds the swatantram to be Rupee 0-1-9 per rupee for wet land. Similarly, for the 3-Rupee rate, which is the second but highest normal taram in dry land, he finds the fee to be Rupee 0-2-5 per rupee of assessment. He adopts 2 Annas as a mean rate, and proposes to apply it throughout the Chingleput District, and to both wet and dry lands.

5. The Board observe that as the ratio of the assessment to the money value of the gross produce is less in the lower tarams than in the higher, the swatantram on lands in the lower tarams, if taken at a uniform per-centage of the gross produce, must necessarily come to a higher rate per rupee of assessment. Thus it will be found that the fee at 3 per cent. of the gross produce ranges from 1 Anna 9 Pies to 2 Annas 6 Pies in wet, and from 2 Annas 3 Pies to 6 Annas in dry land. On the areas and rates introduced in the tract now reported on by Mr. Puckle, the average at this calculation for wet land is 2 Annas 5 Pies, for dry land 3 Annas 11 Pies, and for both together 2 Annas 8 Pies.

6. Thus Mr. Puckle's rate is shown to be somewhat low, but the Board ar informed that the Mirasidars have definitively assented to his proposals. It seems to be impossible to introduce the old varying rates, and a uniform and simple rate such as proposed has undoubtedly great advantages. The Mirasidars probably prefer a lower rate, which is assured to them or believed to be so, to a higher rate, their right to which would be liable to be contested or at least difficult of enforce- ment; and besides it is observed that the amount involved is really very small. It consists in a claim to a fee on waste hereafter brought into cultivation, which fee amounts to Rupees 832, or an average of Rupees 12-1-0 per village, in the tract of sixty-nine villages now in question (paragraph 13), and to a fee on pangu and durkhast land now occupied, which may hereafter be thrown up and be re-occupied on durkhast.

7. Every field has been registered as mirasi or durkhast, occupied or waste The fee has been recorded on the assessment of each mirasi and waste field, and it has been provided in the descriptive memoirs that if land now occupied, whether durkhast or mirasi, is hereafter relinquished and taken up afresh on durkhast, the swatantram fee at 2 Annas per rupee shall become payable. It is not now made payable on either class of land now occupied in the case of durkhast lands, because they are held to have been alienated from the mirasi body, and, as long as the present occupancy lasts, cannot be charged with the fee; and in the case of the mirasi lands, because it is assumed that the lands now occupied by each Mirasidar correspond to his pangu or share, and consequently that were the fee levied on his land, he would be entitled to get it back in virtue of his share.

8. But the Board think that provision should be made for the case of sale of land for arrears of revenue or under decree of Court, as well as for that of lands relinquished. In sale for arrears, the Board think that an entirely new tenure is created, and consequently the fee must be paid by the sale purchaser, whether Mirasidar or not, just as it is to be paid by a new Durkhastdar, whether Mirasidar or not. When land is sold under decree of a Court, however, it will be different. Then the auction purchaser acquires the title of the judgment debtor; and accordingly when durkhast land now exempt from fee is bought, it will continue to be so. When mirasi land is bought, the right of the purchaser to swatantaram

thereon will depend on whether the Court sells the mirasi right along with the land, or sells the land only,—a matter which will usually be known. The mirasi pangu or share is a distinct thing from the possession of mirasi land.

9. It is, therefore, necessary to consider how the fees are to be recovered. Durkhastdars and purchasers at revenue sales will have acquired lands under agreement to pay the fees in addition to the assessment, but there will be no such agreement in the case of purchasers at Court sales, who, on the principles laid down, may be liable to the fees. Even such agreement, however, would not empower Revenue-officers to recover under Act II. of 1864 swatantaram fees for the Mirasidars; and wherever payment of the fee is refused, unless special provision is made, the only remedy will be a suit in Court by the mirasi body, and the old difficulties will recommence. The Mirasidars have probably consented to the present settlement whereby their right to fees is acknowledged only as against the ryot's former share of the crop, and the rate of fee is in many cases reduced on the implied understanding that the fees are to be collected by the Curnam, which to them means collected as arrears of land-revenue. But under the present law this cannot be; and the result will soon be that the new fees will not be paid any more than the old ones and that the difficulty of inducing the shareholders to combine to sue in Court will as heretofore be found almost insuperable. Unless an Act be passed enabling Revenue-officers to recover swatantram fees as arrears of revenue, the present settlement will be a dead letter. The Board recommend that such Act be passed, and will submit a draft if Government desire it.

10. To prevent further difficulty the same Act must lay down the principles on which the fees collected by Government officers are to be paid over. The mirasi body is numerous, and disputes will arise as to who is entitled to the money unless provision of this sort is made.

11. Mr. Puckle has had no difficulty as to the division of the samudayam lands, which have been dealt with in every village where they existed except one, as to which a civil suit was pending. One thousand and ninety-five acres in fortyfive villages have been divided.

12. The settlement, as introduced by Mr. Puckle, differs from Mr. Banbury's proposals, the whole of the tract having been reclassified in blocks and the grouping of the villages altered as stated in paragraph 26. Mr. Banbury's tarams and rates have been substantially retained, but, practically, settlement of the tracts has been made afresh. Particulars of Mr. Banbury's proposals for the villages now reported on are not given, and the Board are unable to estimate the effect of the changes made, but they are informed that there is but little difference. Comparing Mr. Puckle's settlement with the revenue of fasli 1284, the result is a decrease of Rupees 2,296, or 4 per cent. The necessity for the reductions and changes which have brought about this result is shown in Mr. Puckle's paragraph 7. The effect of the new settlement is to raise the assessment on wet land and to relieve the dry. The average wet rate as revised is Rupees 3-0-10, and the dry, Rupees 1-2-8. Particulars of the old assessments are not given. The manawari, or rain-dependent paddy lands, have been specially treated, and only those *bona fide* dependent on rain transferred to the head of Dry. They now amount to 2,982 acres, assessed at

Rupees 4,801. The unoccupied waste, wet and dry, is assessed at Rupees 6,656. Acres 959 have been allotted to the villagers as grazing ground poramboke.

13. Mr. Puckle having regard to the possible extension of irrigation from the Red Hill Tank which may affect fifty out of the sixty-nine villages reported on has not allowed second crop to be compounded for, and accordingly composition has been effected at a quarter of the assessment, the rate sanctioned, only on one block of 29·10 acres in Tundalam, which is beyond the influence of the tank project.

14. In paragraphs 18 to 22 some valuable information is given with reference to the possible extension of irrigation under the Red Hill Tank which commands fifty villages within the Sydapet Taluq, all in the tract now reported on. These are enclosed within a green line in Mr. Puckle's map. He estimates that, supposing forty millions of cubic yards of water to be available by irrigation of dry land, and by supplementing the supply to petty tanks which now irrigate 10,833 acres, a return, amounting to Rupees 61,266, might be obtained. These figures relate to Government villages only, and it will be seen from the map that there are several large shrotriem villages which are within the influence of the tank and from which water-rate might be levied. The assessment of the land now irrigated from small tanks might be raised by Rupees 2 per acre, and a water-rate of Rupees 4 imposed on lands now classed as dry. The average nunja rate being now about Rupees 3, and the average dry rate about Rupee 1, the result would be an average assessment of Rupees 5 per acre on the extended irrigation. Some further works of drainage and distribution and improvements to the small tanks, the cost of which must be estimated by the professional department, would be necessary. The Board have referred to this subject in replying to G.O., Public Works Department, dated 2nd June 1875, No. 1,548.

15. In paragraph 29 *et seq.*, and in the enclosed Appendix, the Acting Director details the system of settlement which he pursues, and requests definite orders on certain points in view to its being substituted, under authority, for that heretofore in force. The chief change is the introduction instead of field classification, of classification by blocks to be first of all lined out by the officer making the settlement in person, with reference to soil, situation, and so forth, and to be assessed at uniform rates. The advantages claimed are, that the settlement is really made by the settling officer in person, who has the whole work in progress thoroughly under control; that there is no room for fraud or chicanery or oppression by the subordinates of the department; that consequently the elaborate and expensive checks which have been devised will become unnecessary; that there is less chance of inequalities and anomalies requiring subsequent correction than when the classification is made by fields; and that the work can be done much more quickly and at less expense.

16. These are undoubtedly great advantages, and the proposed system is clearly to be credited with them. But the objection is that under it everything will depend upon the judgment, experience, and carefulness of the settling officer; and that the only index whether or not he has gone wrong will be the relation of the new to the old assessments. In unskilful or careless hands there will be danger that the settlement will become a mere process of re-arranging the old beriz instead of an attempt to arrive at a just estimate from independent data and on defined principles of the

value of the Government share of the crop. The Deputy Directors under the new system will have to be selected with great care. On the whole, however, the Board are of opinion that the advantages preponderate, and that the approval of Government should be accorded to the general adoption of the block system.

17. The second and third proposals are, that in future when a district is taken up a report is to be submitted embodying an account of the entire district, describing the several taluqs with general suggestions for their treatment, deducing rates, and giving an estimate of the actual results for one or two taluqs; and that when the proposals are approved the Deputy Director shall be empowered to settle the remaining taluqs on the same principles with the same approximate results without further preliminary estimates in detail. The proposition seems to be that when a table of rates is sanctioned, after exemplification of their results has been given for one or two taluqs, no further detailed classification, &c., should be required, but that general sanction should be given for their introduction in other taluqs of the same district. The very great delay that has been entailed in disposing of the required schemes hitherto is the strongest argument that can be adduced in favor of this course; and it will be unobjectionable if the preliminary report satisfies Government that the other taluqs of a district are similar on the whole and similarly situated to those for which detailed proposals are received; but on this point Government must have an opportunity of giving opinion in each case before the rates are actually introduced. In paragraph 40 the Director asks for specific sanction for the settlement of the remaining taluqs of Chingleput in this way, and the Board recommend that this be accorded forthwith for the remainder of Sydapet Taluq and for Trivellore and Ponneri, all of which were included in Mr. Banbury's scheme, as they understand that all is ready for field operations. With regard to settlement in the other taluqs, the Board will address Government further when informed what stage operations have reached in them.

18. The fourth proposal is that the Deputy Director should have power to exercise, subject to the control of the Collector, such of the powers of an ordinary Revenue-officer as are necessary to enable him to make the settlement not merely a revision of assessment, but, as Mr. Puckle puts it, really a settlement, and comprising the disposal of every item of which the villagers have to complain. The Board fully approve of this suggestion, whereby the local knowledge which is necessarily acquired by the Settlement Officer is fully turned to account, and an inestimable opportunity taken advantage of to the benefit both of Government and the ryots. The admirable descriptive memoirs drawn up by Mr. Puckle on the completion of the settlement of each village form a permanent and convenient record of the results of the settlement, which is of the highest value.

19. Attention is called to the Director's request at the end of the last paragraph of his report.

20. In a separate letter which has been submitted to Government with Board's Proceedings, dated 22nd June 1875, No. 1,733, Mr. Puckle has detailed his proposals for the revision of the village establishment in the tract now reported on.

(A true Extract.)
(Signed) H. E. STOKES,
Acting Secretary.

No. 182. Read the following demi-official letter from H. E. STOKES, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, to D. F. CARMICHAEL, Esq., Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, dated Madras, 8th December 1875 :—

REFERRING to Board's Proceedings, 4th August 1875, No. 2,168, I am directed to submit, for the consideration of Government, a memorandum (in original) by the Acting Director of Revenue Settlement, in which he records his views with reference to the changes proposed by Mr. Puckle in the system of settlement heretofore adopted and referred to by the Board in paragraphs 15 to 18 of the Proceedings just quoted.

2. The most important point of divergence between the views of Messrs. Puckle and Rundall is the advisability of adopting the block-system of classification in lieu of that by fields. Mr. Rundall maintains that the principle of the settlement is at stake; that it will become, if the proposals made by Mr. Puckle are sanctioned, a mere re-adjustment of the existing assessment, and not a revision; that the relative accuracy of assessment which it is desired to secure is already obtained under the fieldwar system, and must be sacrificed under that proposed; that the block-system must necessarily be expensive and slow, as one officer cannot keep the classification sufficiently in advance of the party to provide them with full occupation; that the results in Tinnevelly where the system has been followed bear out this assertion; that under it the advantage gained by a thorough and detailed examination of the occupation, the bringing to light unrecorded cultivation and evasions of revenue are lost; and that the revision of tanks ayacuts,—a measure which the Board and Government have considered of prime importance,—is either abandoned or conducted in an unsafe or futile manner on mere lists drawn up by the Carnums showing fields requiring alteration. Mr. Rundall further shows that the proposal is not a new one, but had been in the department already fully discussed and rejected by officers of great experience in settlement work. He asserts that now that the system has been, in anticipation of the orders of Government, practically brought into operation, the opinion of the officers of the department is unanimous against it.

3. The Acting Director's proposal in paragraph 27, in fact, amounts to this, that the lining out the land in blocks should be effected after the field classification has been completed in the usual way, and thus the block-system made the test of the other, where, from the character of the country, this is feasible. Mr. Rundall agrees with the Board in warmly approving Mr. Puckle's proposal that settlement officers should exercise such of the ordinary powers of Revenue-officers as will enable them to redress all grievances and make the settlement a real adjustment of village affairs, and of the admirable form in which he exhibits the final settlement results.

4. I am desired to say that, on perusal of Mr. Rundall's memorandum, of which the purport has been briefly sketched in the preceding paragraphs, the Board are disposed to recede from the recommendation in favor of the block-system of classification which they made in their Proceedings under reference. Put before them as it was, there appeared to be considerable advantages in the shape of saving of time expense, and labor, not inconsistent with a sufficiently minute and careful examination of soils, conditions, and circumstances. But on descending from generalities to details, it becomes clear that there will be great danger of such an examination being

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neglected, and that if it be really efficiently and properly made there will be little to choose, in point of expenditure of time and money, between the two systems; while the fieldwar system gives a considerable guarantee of the thoroughness of the work. On the block-system the settlement will be apt to degenerate into a mere adjustment of the old assessments, and the rectification of occasional anomalies. Officers of marked experience and special ability might perhaps be safely trusted with powers of settlement on the block-system; but there would be no real check on the work, and a supply of a succession of such fully qualified officers cannot be relied on with sufficient certainty to justify the adoption of a scheme which would divest the ultimately responsible authorities of all real supervising power. These considerations had already suggested themselves to the Board; but they did not at the time seem to them so conclusive against Mr. Puckle's proposal, as in the light of the memorandum drawn up by Mr. Rundall they now do. The change, in reality, involves the sacrifice of the whole principle of the settlement which has been accepted and ratified by the Secretary of State; and, though there may be imperfections in the old system, efforts should be directed rather to improving it than to substituting for it an entirely new one.

5. In conclusion, I am to say that the Board approve generally of the proposals for future operations now brought forward by Mr. Rundall.

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ENCLOSURE No. 1.

## MEMORANDUM.

Report to Board, No. 1,099A-31 A, of 9th June 1875.

As the changes which Mr. Puckle has advocated and submitted for the orders of Government will not only involve considerable alteration of ordinary settlement procedure, but will as well materially modify the system upon which classification has hitherto proceeded, I beg to submit the following remarks upon the recommendations thus made and now under the consideration of Government. The change of system contemplated is a question of the greatest importance, as it will affect prejudicially or otherwise the final settlement of the remaining districts of the Presidency and several of those now under operation.

No. IV. of paragraph 39.

2. So far as the proposals affect settlement procedure only, the recommendations to make actual settlement more complete are undoubted improvements which can be adopted with advantage such as the transfer of puttas, division of common lands, allotment of grazing ground, and assignment of lands required for public purposes, &c.

No. I. of paragraph 39.

Nos. 503 and 1,611 of 9th March and 9th August 1871.

3. The system of classification by blocks by a responsible officer or mainly by European agency is not altogether new; for the records of this office show that the question was raised and duly discussed departmentally and negatived in the early days of settlement operations (1860). The remarks which Mr. Newill then recorded were circulated by Mr. Banbury in 1871 for the purpose of eliciting further discussion of the question by the Deputy Directors with reference to the system of classification pursued by Mr. Puckle in Tinnevelly; and from the copies of the marginally noted Proceedings of Mr. Banbury as Director which I subjoin, it will be evident that the opinion of the district officers was adverse to any change. It may be said that Mr. Puckle's classification system and the mode in which he gave effect thereto was not sufficiently known to be discussed and rejected; but I have no hesitation in asserting, now

that it is known by officers generally, and has been personally explained by Mr. Puckle, that the same unanimity of opinion still exists.

4. It is not only the system that is proposed to be altered, but, in a great degree, the basis of classification as well. The difference may be briefly described as follows.

5. Under the present system every endeavour is used to secure relative accuracy and equal treatment of similar soils, regard being had mainly to the quality of the soil. Under the modified system, as already put in force by Mr. Puckle in Chingleput and elsewhere, the present assessment, if either high or low, determines, in a great measure I find, the rating of the block, as to the sort under which it should be assessed; for it is generally understood by those who have been instructed by Mr. Puckle that great divergence from the present assessment should be obviated.

6. For this latter purpose an experimental table of rates, considered applicable to the district generally, is furnished to the few subordinates to whom classification is now entrusted, so that as blocked out the tentative results of any village can be at once arrived at.

7. The aim of the proposed system of classification being thus to work more or less to a foregone conclusion, it necessarily follows that, in a greater or less degree, relative accuracy of classification must be sacrificed, each village being treated more with reference to the assessment the land may formerly have borne than in accordance with the merits of the village as arrived at by a careful classification of the soils.

8. Under the departmental system of classification it may be justly contended that the efforts to secure relative accuracy have been successful; and that the undoubtedness of this success will ensure the system standing the test of time. The earlier work of the department, whilst experience was being gained, may not perhaps, and cannot well, be expected to be equal to that of later years; but still the classification and assessment resulting are regarded with favor by Revenue-officers who have experience therewith. In the Tamil districts I much doubt if the classification was ever as systematic and as thorough as that of the northern or Telugu districts.

9. The sacrifice of so important a general principle as relative accuracy as to classification involves a very much greater departure from the ordinary system than the proposals submitted by Mr. Puckle would appear to convey.

Paragraph 33.

10. Mr. Puckle, when referring to the results of existing settlement, prominently notices that very serious discrepancies often occur between the former and the revised assessment, and that consequently the ryots are sometimes greatly dissatisfied.

Paragraph 34.

11. The system that Mr. Puckle advocates is next described, and he states that in forming blocks under his system "the general lie of the country, the nature of the irrigation, the soil, situation, &c., have all to be considered together, so that in like villages similar blocks may be similarly classified, and such rates of assessment may be imposed as will apply not only to existing circumstances but to the former assessment and the future requirements of the people."

12. It is clearly impossible that any rates of assessment resulting from a system of classification that is similar in its application to different villages can comply with or, in many cases, even approach the several conditions set down. If the incidence of the existing assessments which are under revision was found to be even, and the existing circumstances and future requirements of the people were generally uniform in most villages, there might then be some hope of such conformity being attained. But it is well known that very great diversity exists both as regards the assessment of different villages and of individuals of such villages. A classification to be relatively accurate and more reliable than the former pymaish, which, in many instances, has been found to have been tampered with, must occasion important variations between the former and revised assessment. That such is the case is no discredit to the existing system of classification, provided the general accuracy of the rates of assessment imposed can be

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demonstrated as just and fair by comparison of the classification results and average assessment as adjusted with that of the neighbouring villages or similar villages similarly circumstanced. With the personal knowledge of the villages that the settlement officer acquires, it is a safe test and one that carries conviction with it.

13. It is thus impossible for any classification to accord, as a rule, with the conditions which Mr. Puckle lays down as necessary, or to give consideration to all the circumstances together. No doubt weight should always be, and is, given to the advantages or disadvantages as to level for irrigation, and as to the situation, for these form essential elements in any such consideration. Consideration as to assessment, however, can only be given to any extent at the expense of the general accuracy of the classification results.

14. Under the system Mr. Puckle has already inaugurated, I contend that undue consideration is often thus bestowed upon the present assessment; and that the result is that under his system similar blocks in like villages would be liable to be less frequently classified in a similar manner and at equivalent rates of assessment than under the ordinary system.

Board's Proceedings, No. 2,168, of 4th August 1874, paragraph 16.

15. In reviewing and endorsing the proposals, the Board of Revenue remark that under the new system Deputy Directors "will have to be selected with great care;" and apprehend that "in unskilful or careless hands there will be danger that the settlement will become a mere process of re-arranging the old beriz instead of an attempt to arrive at a just estimate from independent data and on defined principles of the Government share of the crop." It is clearly thus intended that merely the procedure of classification and not the principle should be modified. The principle, as I have attempted to show, being more or less at stake, the change to the system of classification, as inaugurated and put in force by Mr. Puckle, is clearly incompatible with these views, for the change tends to make settlement an adjustment instead of a revision of assessment.

Paragraph 32.

16. The classification under the existing system, though deemed so crude by Mr. Puckle, has been vouched for and reported on by his predecessors, and embodies much more systematic action than it is credited with in the remarks recorded. Though conducted fieldwar by the classifiers, yet, so far as the soils run the same, the land is similarly rated; and hence, where tracts of the same soil occur, the result of the ordinary classification is in blocks. Under the latter, allowances are made for minor variations which exist. These are sometimes essential; but to some extent can be merged without occasioning any particular hardship. In dealing with the land, it is right that classifiers, as regards work performed by them, should record and not ignore existing variations of this nature.

17. Under the block-system of classification thus advocated, it is claimed that work can be done much more quickly and at less expense than at present. The system is the outcome of the settlement operations specially conducted by Mr. Puckle in the Tinnevelly District; and it is, therefore, to be expected that fair progress would have been the result under the system in the Tinnevelly District. Even if allowances are made for the maturing of the system in that district and for extraneous work, the progress and the cost do not omen well for either expedition or economy. Tinnevelly has already been ten years under settlement, and barely four of the nine taluqs are finished. Operations have, to some extent, been extended to two others; but three, I believe, have not yet been touched. I venture to predict that, under the system Mr. Puckle condemns, Tinnevelly would have been out of hand by this time so far as the introduction of settlement might be concerned, and the cost would not, proportionately to the work accomplished, have been so much.

18. A settlement party engaged solely on classification invariably has only one officer for a district; and it stands to reason that if the formation of the blocks depends* upon a single or even two officers, as in Tinnevelly, the area that can be disposed of each month must be

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* Paragraphs 34 and 35 of Mr. Puckle's Report.

more or less limited; and, consequently, that the number of classifiers at work in the field must be restricted. It is unlikely that the officer can provide a sufficient area of villages blocked out to keep the number of ordinary classifiers of a party employed in the manner Mr. Puckle indicates. They may, of course, be otherwise employed; but yet the result claimed for the system is not likely to be realised. As soon as introduced in Chingleput it was found that it was impracticable for an officer to take up a village without any sketch or information as a guide to the run of the soils, and dispose of it with expedition; and in the villages of the Chingleput Taluq, when newly undertaken in accordance with this block-system, the villages, consequently, were blocked out beforehand by the Supervisor, &c., and Major Stuart personally inspected and settled the work thus prepared. Had he attempted to lay out the villages himself, it must inevitably have proved a most unnecessary waste of his time and labor. Under such a system, even if the discretion solicited under head III. was granted, and two officers were engaged, I doubt if, as contemplated, two taluqs per annum in each district could be accomplished. With one officer it would be hopeless to expect progress to that extent or if the laying of lands by the officer himself in each village was insisted on.

Paragraph 38.

19. Moreover, under the block-system, as worked by Mr. Puckle, a great deal too much importance is attached, I think, to the limitation of the blocks of a village to a small number. The number of the blocks into which a village may be divided should, in all cases, be sufficient to ensure the relative and apparent variations being recognised and separately treated.

20. Shortly after assuming charge of the department, Mr. Puckle stopped the ordinary fieldwar classification of the Chingleput Taluq, and had all subsequent work undertaken under his block-system. Some twenty villages of Chingleput had then been commenced or classified under the field-system; and the work of these was revised, and the whole taluq closed in accordance with the block-classification. The work of Conjeeveram was subsequently similarly revised to the block-system.

21. Mr. Mayer was as well summoned from Ganjam and initiated into the altered system; and upon his return he arranged, in accordance with the instructions he received, for future villages to be done under this system. Upon a representation being made to me that nearly two-thirds of the taluq had previously been completed under the fieldwar or ordinary system, and that pending the orders of Government as to the proposed changes the men were not fully employed, I directed that the whole taluq should be completed by the classifiers as commenced under the field-system. This is, however, being corrected upon Mr. Mayer's inspection to the block-system as ordered by Mr. Puckle. I doubt much if the block-system is applicable at all to Ganjam, or at all events to Gumsur.

22. Field classification was similarly stopped in North Arcot, in the Guriattum Taluq, whilst I was absent on leave, and the field-hands are employed now solely on demarcation. The classification is conducted by blocks by the head classifiers and supervisors or subordinate agency in the first instance, and personally inspected and settled by the Assistant Director. In Cuddapah and Coimbatore field-work had progressed too far for like changes to be effected in those districts. Orders were, however, given for the application of the block-system to the wet lands when introducing to any further extent revised rates of assessment. It will thus be evident that when Mr. Puckle left classification under the ordinary fieldwar-system had practically been stopped in all districts save Coimbatore. Field operations had already been closed in Cuddapah.

23. There are as well other changes which have been effected as enumerated below. Under the block-system as given effect to by Mr. Puckle in the Chingleput Taluq, the classifiers did not record the particulars of occupation of the blocks by examination and identification of holdings comprising the blocks, but according to the particulars of occupation ascertained from the Carnum for the several survey numbers appertaining to each block. The discontinuance of the identification fieldwar of all occupation, both Government and Inam, on the basis of the Revenue

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Accounts, would prevent unrecorded occupation in respect to land; and omission to charge water-
rate for irrigation, also the wrongful adjustments to dry in recent years of land that should

"The settlement of sixty-eight villages of the Chingleput
District has now been made, and in no single case has
it been found necessary to refer to the ayacuts lately
revised on the ground, as the area held on patta as
nunjah at the settlement now made has invariably been
accepted as the ayacut under each work.
"The result of this practical experiment shows that the
labor bestowed on the revision of tank ayacuts previous
to introducing a settlement is time and money wasted,
as there are ample opportunities for obtaining all the
information used as each village comes up for hearing
under the system of settlement pursued in Chingleput.
"The Director, therefore, requests that all further revision
of ayacuts may be discontinued from this date."

G. O., No. 181, of 27th January 1871, and No. 1,628, of
29th November 1872.
Board's Proceedings, 22nd August 1872, and No. 758, of
31st March 1875.

properly have been retained under wet being
hereafter noticed and reported to the Revenue
Authorities for rectification.

24. Again, another important change has
been effected by the Director's Proceedings,
No. 842, of 30th April, which is given in full
in the margin.

25. In directing the discontinuance of
the revision of tank ayacuts as heretofore in
the manner intended by the rules in force,
quoted marginally with other papers bearing
thereon, and deemed by the Board and the
Government to be a very necessary measure
and essentially a part of the settlement of each district, Mr. Puckle has provided for the course
indicated in his letter given in the Board's Proceedings of 31st March last quoted above, being
adopted instead. Under the modification thus ordered, the Carnum of each village is called on
at the time of preparing the settlement accounts to file a list of numbers needing alteration, and
orders are passed thereon as may be requisite. The land the ryots are willing to hold as irrigated
at settlement rates is thus determined as the ayacut for the future under any source. Unoccupied
land, as a rule, though formerly wet and capable of irrigation, is registered as dry. This
adjustment is intended to be effected without any regular fieldwar examination as at present, or
separate plans as a guide that readily indicates the effect of the Carnums and villagers' proposals
if carried out. The statements and sketches heretofore prescribed and prepared concurrently
with field work are discontinued; and the changes will not come under the Collectors' cognizance
save on appeal, or should he review the lists and orders given, which is not likely. Moreover,
the extent to which revision may be necessary will not be known at the time that the general
settlement proposals may be sanctioned, and consequently the tendency of the changes or the
increase or decrease of assessment due to the measure will not be apparent until carried out.

26. Having thus recorded the difficulties that beset the conduct of settlement operations at
present, it is necessary that I should represent what I consider requisite to remedy the effects
of the changes which I thus hold to be, in some measure, unnecessary.

27. I would request that the system of fieldwar classification by classifiers be ordered to be
reverted to, as the basis of operations, where heretofore displaced by the block-system adverted
to. Whilst thus continuing future operations under the field-system, I would propose that, in the
revision of classification by the upper subordinates, the villages be laid out into blocks, due provision
being made for variations of soil usually recognised; and that as thus prepared the villages should
be inspected and passed by the officer of the party. This course would admit of the classification
results being recorded in the descriptive memoirs and illustrated by eye-sketches, as advocated
by Mr. Puckle, and regarded by the Board most favorably. It is an undoubted improvement,
and one which I wish to see perpetuated. I would further recommend that the five sorts of
tarams under each class of soil be adopted generally as regards future operations, as far as such
change may be compatible with work already more or less completed.

28. As thus formed the blocks would be more numerous than Mr. Puckle proposed; but
as before remarked, I deprecate any particular restriction in this respect. In some localities,
tracts of very hilly country and the like, it may not be feasible to adhere entirely to block clas-
sification, in Gumsur for instance. I would propose that the villages in such instances should be
excepted, and treated solely by field classification.

29. The settlement proposals for the Chingleput Principal Division Taluqs submitted by
Mr. Banbury having been sanctioned, I would recommend that the rates, with the slight altera-

tions made by Mr. Puckle, be introduced* on the basis of the original classification, subject to such ordinary modifications as is necessarily allowed at the time of introduction. Mr. Puckle, in referring to Chingleput, has already recorded: "I find the former classification works out singularly well into blocks, when some needless distinctions made by the classifiers in individual cases are rectified." With slight modifications where they can be effected without involving any particular departure from the ordinary process of rating the land, such distinctions might, in many cases, be adjusted, and the villages settled by blocks. This would enable the three taluqs being much more speedily disposed of than under the revision Mr. Puckle contemplates to the classification.

* Paragraph 25. As regards the remaining villages of Sydapet and the Trivellore and Ponneri Taluqs.

30. In North Arcot field classification would, as previously, proceed simultaneously with the demarcation now being performed by classifiers, &c.

31. In Ganjam, considering that Chicacole and the greater portion of Berhampore have been already classified fieldwar, and the block-system is probably* quite unsuited to the remaining taluq or Gumsur, I consider it would be best to complete the whole district in accordance with the fieldwar-system.

* It has been treated exceptionally to some extent by the Survey, and Captain Cleeté gives as one of the reasons: "The peculiar nature of the country; the cultivation being throughout a great part of the taluq scattered about in small patches, in many cases of a few cases only," *vide* Enclosure to Board's Proceedings, No. 2,158, of 22nd October 1873.

32. These changes would admit of the identification of all occupation fieldwar, referred to above at paragraph 23, being conducted as formerly.

33. The revision of tank ayacuts requires to be once more undertaken in conformity with the existing orders in this respect. As the adjustments made are not put in force, though previously worked up, until the actual introduction of settlement; and any appeals then preferred are attended to, and rectification, if requisite, is effected, the course hitherto pursued meets the requirements of Board's Proceedings, No. 788, of 31st March.

34. The Deputy Directors might certainly with much advantage be empowered to deal with the several matters referred to by Mr. Puckle under No. IV. I would propose as well that Mr. Puckle's form of descriptive memoirs, and also that the eye-sketches, so far as block-classification may be practicable, be formally approved and ordered to be adopted.

Paragraph 39.

35. In conclusion, I would beg to remark that some of the measures thus advocated have previously been brought forward by Mr. Puckle, and have seemingly been negatived, *vide* paragraphs 75 to 80 of Mr. Master's letter, recorded in the second of the Proceedings referred to.

Board's Proceedings, Nos. 4,137 and 8,649, of 8th June and 24th November 1869.

MADRAS,
*27th October* 1875.

(Signed) C. RUNDALL,
*Acting Director of Revenue Settlement.*

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### ENCLOSURE No. 2.

From C. RUNDALL, Esq., Acting Director of Revenue Settlement, to H. E. STOKES, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Madras, 29th October 1875.

BY the direction of Government I herewith thus submit certain remarks on the proposed changes to settlement procedure and to the system of classification hitherto pursued, as advocated by Mr. Puckle in his Report No. 1,099-A—31-A of 9th June last to the Board.

2. I would request that the Memorandum may receive attention, and that it may be forwarded on to Government with the Board's remarks. Should any further information be desired, I shall be happy to furnish all in my power.

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### ENCLOSURE No. 3.

Proceedings of the Director of Revenue Settlement, dated Madras, 9th March 1871, No. 503.

THE manner in which the classification should be hereafter carried out by this department requires careful consideration, and the present arrangement of allowing different systems in

different districts must not be continued. Thus in Salem and in Chingleput, where the classifiers have been taken from the Tinnevelly and Salem parties, the tak-system or classification by tracts is in force. Whilst in Nellore and Cuddapah the old system of classification field by field prevails.

2. From the accompanying extract from the Director's Proceedings, dated 9th May 1860, No. 449, it will be seen that this matter long since formed the grounds of discussion, and that the tract-system was then condemned. Subsequently, however, the Board have sanctioned this system in Tinnevelly, and Mr. Master appears to have offered no objection to it for Salem. It is, however, clear that either one or the other must be now universally adopted, and the question arises which of the two methods best meets the requirements of Government and the Ryots. The Acting Director requests therefore that the Deputy Director of*—will carefully consider the question and report fully which method he would advocate, and his reasons for such advocacy.

* Salem, Cuddapah, and Nellore.
Uncovenanted Assistant, Kistna.

3. In favor of the field-classification, there is the important fact that as an individual field assessment is the basis of our revenue system; and as each holding must be consequently separately assessed and registered, it is only just and proper that each individual field should be separately classified, and thus appropriately taxed on its individual merits. If it is urged that each field *is* separately examined by the tak-system, the question naturally arises, then why not record it at once without fitting it into any particular tract? Again, the variations in the soils comprising even a small tract are frequently considerable, and thus in numerous instances the classification by taks becomes merely a distribution of "classes" in which the "sorts" are altogether practically ignored. Moreover, fields with "fullers earth" and salt efflorescence are found in the same tract with lands of good quality, and thus the former have to pay the same as the latter.

4. On the other hand, the main advantages of the tak-system are the facility which it furnishes for inspection and the less chance that it is considered to afford for unfair dealing on the part of the subordinates. Greater expedition in the outturn of work should also result from this more general method of classification.

5. There are doubtless other points which will strike Mr.———owing to experience actually gained in the field, and these should also be discussed when furnishing the answer to this communication.

6. Finally, the Acting Director would draw attention to the supposed check to fraud by the tak-system, and would be glad to learn particularly the Deputies' opinions on this point. It is to be noted that under the "tak system" a classifier wilfully lowering a sort has the very specious answer: "I merely gave the field this 'sort' as it appertains to tak B, which is thus classed."

(Signed) G. BANBURY,
*Acting Director of Revenue Settlement.*

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### *Extract from the Proceedings of the Director of Revenue Settlement, dated 9th May* 1860, *No.* 449.

* * *

13. In the 15th and following paragraphs, Mr. Morris gives his views of the system of classification as now conducted, and proposes that the classification should be in tract and not in fields, and that these should be valued entirely by European agency, Native agency being confined to arranging the lands in tracts. He further takes objection to classifiers (as he says) one 15 and 20 Rs. a-month being entrusted with this work, and to their being allowed the exercise of any discretion.

14. The classifiers are paid 20 and 24 Rs., while the head classifiers get Rs. 30. They are selected in a measure, or at least it was intended they should be, from the classes of people

who have practical agricultural knowledge, such as the Carnums' families and other residents of the district. Europeans have, with a very trifling exception, scarcely any practical knowledge of the agricultural value of lands, and what is learnt must, in a great measure, be derived from the continued observation of agricultural processes and results with which the native mind has been long familiarised, though it may be advantageous to introduce along with this practical experience some of the scientific researches of Europe.

15. The Director has already expressed in his Proceedings of 7th instant, No. 437, his opinion as to the necessity of further European controlling and supervising agency; but he considers Mr. Morris's plan of having the whole country valued directly by Europeans quite out of the question, on the consideration of the enormous staff it would require and the consequent expense if it were otherwise practicable or desirable.

16. It seems to have been overlooked that the arrangement of the lands into tracts as proposed by Mr. Morris still leaves the discretion, to which objection is taken, with the Native agency; for this fundamental arrangement is, in reality, the classification, and as much irregularity and injustice may take place in this as in classifying the land in fields. Under the present system the classifier does not actually value the land, but classes it according to its relative productive powers, putting similar fields under the same class. The money value is afterwards assigned to each class after much investigation and consideration of the Settlement officers.

17. Mr. Morris's plan pre-supposes that the whole country can be laid out in large tracts without variations in them in the qualities of the soil; where this may occasionally be the case, the classifiers at present put down the whole of such tracts in the same class; where it is not the case, the arrangements of the tracts must be, in a great measure, arbitrary and attended with irregularities in the fields composing them, probably greater than exist under the present plan. Mr. Morris does not propose that Europeans should enter into the detail of the lands comprising these tracts, so that the classification of the lands would, as at present, rest with the Native agency, while the money values would, as also at present, be determined by the superior European agency.

18. No plan of classifying and valuing land can be devised without leaving much to the discretion of the agency, and this being the case the valuation can never be one of Arithmetical certainty, whether made by Europeans or Natives. One object must be to work out to the best of our power the plan that is found to be practicable, taking all precautions against irregularity and abuses.

19. The object of classifying in blocks engaged the Director's attention, and was considered with the two Deputy Directors in the north when the Director was last there. It underwent a full discussion with His Excellency the Governor on the same occasion at Masulipatam, with the view to its being made the basis of survey fields or divisions. The result was that it was considered impracticable. The principle that "although the details of classification extend to each field, the wider comparative view of the operations should never be lost sight of" is laid down in paragraph 19 of printed instructions to Deputy Directors. It is most desirable that the land should be thus viewed in a comprehensive way by the classifiers, and that the line of distinction of soils should be drawn according to a collection of several fields, where they lie together of the same quality, an entry, of course, being also made in the account for each field; but this is a different thing from laying out the whole country in tract for classification and ignoring single fields of different values in the primary arrangement.

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(Signed) H. NEWILL,
*Director of Revenue Settlement.*

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) C. RUNDALL,
*Acting Director of Revenue Settlement.*

ENCLOSURE No. 4.

Proceedings of the Director of Revenue Settlement, dated Madras, 9th April 1871, No. 1,611.

Read the following letter from the Deputy Director of Revenue Settlement, Salem, dated 13th March 1871, No. 36.

ABSTRACT.—Offering opinion in regard to classification by blocks as compared with the system of classification by fields.

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From the Deputy Director of Revenue Settlement, Kurnool and Cuddapah Districts, dated 18th April 1871, No. 922.

ABSTRACT.—Same subject as above.

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From the Deputy Director of Revenue Settlement, Nellore and North Arcot Districts, dated 1st June 1871, No. 236.

ABSTRACT.—Same subject as above.

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From the First Uncovenanted Assistant, Central Office, in Charge of Kistna Settlement Party, dated 10th June 1871, No. 73.

ABSTRACT.—Same subject as above.

THE replies from the Deputies contained in the foregoing letters are generally unanimous in their unfavorable view taken of the tak-system. In those districts where it has not been introduced, the Deputy Directors do not wish to see it adopted, and in Salem where the plan has been in force, Mr. Goodrich writes: "I now look upon the takwar map as a mere sketch of the classification useful in inspection, and am not influenced by consideration of its symmetry to throw lands together which are rightly classed apart." The Acting Director's own personal experience likewise leads him to favor the original system, as greater celerity and a greater protection against unfair dealings, the two chief points generally asserted on behalf of the takwar method, do not appear, in practice, to maintain their supposed position. Under these circumstances, it is fruitless to reiterate the arguments already placed on record as regards this question, and the Acting Director need only order that the original system of classification field by field upon individual merits be maintained and reverted to. Should Mr. Goodrich still think proper to continue the takwar map for convenience of inspection, he is at liberty to do so but must insist upon each field being dealt with separately and individually without reference to its neighbouring survey numbers.

2. Captain Stuart should report whether he finds any inconvenience and difficulty from only having for the Cuddapah District two sorts under the classes 7 and 8 of the red series, and whether it would be advisable to have a third sort as in Nellore and Trichinopoly. It would appear to the Acting Director that the large tracts of red soil in the Pullampett and Sidhout Taluqs, some of which is evidently very productive, would require more than two sorts for its correct and suitable classification.

(Signed) G. BANBURY,
*Acting Director of Revenue Settlement.*

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No. 183. ORDER THEREON, 15th February 1876, No. 221.

Land Revenue, No. 8.

WITH the first of the papers above recorded the Board of Revenue submit the report of Mr. Puckle, Director of Revenue Settlement, on the introduction of the revised settlement into the sixty-nine villages in the principal division of the Chingleput District, which comprise the whole area to be irrigated from the Red Hills tank, done under his own immediate supervision with a view (1) to illustrate his views as to the best method of making a settlement; and, secondly, to show the manner in which it is proposed to carry out the orders of Government in the matter of the Mírâsidar's claim to Swatantram fees, the division of common (Samudâyam) lands, and the treatment of Manavâri lands dependent upon rain-fall for their "rice" cultivation.

2. Mr. Puckle revised the field classification of the soils on his "block" system, and modified Mr. Banbury's grouping in eighteen villages out of the sixty-nine. The ultimate result of the settlement is a decrease of Rs. 2,296 in the Government demand consequent on an increase of Rs. 1,312 in the wet land under superior irrigation, and a decrease of Rs. 3,608 in the dry lands.

3. While this report was engaging the attention of Government, the second paper above recorded, furnishing a lucid and exhaustive memorandum drawn up by Mr. Rundall, the Acting Director, brought prominently to their notice that Mr. Puckle's proposals involved a radical change of the principle of settlement accepted and ratified by the Secretary of State; that his plans had more than once been subjected to departmental discussion with an unfavorable result; and that the experience of the department is still adverse to them. It further appears that Mr. Puckle has already altered the processes of settlement wherever it was possible, and given directions to carry out his "block" system. The Government consider that Mr. Puckle is to blame for altering the system of settlement so extensively without the authority of Government. Judging by the light of the detailed information afforded by Mr. Rundall, the "block" system would seem to be a mere re-adjustment of the existing revenue demand and a rectification of revenual anomalies, with little reference to any actual valuation or condition of soil. His Grace the Governor in Council directs, therefore, that Mr. Puckle's system wherever enforced be at once stopped and operations under the old system resumed; and he sanctions the recommendations made in paragraphs 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, and 33 of Mr. Rundall's memorandum. His Grace is, however, of opinion that on Mr. Puckle's return, the matter may be reconsidered in the light of further explanation from that officer.

4. In regard to the mode of dealing with the Swatantram fees treated of in Mr. Puckle's report, the Board observe that the Mírâsidars have probably accepted the present settlement of this question on the understanding that the fees are to be collected for them by the Curnams in the same manner as arrears of land-revenue, but that the law does not admit of this, and that, therefore, the old difficulties will soon recur. To meet the difficulty the Board suggest legislation, but the Government hesitate to adopt their proposal which they think questionable in principle, for these fees are not State dues in any sense, and they further are not satisfied that the Mírâsidars are relying on collection being made for them by coercive measures as of arrears of State-revenue in event of default. Under the arrangement proposed by the Collector, which was warmly supported by Mr. Puckle and accepted by Government, an agreement was to be taken from all future Durkhastdars to pay the Swatantram, and the amount was to be registered. The object was to place the Mírâsidar on vantage ground if he had to sue a recusant; but there was no mention of the collection of these fees as ordinary revenue, and if any such expectation was held out to the

Mírâsidar it was unauthorised. It seems, h ver, improbable that this can have been the case, as the Collector himself remarl that "the collection of the Swatantrams by the Revenue authorities from the P- kary Putta-holders would necessitate fresh legislation," which "might be objected or obvious reasons."

5. It is stated by Mr. Puckle that the M sidars are content with the present arrangement, and the Government seeing no ed for legislative action will await results. The Mírâsidars, as respects the S ntrams, will now be practically "registered holders of land in proprietary r ," and it is possible that the Rent Recovery Act may be held to apply to these norial dues which are much more analogous to landlord's rents than to State reve e.

6. Paragraphs 18 to 24 of Mr. Puckl report will be communicated to the Public Works Department.

(True Extra .)

(Sig d) D. F. CARMICHAEL,
*Secretary to Government.*

To the Board of Revenue.
,, the Acting Director of Revenue Settlement.
,, the Public Works Department.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

Govt. of 1876: Madras.

REVENUE.

To

The BOARD of REVENUE,

&c., &c., &c.

Dated February, 18

Recd.

Encl.

G. O. 15th February 1876, No. 221

FEBRUARY

Nos. 181—183.

*Introduction of new Settlement into certain Villages of Sydapet Taluq, in Chingleput District.*—Reviewing report of Director of Revenue Settlement on results of —. Directing to stop Mr. Puckle's block system wherever enforced, and to resume operations under the old system at once.

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~~9 June 18~~

G.O. 75 Feby 76 No. 221

18

No. 1,099 A
31 A

REVENUE SETTLEMENT OFFICE, ON CIRCUIT,
CHITTUR, 9th June 1875.

From

R. K. PUCKLE, Esq.,
*Acting Director of Revenue Settlement.*

To

H. E. STOKES, Esq.,
*Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue.*

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to report the results of the Settlement of a portion of the Principal Division of the Chingleput District, sanctioned in Government Proceedings, No. 295, dated 24th February 1875. ✓

2. The area settled is small, consisting of 69 villages near Madras lying between the Ennore lake and the Kodambakam and Punamali Road, and forming the Northern half of the old Sydapet Taluq, but this is all that I am able to settle myself just at present, and I report on it separately, not only to illustrate my views as to the best method of making a Settlement, but to show how the wishes of Government have been carried out in the recognition of the Merasidars' claim to a Swatantaram fee, in the division of common lands, the treatment of Manawari, &c. The reorganization of the Village Service Establishment of these villages has been separately reported on.

3. The tract selected for this specimen Settlement embraces the entire area to be irrigated from the Red Hill tank, and all that lies between Madras and the skirt of the irrigation from the Chembrambakam tank.

4. Though near Madras, this is perhaps the poorest tract in the Chingleput District; the lands lie low and are subject to inundation, and are entirely deficient of drainage—the consequence is that the deleterious washings of the

upper lands are precipitated in the lower levels, and a considerable area is rendered almost unfit for cultivation.

5. The dry lands were formerly rated high. The Manawari, which as a rule is situated at the tail of the irrigation under each tank, and grows a scanty rice crop with the aid of soakage and falling rain, was avowedly over-assessed, and received a permanent remission of 20 per cent in 1870; while the sandy tracts on the coast and the poor clay soils inland were assessed at rates that could not be maintained in a Settlement, the result of my revision has been therefore to raise the assessment of the better irrigated lands under the Red Hill tank and elsewhere by Rs. 1,312, and to lower the assessment of dry lands by Rs. 3,609—total decrease by Settlement Rs. 2,296.

6. This reduction must not be regarded as a sample of the results to be expected from the Settlement of the rest of the Chingleput District, as on the whole there will be an increase of revenue, but it is attributable solely to the impoverished condition of the tract that happens to be the first selected. For to treat the lands fairly, it is very essential to afford some relief to the dry—the dry assessment when reduced is still high, averaging Rs. 1-9-9 an acre for Manawari, and Rs. 1-0-4 for the rest, while the wet assessment, even when raised by my Settlement, averages but Rs. 3-0-10 an acre.

7. The reduction of Rs. 2,296, is the equivalent of 4 per cent on the revenue of Fusly 1284 which was Rs. 62,993, but the annual remission for waste and withered crops has averaged Rs. 7,558, for the last 5 years, and, as mentioned above, my reduction was unavoidable; for instance, I found it impossible to charge the poor tract of blown sand between the sea and the *Ennore* lake the same rate of assessment as that imposed on the richer lands of Tiruvottiyur, and there was therefore an unavoidable loss of Rs. 204 in Kativakam; while the salt clay marsh along Cochrane's Canal was so manifestly over-assessed at Rs. 2-8-0 an acre that I had to lower it to 12 annas an acre and thus lost Rs. 1,081 in Satankadu alone. The revision of ayacuts and the transfer of lands to their proper head, as in Padi, where the tank bank has been swept away, or in Villivakum, where a thorn jungle that has never been cultivated and can never be irrigated was held and paid for as Nanjai, necessitated some concession, Rs. 651 in these 69 villages, while the allotment of grazing ground and the registry of certain lands as building site, threshing floor, road, &c., involved a reduction of Rs. 589. In some of the villages too between the two high roads from Madras to Punamali the old assessment was very high, and treating these villages on a comprehensive system with reference to what had been done in like villages elsewhere, entailed an unavoidable loss of Rs. 1,240.

This tract is only nominally cultivated, being held on cowle free of assessment for 20 years, and all attempts to plant it have failed, but the full taram assessment is taken into account both as an asset of the revenue of Fusly 1284 and of the Settlement.

8. As a set-off, however, against the present loss of 4 per cent of the revenue of these 69 villages, all that can be done has been done to further the interests of Government and of the ryots, and to render this Settlement complete in every respect. The long-standing grievance of the Merasi shareholders has now been redressed, and the Swatantaram fee has been recorded against every field on which it is leviable, the Samudayam or common lands have been divided in every village but one. The tenure of every field, whether Merasi or Durcast, has been recorded in the Settlement pattahs. The names and shares of the Merasi shareholders of each village have been entered in the Descriptive Memoirs prefixed to the Settlement Registers. The area required as grazing ground has been set aside in 26 villages, the discrepancies between occupation and registry have been corrected, where all parties agreed; for it often happened that the entries in a pattah represented no portion of the pattahdar's holding. 61 joint pattahs have been divided and 417 pattahs have been transferred at the request of the parties concerned, and descriptive memoirs and eye sketches have been prepared to show at a glance what was done, and to furnish a standing record of the condition of each village at Settlement.

Vide Specimen Register enclosed

Virugambakam.

9. *Swatantaram fee to Merasidars.*—To determine the amount of this fee, the old panguvali or sharing accounts were referred to; in these, the share of the gross produce payable to "Landholders" is distinctly recorded for each separate hamlet, as one of the items formerly paid by the Government and the ryots conjointly. Besides this, something additional was usually paid to the landholders "prior to winnowing and treading the corn." The figures, however, vary exceedingly; in some hamlets, the landholders' share amounted to 5, 6 or even 7 per cent, while in others it was but 1 or 2 per cent of the gross produce. An average struck on the ryots' share of the payment is as, nearly as possible, 3 per cent of the gross produce throughout the Sydapet Taluq, but as the ancient hamlets cannot be traced in all cases, and a varying fee in each village, or even in parts of some villages that may now include several hamlets, would give rise to dissatisfaction, and occasion jealousies and disputes among the parties concerned, I have thought it better to fix a uniform Swatantaram fee, and have adopted the average of 3 per cent of the gross produce accordingly.

10. Converting this gross produce into money, and applying it to the Settlement rates, gives 1 anna 9 pice per Rupee of assessment for irrigated, and 2 annas 5 pice per Rupee of assessment for dry lands; and merging fractions of annas, which no longer exist in this Settlement, the average arrived at is 2 annas per Rupee of assessment for irrigated and dry lands alike. As this is a very fair rate and one easily understood by the ryots, I propose to adopt it throughout the Chingleput District.

11. When making this calculation, I assembled the Merasidars of the villages under report and explained the method pursued. The Merasidars seemed perfectly satisfied, and later when they were in receipt of their pattahs, exhibiting the Swatantaram applied to the fields, they raised no objections whatever.

12. In those pattahs the fee is recorded against Merasi pangu lands only, except in one village, Koratur, where the Durcastdars have been hitherto paying

and agreed to continue to pay the Swatantaram fee on all the lands they held, and I have experienced no difficulty in determining the pangu lands and the names and shares of the shareholders. In 2 villages there are no pangu lands but the ancient shares are known and recorded; in the remaining villages the pangu lands aggregate about half of the occupied area.

13. The culturable waste is of no great extent, 3,884 acres, and the Swatantaram on this amounts to but Rs. 832, an average of Rs. 12-1-0 per village. The amount chargeable on each waste field is shown in the Settlement Registers.

Vide accompanying register; the fields that have no entry against them in Col. 13 are waste.

14. A detailed explanation of the mode in which the Swatantaram fee will be levied is given in the accompanying Memoir for each village.

15. *Samudayam or Common lands.*—These had no existence in 24 villages; in the remaining 45 villages they have all been divided with the recorded consent of the shareholders, except in one case, where they have been purposely left undivided pending the decision of a civil suit. The shareholders generally were eager to divide, as they feel the ill effect of the system, and as a rule there was less difficulty in dividing these common lands than I have experienced elsewhere. Where the Samudayam was small and not worth dividing, the villagers arranged to enter it in the name of a pagoda, or in the name of some individual in whom they place confidence, and occasionally where the Samudayam was mere barren waste, it has been thrown into grazing ground for the general use of the village. Altogether 1,095 acres were divided among 453 shareholders.

16. *Manawari.*—This was separately treated at special rates varying from Rs. 2 to Rs. 1-4-0 an acre, according to circumstances, the entire area in the beds of tanks or aided from any Government source of supply has been transferred to the head of irrigated, and it is only the poorer and *bonâ fide* Manawari (rain dependant) lands that have been treated as dry. The occupied Government Manawari lands comprize 2,982 acres, assessed as under.

| Rate per acre. | | Extent. | Assessment. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Rs. | A. | Acres. | Rs. |
| 2 | 0 | 761 | 1,523 |
| 1 | 8 | 2,003 | 3,005 |
| 1 | 4 | 218 | 273 |
| | Total... | 2,982 | 4,801 |

17. *Grazing ground and firewood jungle.*—The allotment of lands for this purpose formed part of the scheme, embodied in Government Proceedings, No. 590, dated 13th April 1875, to enable the Merasidars to get rid of lands that they were holding at a loss to keep out Durcastdars. A considerable area has been thus given up, and with waste added, 959 acres have been registered as grazing ground and will not be available for durcast in future.

18. *Red Hill Tank.*—This tank commands 50 of the villages reported on, with an aggregate area of 35,608 acres. Of this, 3,585 acres are now irrigated from the tank direct and 10,833 acres from petty rain-fed tanks; these latter are nearly all out of repair, and probably have been purposely left so, as the District Engineer informs me that when the system of irrigation from the Red Hill tank is complete, these minor tanks will no longer be needed, but may be levelled in and cultivated. If this is done the tank-beds will add 2,935 acres to the irrigable area; the Manawari* will give 3,670 acres and ordinary dry lands, 6,021 acres, total 12,626 acres, supposing the whole to be cultivated.

* Including Government and Inam cultivated and waste land.

19. Now the Red Hill tank contains 48,000,000 cubic yards of water, of which Madras takes 5,000,000, there are thus at least 40,000,000 cubic yards available for irrigation, and if each acre requires 6,000 cubic yards of water there is store sufficient to irrigate 6,600 acres without replenishing, but the tank is supplied by a river channel which has a continual flow; deducting therefore the area already irrigated, 3,585 acres, there is probably water enough for 10,000 acres of dry land, and if the small tanks are repaired and deepened and their water-spread contracted, enough may be stored in these tanks from falling rain and the drainage of higher levels to fully irrigate the area that they now poorly supply.

20. The want of drainage and protection from the inundation of the Courtaliyar river is very much felt in these villages, and a thorough system of drainage to get rid of the salt and soda that has now no escape from the soil should, I think, be the precursor of an improved system of irrigation, as much that is deleterious may be washed away with the aid of falling rain if there is but an open channel. But as matters stand at present there is no drainage whatever, the calingulah channel from the Red Hill tank is bunded across in places to turn water to the fields, and the surplus of the Nunjai is allowed to soak into the Manawari lands instead of being carried away by a clear cut channel. The consequence is that some lands deteriorate yearly, and all are more or less injured by the want of a proper out-fall.

21. The advantage of repairing the minor tanks and restricting their capacity to their deep water bed is the more apparent from the fact that the shallow waterspread of many of these tanks is already cultivated, and only the deep bed is available for the extension of cultivation: if these deep beds are defined and the cultivation above them embanked, a high level channel from the Red Hill tank might not only irrigate the cultivation hitherto periodically submerged, but might furnish the rain-fed tanks with a regular supply for the better cultivation of the lands below them.

22. If the Red Hill tank water is brought to these lands, the assessment of the existing Nunjai may be raised by at least half a water rate, or by Rs. 2 an acre. This will give Rs. 21,666 on the 10,833 acres now cultivated, and if to this be added Rs. 40,000, at a full water rate of Rs. 4 an acre, on the 10,000 acres of dry land to be irrigated, the total results will be Rs. 61,666 for one crop, plus Rs. 11,772, the present single crop assessment of the 3,585 acres now irrigated by the Red Hill tank.

23. *Kudi Maramut.*—The customary labor of each village has now been recorded in detail; at first the ryots objected to what they considered to be the imposition of a new charge, but when they were assembled for settlement and asked who cleared obstructions from sluices, led the water to the fields and provided a free vent for the surplus, they readily conceded that they did, and that they must continue such work as no one else could perform it. The clearance of the sluices they named, the repair of distributing channels and keeping the drainage open have thus been recorded as Kudi Maramut, and the ryots have signed detailed lists specifying the work to be done.

24. I have not included ring bunds in front of breaches as Kudi Maramut, as such works are specially provided for by Act I of 1858, and the ryots cannot be expected to close breaches of any great size or in situations that do not affect the interests of any particular village. The formation of ring bunds in breaches formed part of the Kudi Maramut registered in Tinnevelly, but the registry had hardly been made when a disastrous flood occurred, and the Engineer expected the ryots to close numerous breaches in the main irrigation channels according to recorded agreement. Of course it was never intended that breaches in the main channels should be closed by Kudi Maramut, and I have therefore thought it better to omit the closing of breaches altogether from this agreement.

25. *Alterations in Mr. Banbyry's scheme.*—When making this Settlement in detail, I found it necessary to make some slight alterations in the table of rates and the grouping proposed to be used. In four cases Mr. Banbury's table provided varying rates for the same tarum in different groups. This must have been an oversight, and the needful adjustments were made as shown in red ink below.

| Soil. | | WET. | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | 2nd Group. | | | 3rd Group. | | | 4th Group. | | |
| | | Taram. | Rate. | | Taram. | Rate. | | Taram. | Rate. | |
| | | | Rs. | A. | | Rs. | A | | Rs. | A |
| 2 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 8 | 1 | 4 | 8 | 1 | 4 | |
| 4 | 1 | 1 | 7 | 8 | 2 | 0 | 4 | 3 | 5 | 0 |
| 3<br>4<br>7 | 1<br>2<br>1 | 2 | 6 | 4 | 3 | 5 | 0 | 4 | 4 | 0 |
| 3<br>4<br>5<br>6<br>7<br>8<br>12 | 2<br>3<br>1<br>1<br>2<br>1<br>1 | 3 | 5 | 0 | 4 | 4 | 0 | 5 | 3 | 8 |
| 3<br>4<br>5<br>6<br>7<br>8<br>12<br>13 | 3<br>4<br>2<br>2<br>3<br>2<br>2<br>1 | 4 | 4 | 0 | 5 | 3 | 8 | 6 | 3 | 0 |
| 3<br>4<br>5<br>6<br>7<br>8<br>13<br>14 | 4<br>5<br>3<br>3<br>4<br>3<br>2<br>1 | 5 | 3 | 8 | 6 | 3 | 0 | 7 | 2 | 8 |
| 3<br>5<br>6<br>7<br>8<br>12<br>14 | 5<br>4<br>4<br>5<br>4<br>3<br>2 | 6 | 3 | 0 | 7 | 2 | 8 | 8 | 2 | 0 |
| 5<br>6<br>8<br>13<br>14 | 5<br>5<br>5<br>3<br>3 | 7 | 2 | 8 | 8 | 2 | 0 | 8 | 2 | 0 |

| Soil. | | DRY. | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | 1st Group. | | | 2nd Group. | | | 3rd Group. | | |
| | | Taram. | Rate. | | Taram. | Rate. | | Taram. | Rate. | |
| | | | Rs. | A. | | Rs. | A. | | Rs. | A |
| | 1 | 2 | 4 | 8 | 7 | 4 | 8 | 7 | 4 | |
| 2 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 0 | 2 | 3 | 0 | 3 | 2 | 8 |
| 2<br>4 | 2<br>1 | 2 | 3 | 0 | 3 | 2 | 8 | 4 | 2 | 0 |
| 3<br>4<br>7 | 1<br>2<br>1 | 3 | 2 | 8 | 4 | 2 | 0 | 5 | 1 | 8 |
| 3<br>4<br>5<br>6<br>7<br>8<br>12 | 2<br>3<br>1<br>1<br>2<br>1<br>1 | 4 | 2 | 0 | 5 | 1 | 8 | 6 | 1 | 4 |
| 3<br>4<br>5<br>6<br>7<br>8<br>12<br>13 | 3<br>4<br>2<br>2<br>3<br>2<br>2<br>1 | 5 | 1 | 8 | 6 | 1 | 4 | 7 | 0 | 12 |
| 3<br>4<br>5<br>6<br>7<br>8<br>13<br>14 | 4<br>5<br>3<br>3<br>4<br>3<br>2<br>1 | 6 | 1 | 4 | 7 | 0 | 12 | 8 | 0 | 8 |
| 3<br>5<br>6<br>7<br>8<br>12<br>13<br>14 | 5<br>4<br>4<br>5<br>4<br>3<br>3<br>2 | 7 | 0 | 12 | 8 | 0 | 8 | 9 | 0 | 6 |
| 5<br>6<br>8<br>14 | 5<br>5<br>5<br>3 | 8 | 0 | 8 | 9 | 0 | 6 | 10 | 0 | 4 |

26. In 18 villages, experience showed that the grouping required correction. It was accordingly raised in nine villages and lowered in nine other villages for dry lands, and lowered in six villages for wet lands.

27. The following statement shows the area under each money rate.

| IRRIGATED. | | | | | | | DRY. | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Rate. | | Extent. | Assessment. | Average rate per Acre. | | | Rate. | | Extent. | Assessment. | Average rate per Acre. | | |
| Rs. | A. | Acres. | Rs. | Rs. | A. | P. | Rs. | A. | Acres. | Rs. | Rs. | A. | P. |
| 6 | 4 | 187 | 1,168 | | | | 2 | 8 | 1 | 2 | | | |
| 5 | 0 | 561 | 2,806 | | | | 2 | 0 | 1,317 | 2,635 | | | |
| 4 | 0 | 2,108 | 8,434 | | | | 1 | 8 | 2,631 | 3,948 | | | |
| 3 | 8 | 2,775 | 9,716 | | | | 1 | 4 | 3,667 | 4,585 | | | |
| 3 | 0 | 3,097 | 9,293 | | | | 0 | 12 | 3,651 | 2,289 | | | |
| 2 | 8 | 4,126 | 10,316 | | | | 0 | 8 | 1,530 | 766 | | | |
| 2 | 0 | 1,821 | 3,643 | | | | 0 | 6 | 9 | 4 | | | |
| Total... | | 14,675 | 45,376 | 3 | 1 | 5 | | | | | | | |
| Baling... | | 539 | 1,091 | 2 | 0 | 5 | | | | | | | |
| Total... | | 15,214 | 46,467 | 3 | 0 | 10 | | | 12,206 | 14,229 | 1 | 2 | 8 |

28. *The second crop.*—The second crop area in Fusly 1284 was 2,353 acres assessed at Rs. 4,168. Application was made to compound in several of the villages under the Red Hill tank, but I refused compliance as I thought it better to leave the second crop lands to be charged as at present pending the extension of the system of irrigation; but in one village Tundalam, beyond the influence of the Red Hill tank, a block of 29 acres 10 cents was compounded for at quarter additional to the single crop assessment.

29 to 39
block sys-
-tem

29. *System of Settlement pursued.*—Though these villages had been already classified, I revised the work throughout, and visited every village applying the tarams myself to blocks, or tracts of similarly circumstanced lands, rather than to individual fields. The result was most satisfactory, and I have absolute confidence in the relative correctness of the assessment of every village. The accompanying Map shows the mode in which the villages were laid out in tracts and [illegible] taram assigned to each tract. The descriptive memoirs and eye sketches, moreover, furnish details of the treatment of each field in each tract.

30. This mode of Settlement is so incomparably superior to the earlier system of classifying by native subordinates and working up results in office, and is, moreover, so cheap and expeditious and so satisfactory to the people that I venture to think that every Settlement should be made in this manner hereafter.

31. This specimen Settlement was commenced on the 8th of March and was completed within three months. During much of this time I had to give my attention to other duties, but I was able to visit the villages, to lay out the tarams myself, to train an establishment new to the work, to instruct several of my deputies and many of their subordinates in this method of making a Settlement, to supervise details in office, to hear all complainants myself, and to write the descriptive Memoirs; while the total cost excluding the cost of my supervision and that of my office establishment was but Rupees 3,336 or Rupees 43 per square mile, or less than one anna an acre. A similar Settlement can be made in any District at about the same cost plus supervision without any preliminary operations whatever. The cheapened cost is the more remarkable when it is borne in mind that preliminary operations in most Districts cost from Rs. 27 to upwards of Rs. 100 per square mile.

32. The basis of the Settlement system devised by Mr. Newill in 1858 was and still continues to be the classification of fields. For this work classifiers are deputed to visit the villages and register the soils according to a tabular form prescribed. The work of several classifiers is supervised by a Head Classifier and his work again is tested by the Supervisor at the head of each party. Two such parties form a Deputy Director's charge and the Deputy Director does his best to check this field classification in places, but he cannot see all the fields, and he is obliged to content himself with exacting a certain acreage outturn of work, with generally directing the labors of the Classifiers, with checking their work in office and examining periodical returns. The Classifiers are strictly enjoined to register their valuation of the soils according to a formula given, without any regard to former assessment, or any consideration beyond the supposed intrinsic value of the soil itself, and each man works independently in the village allotted to him without reference to what is being done by his fellow-classifiers in other villages. This crude classification is cast into form by the Deputy Director and modified by grouping with reference to situation, irrigation, &c.

33. From the results thus obtained a Settlement scheme, embodying a table of rates, is prepared and submitted for the sanction of Government. When sanctioned, the rates are applied to the areas of holdings and the Settlement is at once introduced by the issue of rough pattahs or tickets. As might be expected such serious discrepancies often occur between the former and the revised assessment of fields that relief has to be furnished in individual cases by spreading the increased demand over a series of years by gradual increments of assessment. The consequence is that the ryots are sometimes greatly dissatisfied, and address complaints to higher authority for years after such a revision of rates has been made.

34. The system that I advocate is briefly as follows. The officer making the Settlement should lay out the lands himself, after a personal inspection of each village. The classifiers should follow his steps, instead of preceding him, and should take his orders regarding the detailed information that he requires for each of the several blocks in which he lays out his villages. Each block should comprise a tract of but one description of soil, so similarly circumstanced in regard to cultivation, distance from village, tank, or channel, &c., &c., that it may safely be charged at one and the same average rate. In forming such blocks the general lie of the country, the nature of the irrigation, the soil, situation, &c., have all to be considered together, so that in like villages similar blocks may be similarly classified and such rates of assessment may be imposed as will apply not only to existing circumstances, but to the former assessment, and the future requirements of the people.

35. The information required for each separate block is quickly given in this way, and the officer can pass through a Taluq, keeping the whole scheme of operations before him, preparing a Map to illustrate his work as he goes, and checking, revising and reconsidering his arrangements, till by the time he has inspected a Taluq he has his scheme so far matured as to be able to submit an estimate of what he proposes to do within a few days after the completion of field work. The Classifiers are thus kept in their place, and instead of being spread over the country to work up mysterious and technical details, they merely follow the officer and fill in details of registry for the lands that he has inspected and laid out in consultation with the ryots. There is comparatively no room for fraud, the people are directly interested, the officer has a perfect knowledge of every detail of the tract of country with which he is dealing, and the mass of weekly and monthly returns from the working parties, intricate classification statements, registers, kyfiats and other technical forms devised as checks by Mr. Newill, but which occupy so much time and cost so much money, are got rid of, and in lieu of the voluminous scheme of Settlement that has hitherto been submitted for sanction, a simple estimate of results proposed, with a narrative sufficiently full to explain how these results are obtained, illustrated by a Map shewing the tarams applied to the ground is all that is really needed to enable Government to sanction the table of rates and the mode of operation proposed.

Vide Scroll Map enclosed.

36. As explained above under Mr. Newill's system, the Settlement is thought to be made when a table of rates is sanctioned. Under my system, however, the Settlement is really a Settlement and comprizes the disposal of every item that the villagers have to complain of, and it practically only commences with the sanction of a table of rates. For, when a table of rates is sanctioned, the officer should revisit the villages, revise his proposals once more, arrange for the transfer of pattahs, divide common lands, modify registry to suit the exact state of affairs for that year, allot grazing ground, &c., &c., and then issue rough pattahs naming a date for the final settlement of each separate village.

37. As each village comes up for hearing, all further complaints should be attended to; palpable overcharge should be corrected, difficult cases of pattah transfer should be heard and decided before the collected villagers, wrong entries in pattahs should be rectified, and second crop should be compounded for; and when every ryot has had his turn, and the last complaint has been heard, then, and then only, can the village be considered to be finally settled. Subsequent operations are merely mechanical; the pattahs needing correction are rewritten, the final abstract of results, the descriptive Memoir and eye sketch, the chittah or office copy of the pattahs and the Settlement register are prepared, and that village is then disposed of.

38. The result of such a system is most satisfactory, the Deputy Director knows throughout all that has been done and what the results should be; the ryots are entirely satisfied, and the Revenue Officers of the District are so greatly assisted that at the Jamabandy following such a Settlement there is literally nothing to do, and no further changes are asked for. As proof conclusive of the advantage to the ryots from such a Settlement, I may here mention that though the assessment of two of the Taluqs of the highest assessed District in the Presidency was lately revised on this principle, and the revenue was actually increased, only two appeals to my knowledge were made, and at the following Jamabandy but few of the ryots appeared. Such a Settlement can be made, moreover, at the rate of two Taluqs per annum, in each District, at a much less cost than under the old system, and such descriptive Memoirs and Maps can be placed on record as will render a revision of Settlement 30 years hence very easy, and will afford a full explanation of our mode of procedure even to those who know nothing of Settlement.

Vide accompanying Volume of Descriptive Memoirs and eye-sketches for the Tinnevelly Taluq.

39. If the Government approve of this system, I request orders on the following points:—

I. The system of classifying in blocks by a responsible officer should be substituted for classifying in fields by minor subordinates.

II. As each District is taken up for Settlement in future, an estimate of the results for one or at the most two Taluqs should be submitted for sanction.

III. When the sanctioned Settlement of the one or two Taluqs estimated for has been made and reported on to the satisfaction of Government, the Deputy Director should be empowered to continue the Settlement of the other Taluqs of the District on the same principles with the same approximate results without further preliminary estimates.

IV. The Deputy Director, who is in every case a Special Assistant in the District in which he is serving, should be empowered to transfer pattahs, divide common lands, allot grazing grounds, set aside lands required for public purposes, &c., &c., with the consent of the villagers, subject to the general control of, or appeal to, the Collector.

Such forms of application for transfer as are now required by the Board of Revenue from Collectors can of course be submitted as usual.

40. I have made arrangements for Vencata Chariar, the Special Assistant in Tinnevelly, who has worked with me for many years, and knows every detail of this system, continuing the Settlement of the Principal Division of Chingleput as soon as he has completed a Taluq of Tinnevelly that he is now engaged on; but Major Stuart, Assistant Director, who has been with me throughout this Settlement and is now employed in Chingleput, has two Taluqs of the Subdivision ready and he might commence their Settlement at once without any preliminary report on the understanding that there will be no loss of revenue. By this arrangement the Chingleput District will be completed in two years, or by the end of Fusly 1286. The early orders of Government on the proposal to constitute Major Stuart's establishment, a Deputy Director's party, are solicited.

Director's letter to Government, No. 1127/18[illegible] dated 28th May 1874.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
R. K. PUCKLE,
*Acting Director of Revenue Settlement.*

Encls in R G O 15th February/76
No. 221 -

No 731

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No. 2,168.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 4th August 1875.

Read letter from the Acting Director of Revenue Settlement, to Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Chittoor, 9th June 1875, No. 1,099A-31A:—

ABSTRACT.—Reporting the results of the Settlement of a portion of the Principal Division of the Chingleput District.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.—Specimen Settlement Register.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.—Scroll Map.

ENCLOSURE No. 3.—Descriptive Memoir.

IN this letter the Acting Director of Revenue Settlement reports the result of the introduction of the new settlement in a tract of sixty-nine villages in the neighbourhood of Madras, and details what he has done in pursuance of the orders of Government, conveyed in G.O., dated 13th April 1875, No. 590, for the registration and settlement of mirasi rights.

2. He has not experienced any difficulty in carrying out the orders of Government in this matter. The mirasi shares have been ascertained and recorded in each village. The lands occupied by Mirasidars, as such, have been entered in the puttas and in the chittah or Curnam's copy of the puttas as pangu lands, and all other occupied lands, whether held by Mirasidars or others, as held on durkhast tenure. The swatantram fee has been recorded against each pangu and waste field on a uniform scale of 2 Annas in the Rupee of assessment.

3. This rate has been arrived at as follows. The swatantram fee was formerly taken from the gross produce before the division of the crop, and was then paid both by ryots and Government. The charge as against Government has not been directly allowed, for, in arriving at the money rates now imposed, any distinct claim had virtually fallen into desuetude, and the liberal allowances (from 16 to 25 per cent.) made for various contingencies in arriving at the new rates, rendered any revival of the swatantram claim as against Government unnecessary, whilst it would have undesirably complicated calculations. Further the Pymaish assessments were made on calculations of the gross produce after the deduction of the swatantram. The portion of the swatantram, therefore, which came out of the ryot's share, is now alone represented by Mr. Puckle's 2-Anna rate. This is based upon 3 per cent. of the gross produce, which is taken as a rough average of the rates given in the old panguvali accounts. These rates ranged, for the ryot's payment, from 1 to 7 per cent.; but for the reasons stated by Mr. Puckle, chiefly the difficulty of identifying the lands liable to the varying rates, he has found it necessary to take the uniform rate of 3 per cent. above mentioned.

4. To apply this to the rates of assessment, he has taken the gross produce of the highest taram, 840 measures, and the highest rate, Rupees 7-8-0, proposed by Mr. Banbury, and finds the swatantram to be Rupees 0-1-9 per Rupee for wet land. Similarly for the 3-Rupee rate, which is the second, but highest normal, taram in dry land, he finds the fee to be Rupees 0-2-5 per Rupee of assessment. He adopts

2 Annas as a mean rate, and proposes to apply it throughout the Chingleput District, and to both wet and dry lands.

5. The Board observe that as the ratio of the assessment to the money value of the gross produce is less in the lower tarams than in the higher, the swatantram on lands in the lower tarams, if taken at a uniform percentage of the gross produce, must necessarily come to a higher rate per Rupee of assessment. Thus it will be found that the fee at 3 per cent. of the gross produce, ranges from 1 Anna 9 Pies to 2 Annas 6 Pies in wet, and from 2 Annas 3 Pies to 6 Annas in dry land. On the areas, and rates introduced, in the tract now reported on by Mr. Puckle, the average at this calculation for wet land is 2 Annas 5 Pies; for dry land, 3 Annas 11 Pies; and for both together, 2 Annas 8 Pies.

6. Thus Mr. Puckle's rate is shown to be somewhat low, but the Board are informed that the Mirasidars have definitively assented to his proposals. It seems to be impossible to introduce the old varying rates, and an uniform and simple rate, such as proposed, has undoubtedly great advantages. The Mirasidars probably prefer a lower rate which is assured to them or believed to be so, to a higher rate, their right to which would be liable to be contested or at least difficult of enforcement; and besides it is observed that the amount involved is really very small. It consists in a claim to a fee on waste hereafter brought into cultivation, which fee amounts to Rupees 832, or an average of Rupees 12-1-0 per village in the tract of sixty-nine villages now in question (paragraph 13); and to a fee on pangu and durkhast land now occupied, which may hereafter be thrown up and be reoccupied on durkhast.

7. Every field has been registered as mirasi, or durkhast occupied or waste. The fee has been recorded on the assessment of each mirasi and waste field, and it has been provided in the descriptive memoirs that if land now occupied, whether durkhast or mirasi, is hereafter relinquished and taken up afresh on durkhast, the swatantram fee at 2 Annas per Rupee shall become payable. It is not now made payable on either class of land now occupied, in the case of durkhast lands because they are held to have been alienated from the mirasi body, and as long as the present occupancy lasts cannot be charged with the fee; and in the case of the mirasi lands, because it is assumed that the lands now occupied by each Mirasidar correspond to his pangu or share, and consequently that were the fee levied on his land, he would be entitled to get it back in virtue of his share.

8. But the Board think that provision should be made for the case of sale of land for arrears of revenue or under decree of Court, as well as for that of lands relinquished. In sale for arrears, the Board think that an entirely new tenure is created, and consequently the fee must be paid by the sale purchaser whether Mirasidar or not; just as it is to be paid by a new Durkhastdar whether Mirasidar or not. When land is sold under decree of a Court, however, it will be different. Then the auction purchaser acquires the title of the judgment debtor; and accordingly when durkhast land now exempt from fee is bought, it will continue to be so. When mirasi land is bought, the right of the purchaser to swatantaram thereon will depend on whether the Court sells the mirasi right along with the land, or sells the land only, a matter which will usually be known. The mirasi pangu or share is a distinct thing from the possession of mirasi land.

9. It is, therefore, necessary to consider how the fees are to be recovered. Durkhastdars and purchasers at revenue sales will have acquired lands under agreement to pay the fees in addition to the assessment, but there will be no such agreement in the case of purchasers at Court sales, who, on the principles laid down, may be liable to the fees. Even such agreement, however, would not empower Revenue Officers to recover under Act II, of 1864 swatantaram fees for the Mirasidars; and wherever payment of the fee is refused, unless special provision is made, the only remedy will be a suit in Court by the mirasi body, and the old difficulties will recommence. The Mirasidars have probably consented to the present settlement, whereby their right to fees is acknowledged only as against the ryot's former share of the crop and the rate of fee is in many cases reduced, on the implied understanding that the fees are to be collected by the Curnam, which to them means collected as arrears of land revenue. But under the present law, this cannot be; and the result will soon be that the new fees will not be paid any more than the old ones, and that the difficulty of inducing the shareholders to combine to sue in Court will, as heretofore, be found almost insuperable. Unless an Act be passed enabling Revenue Officers to recover swatantram fees as arrears of revenue, the present settlement will be a dead letter. The Board recommend that such Act be passed, and will submit a draft if Government desire it.

10. To prevent further difficulty, the same Act must lay down the principles on which the fees collected by Government officers are to be paid over. The mirasi body is numerous, and disputes will arise as to who is entitled to the money unless provision of this sort is made.

11. Mr. Puckle has had no difficulty as to the division of the samudayam lands, which have been dealt with in every village where they existed except one, as to which a civil suit was pending. One thousand and ninety-five acres in forty-five villages have been divided.

12. The settlement, as introduced by Mr. Puckle, differs from Mr. Banbury's proposals, the whole of the tract having been reclassified in blocks, and the grouping of the villages altered/as stated in paragraph 26. Mr. Banbury's tarams and rates have been substantially retained, but, practically, settlement of the tracts has been made afresh. Particulars of Mr. Banbury's proposals for the villages now reported on are not given, and the Board are unable to estimate the effect of the changes made, but they are informed that there is but little difference. Comparing Mr. Puckle's settlement with the revenue of Fasli 1284, the result is a decrease of Rupees 2,296 or 4 per cent. The necessity for the reductions and changes which have brought about this result is shown in Mr. Puckle's paragraph 7. The effect of the new settlement is to raise the assessment on wet land and to relieve the dry. The average wet rate, as revised, is Rupees 3-0-10, and the dry, Rupees 1-2-8. Particulars of the old assessments are not given. The manawari, or rain-dependent paddy lands, have been specially treated, and only those *bonâ fide* dependent on rain transferred to the head of Dry. They now amount to 2,982 acres, assessed at Rupees 4,801. The unoccupied waste, wet and dry, is assessed at Rupees 6,656. Acres 959 have been allotted to the villagers as grazing ground poramboke.

13. Mr. Puckle, having regard to the possible extension of irrigation from the Red Hill Tank, which may affect fifty out of the sixty-nine villages reported on, has not allowed second crop to be compounded for, and, accordingly, composition

has been effected at a quarter of the assessment, the rate sanctioned, only on one block of 29·10 acres in Tundalam, which is beyond the influence of the tank project.

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16. These are undoubtedly great advantages, and the proposed system is clearly to be credited with them. But the objection is that under it everything will depend upon the judgment, experience, and carefulness of the settling officer; and that the only index whether or not he has gone wrong will be the relation of the new to the old assessments. In unskilful or careless hands there will be danger that the settlement will become a mere process of re-arranging the old beriz instead of an attempt to arrive at a just estimate from independent data and on defined principles of the value of the Government share of the crop. The Deputy Directors under the new system will have to be selected with great care. On the whole, however, the Board are of opinion that the advantages preponderate, and that the approval of Government should be accorded to the general adoption of the block system.

17. The second and third proposals are, that in future when a district is taken up, a report is to be submitted embodying an account of the entire district, describing the several taluqs with general suggestions for their treatment, deducing rates, and giving an estimate of the actual results for one or two taluqs; and that when the proposals are approved, the Deputy Director shall be empowered to settle the remaining taluqs on the same principles with the same approximate results without further preliminary estimates in detail. The proposition seems to be that when a table of rates is sanctioned, after exemplification of their results has been given for one or two taluqs, no further detailed classification, &c., should be required, but that general sanction should be given for their introduction in other taluqs of the same district. The very great delay that has been entailed in disposing of the required schemes hitherto is the strongest argument that can be adduced in favor of this course; and it will be unobjectionable if the preliminary report satisfies Government that the other taluqs of a district are similar on the whole and similarly situated to those for which detailed proposals are received; but on this point Government must have an opportunity of giving opinion, in each case, before the rates are actually introduced. In paragraph 40, the Director asks for specific sanction for the settlement of the remaining taluqs of Chingleput in this way, and the Board recommend that this be accorded forthwith for the remainder of Sydapet Taluq and for Trivellore and Ponneri, all of which were included in Mr. Banbury's scheme, as they understand that all is ready for field operations. With regard to settlement in the other taluqs, the Board will address Government further when informed what stage operations have reached in them.

18. The fourth proposal is that the Deputy Director should have power to exercise, subject to the control of the Collector, such of the powers of an ordinary Revenue Officer as are necessary to enable him to make the settlement not merely a revision of assessment, but, as Mr. Puckle puts it, really a settlement, and comprising the disposal of every item of which the villagers have to complain. The Board fully approve of this suggestion, whereby the local knowledge which is necessarily acquired by the Settlement Officer is fully turned to account, and an inestimable opportunity taken advantage of, to the benefit both of Government and the ryots. The admirable descriptive memoirs drawn up by Mr. Puckle on the completion of the settlement of each village form a permanent and convenient record of the results of the settlement, which is of the highest value.

19. Attention is called to the Director's request at the end of the last paragraph of his report.

20. In a separate letter which has been submitted to Government with Board's Proceedings, dated 22nd June 1875, No. 1,733, Mr. Puckle has detailed his proposals for the revision of the village establishment in the tract now reported on.

(A true Extract.)

H. E. Stokes

Acting Secretary.

To the Acting Secretary to Government, Revenue Department,
with three enclosures to be returned, and copies of Director's Report.
„ the Director of Revenue Settlement.
Copy to the Collector of Chingleput,
with copies of Director's Report.

Exd. W. H. French.

1875.

**Board of Revenue,**

**MADRAS.**

PROCEEDINGS, 4TH AUGUST 1875, No. 2,168.

Despd 13 aug/75

Encl.

S.O. No. 221 - 16

Received. 17th Septr

AUGUST.

No. 2,168.

*Settlement, New.*—Report of Director of Revenue Settlement on result of introduction of—in certain villages of Sydapet Taluq, Chingleput District, reviewed and submitted to Government with remarks.

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## No. 2,168.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 4th August 1875.

Read letter from the Acting Director of Revenue Settlement, to Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Chittoor, 9th June 1875, No. 1,099A-31A :—

ABSTRACT.—Reporting the results of the Settlement of a portion of the Principal Division of the Chingleput District.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.—Specimen Settlement Register.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.—Scroll Map.

ENCLOSURE No. 3.—Descriptive Memoir.

IN this letter the Acting Director of Revenue Settlement reports the result of the introduction of the new settlement in a tract of sixty-nine villages in the neighbourhood of Madras, and details what he has done in pursuance of the orders of Government, conveyed in G.O., dated 13th April 1875, No. 590, for the registration and settlement of mirasi rights.

2. He has not experienced any difficulty in carrying out the orders of Government in this matter. The mirasi shares have been ascertained and recorded in each village. The lands occupied by Mirasidars, as such, have been entered in the puttas and in the chittah or Curnam's copy of the puttas as pangu lands, and all other occupied lands, whether held by Mirasidars or others, as held on durkhast tenure. The swatantram fee has been recorded against each pangu and waste field on a uniform scale of 2 Annas in the Rupee of assessment.

3. This rate has been arrived at as follows. The swatantram fee was formerly taken from the gross produce before the division of the crop, and was then paid both by ryots and Government. The charge as against Government has not been directly allowed, for, in arriving at the money rates now imposed, any distinct claim had virtually fallen into desuetude, and the liberal allowances (from 16 to 25 per cent.) made for various contingencies in arriving at the new rates, rendered any revival of the swatantram claim as against Government unnecessary, whilst it would have undesirably complicated calculations. Further the Pymaish assessments were made on calculations of the gross produce after the deduction of the swatantram. The portion of the swatantram, therefore, which came out of the ryot's share, is now alone represented by Mr. Puckle's 2-Anna rate. This is based upon 3 per cent. of the gross produce, which is taken as a rough average of the rates given in the old panguvali accounts. These rates ranged, for the ryot's payment, from 1 to 7 per cent.; but for the reasons stated by Mr. Puckle, chiefly the difficulty of identifying the lands liable to the varying rates, he has found it necessary to take the uniform rate of 3 per cent. above mentioned.

4. To apply this to the rates of assessment, he has taken the gross produce of the highest taram, 840 measures, and the highest rate, Rupees 7-8-0, proposed by Mr. Banbury, and finds the swatantram to be Rupees 0-1-9 per Rupee for wet land. Similarly for the 3-Rupee rate, which is the second, but highest normal, taram in dry land, he finds the fee to be Rupees 0-2-5 per Rupee of assessment. He adopts

2 Annas as a mean rate, and proposes to apply it throughout the Chingleput District, and to both wet and dry lands.

5. The Board observe that as the ratio of the assessment to the money value of the gross produce is less in the lower tarams than in the higher, the swatantram on lands in the lower tarams, if taken at a uniform percentage of the gross produce, must necessarily come to a higher rate per Rupee of assessment. Thus it will be found that the fee at 3 per cent. of the gross produce, ranges from 1 Anna 9 Pies to 2 Annas 6 Pies in wet, and from 2 Annas 3 Pies to 6 Annas in dry land. On the areas, and rates introduced, in the tract now reported on by Mr. Puckle, the average at this calculation for wet land is 2 Annas 5 Pies; for dry land, 3 Annas 11 Pies; and for both together, 2 Annas 8 Pies.

6. Thus Mr. Puckle's rate is shown to be somewhat low, but the Board are informed that the Mirasidars have definitively assented to his proposals. It seems to be impossible to introduce the old varying rates, and an uniform and simple rate, such as proposed, has undoubtedly great advantages. The Mirasidars probably prefer a lower rate which is assured to them or believed to be so, to a higher rate, their right to which would be liable to be contested or at least difficult of enforcement; and besides it is observed that the amount involved is really very small. It consists in a claim to a fee on waste hereafter brought into cultivation, which fee amounts to Rupees 832, or an average of Rupees 12-1-0 per village in the tract of sixty-nine villages now in question (paragraph 13); and to a fee on pangu and durkhast land now occupied, which may hereafter be thrown up and be reoccupied on durkhast.

7. Every field has been registered as mirasi, or durkhast occupied or waste. The fee has been recorded on the assessment of each mirasi and waste field, and it has been provided in the descriptive memoirs that if land now occupied, whether durkhast or mirasi, is hereafter relinquished and taken up afresh on durkhast, the swatantram fee at 2 Annas per Rupee shall become payable. It is not now made payable on either class of land now occupied, in the case of durkhast lands because they are held to have been alienated from the mirasi body, and as long as the present occupancy lasts cannot be charged with the fee; and in the case of the mirasi lands, because it is assumed that the lands now occupied by each Mirasidar correspond to his pangu or share, and consequently that were the fee levied on his land, he would be entitled to get it back in virtue of his share.

8. But the Board think that provision should be made for the case of sale of land for arrears of revenue or under decree of Court, as well as for that of lands relinquished. In sale for arrears, the Board think that an entirely new tenure is created, and consequently the fee must be paid by the sale purchaser whether Mirasidar or not; just as it is to be paid by a new Durkhastdar whether Mirasidar or not. When land is sold under decree of a Court, however, it will be different. Then the auction purchaser acquires the title of the judgment debtor; and accordingly when durkhast land now exempt from fee is bought, it will continue to be so. When mirasi land is bought, the right of the purchaser to swatantaram thereon will depend on whether the Court sells the mirasi right along with the land, or sells the land only, a matter which will usually be known. The mirasi pangu or share is a distinct thing from the possession of mirasi land.

9. It is, therefore, necessary to consider how the fees are to be recovered. Durkhastdars and purchasers at revenue sales will have acquired lands under agreement to pay the fees in addition to the assessment, but there will be no such agreement in the case of purchasers at Court sales, who, on the principles laid down, may be liable to the fees. Even such agreement, however, would not empower Revenue Officers to recover under Act II. of 1864 swatantaram fees for the Mirasidars; and wherever payment of the fee is refused, unless special provision is made, the only remedy will be a suit in Court by the mirasi body, and the old difficulties will recommence. The Mirasidars have probably consented to the present settlement, whereby their right to fees is acknowledged only as against the ryot's former share of the crop and the rate of fee is in many cases reduced, on the implied understanding that the fees are to be collected by the Curnam, which to them means collected as arrears of land revenue. But under the present law, this cannot be; and the result will soon be that the new fees will not be paid any more than the old ones, and that the difficulty of inducing the shareholders to combine to sue in Court will, as heretofore, be found almost insuperable. Unless an Act be passed enabling Revenue Officers to recover swatantram fees as arrears of revenue, the present settlement will be a dead letter. The Board recommend that such Act be passed, and will submit a draft if Government desire it.

10. To prevent further difficulty, the same Act must lay down the principles on which the fees collected by Government officers are to be paid over. The mirasi body is numerous, and disputes will arise as to who is entitled to the money unless provision of this sort is made.

11. Mr. Puckle has had no difficulty as to the division of the samudayam lands, which have been dealt with in every village where they existed except one, as to which a civil suit was pending. One thousand and ninety-five acres in forty-five villages have been divided.

12. The settlement, as introduced by Mr. Puckle, differs from Mr. Banbury's proposals, the whole of the tract having been reclassified in blocks, and the grouping of the villages altered, as stated in paragraph 26. Mr. Banbury's tarams and rates have been substantially retained, but, practically, settlement of the tracts has been made afresh. Particulars of Mr. Banbury's proposals for the villages now reported on are not given, and the Board are unable to estimate the effect of the changes made, but they are informed that there is but little difference. Comparing Mr. Puckle's settlement with the revenue of Fasli 1284, the result is a decrease of Rupees 2,296 or 4 per cent. The necessity for the reductions and changes which have brought about this result is shown in Mr. Puckle's paragraph 7. The effect of the new settlement is to raise the assessment on wet land and to relieve the dry. The average wet rate, as revised, is Rupees 3-0-10, and the dry, Rupees 1-2-8. Particulars of the old assessments are not given. The manawari, or rain-dependent paddy lands, have been specially treated, and only those *boná fide* dependent on rain transferred to the head of Dry. They now amount to 2,982 acres, assessed at Rupees 4,801. The unoccupied waste, wet and dry, is assessed at Rupees 6,656. Acres 959 have been allotted to the villagers as grazing ground poramboke.

13. Mr. Puckle, having regard to the possible extension of irrigation from the Red Hill Tank, which may affect fifty out of the sixty-nine villages reported on, has not allowed second crop to be compounded for, and, accordingly, composition

has been effected at a quarter of the assessment, the rate sanctioned, only on one block of 29·10 acres in Tundalam, which is beyond the influence of the tank project.

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17. The second and third proposals are, that in future when a district is taken up, a report is to be submitted embodying an account of the entire district, describing the several taluqs with general suggestions for their treatment, deducing rates, and giving an estimate of the actual results for one or two taluqs; and that when the proposals are approved, the Deputy Director shall be empowered to settle the remaining taluqs on the same principles with the same approximate results without further preliminary estimates in detail. The proposition seems to be that when a table of rates is sanctioned, after exemplification of their results has been given for one or two taluqs, no further detailed classification, &c., should be required, but that general sanction should be given for their introduction in other taluqs of the same district. The very great delay that has been entailed in disposing of the required schemes hitherto is the strongest argument that can be adduced in favor of this course; and it will be unobjectionable if the preliminary report satisfies Government that the other taluqs of a district are similar on the whole and similarly situated to those for which detailed proposals are received; but on this point Government must have an opportunity of giving opinion, in each case, before the rates are actually introduced. In paragraph 40, the Director asks for specific sanction for the settlement of the remaining taluqs of Chingleput in this way, and the Board recommend that this be accorded forthwith for the remainder of Sydapet Taluq and for Trivellore and Ponneri, all of which were included in Mr. Banbury's scheme, as they understand that all is ready for field operations. With regard to settlement in the other taluqs, the Board will address Government further when informed what stage operations have reached in them.

18. The fourth proposal is that the Deputy Director should have power to exercise, subject to the control of the Collector, such of the powers of an ordinary Revenue Officer as are necessary to enable him to make the settlement not merely a revision of assessment, but, as Mr. Puckle puts it, really a settlement, and comprising the disposal of every item of which the villagers have to complain. The Board fully approve of this suggestion, whereby the local knowledge which is necessarily acquired by the Settlement Officer is fully turned to account, and an inestimable opportunity taken advantage of, to the benefit both of Government and the ryots. The admirable descriptive memoirs drawn up by Mr. Puckle on the completion of the settlement of each village form a permanent and convenient record of the results of the settlement, which is of the highest value.

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20. In a separate letter which has been submitted to Government with Board's Proceedings, dated 22nd June 1875, No. 1,733, Mr. Puckle has detailed his proposals for the revision of the village establishment in the tract now reported on.

(A true Extract.)

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

To the Acting Secretary to Government, Revenue Department,
with three enclosures to be returned, and copies of Director's Report.
,, the Director of Revenue Settlement.
Copy to the Collector of Chingleput,
with copies of Director's Report.

Exd. W. H. French.

Copy

1875.

**Board of Revenue,**

**MADRAS.**

PROCEEDINGS, 4TH AUGUST 1875, No. 2,168.

*Received.* *Encl.*

GO 15th February/76 No 221

AUGUST.

No. 2,168.

*Settlement, New.*—Report of Director of Revenue Settlement on result of introduction of—in certain villages of Sydapet Taluq, Chingleput District, reviewed and submitted to Government with remarks.

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## *Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,*
## *21st December 1875.*

No. . Read the following demi-official letter from H. E. STOKES, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, to D. F. CARMICHAEL, Esq., Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, dated Madras, 8th December 1875:—

REFERRING to Board's Proceedings, 4th August 1875, No. 2,168, I am directed to submit, for the consideration of Government, a memorandum (in original) by the Acting Director of Revenue Settlement, in which he records his views with reference to the changes proposed by Mr. Puckle in the system of settlement heretofore adopted and referred to by the Board in paragraphs 15 to 18 of the Proceedings just quoted.

2. The most important point of divergence between the views of Messrs. Puckle and Rundall is the advisability of adopting the block-system of classification in lieu of that by fields. Mr. Rundall maintains that the principle of the settlement is at stake; that it will become, if the proposals made by Mr. Puckle are sanctioned, a mere re-adjustment of the existing assessment, and not a revision; that the relative accuracy of assessment which it is desired to secure is already obtained under the fieldwar system, and must be sacrificed under that proposed; that the block-system must necessarily be expensive and slow, as one officer cannot keep the classification sufficiently in advance of the party to provide them with full occupation; that the results in Tinnevelly where the system has been followed bear out this assertion; that under it the advantage gained by a thorough and detailed examination of the occupation, the bringing to light unrecorded cultivation and evasions of revenue are lost; and that the revision of tanks ayacuts,—a measure which the Board and Government have considered of prime importance,—is either abandoned or conducted in an unsafe or futile manner on mere lists drawn up by the Carnums showing fields requiring alteration. Mr. Rundall further shows that the proposal is not a new one, but had been in the department already fully discussed and rejected by officers of great experience in settlement work. He asserts that now that the system has been, in anticipation of the orders of Government, practically brought into operation, the opinion of the officers of the department is unanimous against it.

3. The Acting Director's proposal in paragraph 27, in fact, amounts to this, that the lining out the land in blocks should be effected after the field classification has been completed in the usual way, and thus the block-system made the test of the other, where, from the character of the country, this is feasible. Mr. Rundall agrees with the Board in warmly approving Mr. Puckle's proposal that settlement officers should exercise such of the ordinary powers of Revenue-officers as will enable them to redress all grievances and make the settlement a real adjustment of village affairs, and of the admirable form in which he exhibits the final settlement results.

4. I am desired to say that, on perusal of Mr. Rundall's memorandum, of which the purport has been briefly sketched in the preceding paragraphs, the Board are disposed to recede from the recommendation in favor of the block-system of classification which they made in their Proceedings under reference. Put before them as it was, there appeared to be considerable advantages in the shape of saving of time, expense, and labor, not inconsistent with a sufficiently minute and careful examination of soils, conditions, and circumstances. But on descending from generalities to details, it becomes clear that there will be great danger of such an examination being

neglected, and that if it be really efficiently and properly made there will be little to choose, in point of expenditure of time and money, between the two systems; while the fieldwar system gives a considerable guarantee of the thoroughness of the work. On the block-system settlement will be apt to degenerate into a mere adjustment of the old assessments, and the rectification of occasional anomalies. Officers of marked experience and special ability might perhaps be safely trusted with powers of settlement on the block-system; but there would be no real check on the work, and a supply of a succession of such fully qualified officers cannot be relied on with sufficient certainty to justify the adoption of a scheme which would divest the ultimately responsible authorities of all real supervising power. These considerations had already suggested themselves to the Board; but they did not at the time seem to them so conclusive against Mr. Puckle's proposal, as in the light of the memorandum drawn up by Mr. Rundall they now do. The change, in reality, involves the sacrifice of the whole principle of the settlement which has been accepted and ratified by the Secretary of State; and, though there may be imperfections in the old system, efforts should be directed rather to improving it than to substituting for it an entirely new one.

5. In conclusion, I am to say that the Board approve generally of the proposals for future operations now brought forward by Mr. Rundall.

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## ENCLOSURE No. 1.

## MEMORANDUM.

As the changes which Mr. Puckle has advocated and submitted for the orders of Government will not only involve considerable alteration of ordinary settlement procedure, but will as well materially modify the system upon which classification has hitherto proceeded, I beg to submit the following remarks upon the recommendations thus made and now under the consideration of Government. The change of system contemplated is a question of the greatest importance, as it will affect prejudicially or otherwise the final settlement of the remaining districts of the Presidency and several of those now under operation.

Report to Board, No. 1,099A-31 A, of 9th June 1875.

2. So far as the proposals affect settlement procedure only, the recommendations to make actual settlement more complete are undoubted improvements which can be adopted with advantage such as the transfer of puttas, division of common lands, allotment of grazing ground, and assignment of lands required for public purposes, &c.

No. IV. of paragraph 39.

3. The system of classification by blocks by a responsible officer or mainly by European agency is not altogether new; for the records of this office show that the question was raised and duly discussed departmentally and negatived in the early days of settlement operations (1860). The remarks which Mr. Newill then recorded were circulated by Mr. Banbury in 1871 for the purpose of eliciting further discussion of the question by the Deputy Directors with reference to the system of classification pursued by Mr. Puckle in Tinnevelly; and from the copies of the marginally noted Proceedings of Mr. Banbury as Director which I subjoin, it will be evident that the opinion of the district officers was adverse to any change. It may be said that Mr. Puckle's classification system and the mode in which he gave effect thereto was not sufficiently known to be discussed and rejected; but I have no hesitation in asserting, now that it is known by officers generally, and has been personally explained by Mr. Puckle, that the same unanimity of opinion still exists.

No. I. of paragraph 39.

Nos. 503 and 1,611 of 9th March and 9th August 1871.

4. It is not only the system that is proposed to be altered, but, in a great degree, the basis of classification as well. The difference may be briefly described as follows.

5. Under the present system every endeavour is used to secure relative accuracy and equal treatment of similar soils, regard being had mainly to the quality of the soil. Under the modified system, as already put in force by Mr. Puckle in Chingleput and elsewhere, the present assessment, if either high or low, determines, in a great measure I find, the rating of the block, as to the sort under which it should be assessed; for it is generally understood by those who have been instructed by Mr. Puckle that great divergence from the present assessment should be obviated.

6. For this latter purpose an experimental table of rates, considered applicable to the district generally, is furnished to the few subordinates to whom classification is now entrusted, so that as blocked out the tentative results of any village can be at once arrived at.

7. The aim of the proposed system of classification being thus to work more or less to a foregone conclusion, it necessarily follows that, in a greater or less degree, relative accuracy of classification must be sacrificed, each village being treated more with reference to the assessment the land may formerly have borne than in accordance with the merits of the village as arrived at by a careful classification of the soils.

8. Under the departmental system of classification it may be justly contended that the efforts to secure relative accuracy have been successful; and that the undoubtedness of this success will ensure the system standing the test of time. The earlier work of the department, whilst experience was being gained, may not perhaps, and cannot well, be expected to be equal to that of later years; but still the classification and assessment resulting are regarded with favor by Revenue-officers who have experience therewith. In the Tamil districts I much doubt if the classification was ever as systematic and as thorough as that of the northern or Telugu districts.

9. The sacrifice of so important a general principle as relative accuracy as to classification involves a very much greater departure from the ordinary system than the proposals submitted by Mr. Puckle would appear to convey.

Paragraph 33.

10. Mr. Puckle, when referring to the results of existing settlement, prominently notices that very serious discrepancies often occur between the former and the revised assessment, and that consequently the ryots are sometimes greatly dissatisfied.

Paragraph 34.

11. The system that Mr. Puckle advocates is next described, and he states that in forming blocks under his system "the general lie of the country, the nature of the irrigation, the soil, situation, &c., have all to be considered together, so that in like villages similar blocks may be similarly classified, and such rates of assessment may be imposed as will apply not only to existing circumstances but to the former assessment and the future requirements of the people."

12. It is clearly impossible that any rates of assessment resulting from a system of classification that is similar in its application to different villages can comply with or, in many cases, even approach the several conditions set down. If the incidence of the existing assessments which are under revision was found to be even, and the existing circumstances and future requirements of the people were generally uniform in most villages, there might then be some hope of such conformity being attained. But it is well known that very great diversity exists both as regards the assessment of different villages and of individuals of such villages. A classification to be relatively accurate and more reliable than the former pymaish, which, in many instances, has been found to have been tampered with, must occasion important variations between the former and revised assessment. That such is the case is no discredit to the existing system of classification, provided the general accuracy of the rates of assessment imposed can be demonstrated as just and fair by comparison of the classification results and average assessment as adjusted with that of the neighbouring villages or similar villages similarly circumstanced. With the personal knowledge of the villages that the settlement officer acquires, it is a safe test and one that carries conviction with it.

13. It is thus impossible for any classification to accord, as a rule, with the conditions which Mr. Puckle lays down as necessary, or to give consideration to all the circumstances together. No doubt weight should always be, and is, given to the advantages or disadvantages as to level for irrigation, and as to the situation, for these form essential elements in any such consideration. Consideration as to assessment, however, can only be given to any extent at the expense of the general accuracy of the classification results.

14. Under the system Mr. Puckle has already inaugurated, I contend that undue consideration is often thus bestowed upon the present assessment; and that the result is that under his system similar blocks in like villages would be liable to be less frequently classified in a similar manner and at equivalent rates of assessment than under the ordinary system.

15. In reviewing and endorsing the proposals, the Board of Revenue remark that under the new system Deputy Directors "will have to be selected with great care;" and apprehend that "in unskilful or careless hands there will be danger that the settlement will become a mere process of re-arranging the old beriz instead of an attempt to arrive at a just estimate from independent data and on defined principles of the Government share of the crop." It is clearly thus intended that merely the procedure of classification and not the principle should be modified. The principle, as I have attempted to show, being more or less at stake, the change to the system of classification, as inaugurated and put in force by Mr. Puckle, is clearly incompatible with these views, for the change tends to make settlement an adjustment instead of a revision of assessment.

Board's Proceedings, No. 2,163, of 4th August 1874, paragraph 16.

16. The classification under the existing system, though deemed so crude by Mr. Puckle, has been vouched for and reported on by his predecessors, and embodies much more systematic action than it is credited with in the remarks recorded. Though conducted fieldwar by the classifiers, yet, so far as the soils run the same, the land is similarly rated; and hence, where tracts of the same soil occur, the result of the ordinary classification is in blocks. Under the latter, allowances are made for minor variations which exist. These are sometimes essential; but to some extent can be merged without occasioning any particular hardship. In dealing with the land, it is right that classifiers, as regards work performed by them, should record and not ignore existing variations of this nature.

Paragraph 32.

17. Under the block-system of classification thus advocated, it is claimed that work can be done much more quickly and at less expense than at present. The system is the outcome of the settlement operations specially conducted by Mr. Puckle in the Tinnevelly District; and it is, therefore, to be expected that fair progress would have been the result under the system in the Tinnevelly District. Even if allowances are made for the maturing of the system in that district and for extraneous work, the progress and the cost do not omen well for either expedition or economy. Tinnevelly has already been ten years under settlement, and barely four of the nine taluqs are finished. Operations have, to some extent, been extended to two others; but three, I believe, have not yet been touched. I venture to predict that, under the system Mr. Puckle condemns, Tinnevelly would have been out of hand by this time so far as the introduction of settlement might be concerned, and the cost would not, proportionately to the work accomplished, have been so much.

18. A settlement party engaged solely on classification invariably has only one officer for a district; and it stands to reason that if the formation of the blocks depends* upon a single or even two officers, as in Tinnevelly, the area that can be disposed of each month must be more or less limited; and, consequently, that the number of classifiers at work in the field must be restricted. It is unlikely that the officer can provide a sufficient area of villages blocked out

* Paragraphs 34 and 35 of Mr. Puckle's Report.

to keep the number of ordinary classifiers of a party employed in the manner Mr. Puckle indicates. They may, of course, be otherwise employed; but yet the result claimed for the system is not likely to be realised. As soon as introduced in Chingleput it was found that it was impracticable for an officer to take up a village without any sketch or information as a guide to the run of the soils, and dispose of it with expedition; and in the villages of the Chingleput Taluq, when newly undertaken in accordance with this block-system, the villages, consequently, were blocked out beforehand by the Supervisor, &c., and Major Stuart personally inspected and settled the work thus prepared. Had he attempted to lay out the villages himself, it must inevitably have proved a most unnecessary waste of his time and labor. Under such a system, even if the discretion solicited under head III. was granted, and two officers were engaged, I doubt if, as contemplated, two taluqs per annum in each district could be accomplished. With one officer it would be hopeless to expect progress to that extent or if the laying of lands by the officer himself in each village was insisted on.

Paragraph 38.

19. Moreover, under the block-system, as worked by Mr. Puckle, a great deal too much importance is attached, I think, to the limitation of the blocks of a village to a small number. The number of the blocks into which a village may be divided should, in all cases, be sufficient to ensure the relative and apparent variations being recognised and separately treated.

20. Shortly after assuming charge of the department, Mr. Puckle stopped the ordinary fieldwar classification of the Chingleput Taluq, and had all subsequent work undertaken under his block-system. Some twenty villages of Chingleput had then been commenced or classified under the field-system; and the work of these was revised, and the whole taluq closed in accordance with the block-classification. The work of Conjeeveram was subsequently similarly revised to the block-system.

21. Mr. Mayer was as well summoned from Ganjam and initiated into the altered system; and upon his return he arranged, in accordance with the instructions he received, for future villages to be done under this system. Upon a representation being made to me that nearly two-thirds of the taluq had previously been completed under the fieldwar or ordinary system, and that pending the orders of Government as to the proposed changes the men were not fully employed, I directed that the whole taluq should be completed by the classifiers as commenced under the field-system. This is, however, being corrected upon Mr. Mayer's inspection to the block-system as ordered by Mr. Puckle. I doubt much if the block-system is applicable at all to Ganjam, or at all events to Gumsur.

22. Field classification was similarly stopped in North Arcot, in the Guriattum Taluq, whilst I was absent on leave, and the field-hands are employed now solely on demarcation. The classification is conducted by blocks by the head classifiers and supervisors or subordinate agency in the first instance, and personally inspected and settled by the Assistant Director. In Cuddapah and Coimbatore field-work had progressed too far for like changes to be effected in those districts. Orders were, however, given for the application of the block-system to the wet lands when introducing to any further extent revised rates of assessment. It will thus be evident that when Mr. Puckle left classification under the ordinary fieldwar-system had practically been stopped in all districts save Coimbatore. Field operations had already been closed in Cuddapah.

23. There are as well other changes which have been effected as enumerated below. Under the block-system as given effect to by Mr. Puckle in the Chingleput Taluq, the classifiers did not record the particulars of occupation of the blocks by examination and identification of holdings comprising the blocks, but according to the particulars of occupation ascertained from the Carnum for the several survey numbers appertaining to each block. The discontinuance of the identification fieldwar of all occupation, both Government and Inam, on the basis of the Revenue Accounts, would prevent unrecorded occupation in respect to land; and omission to charge water-

rate for irrigation, also the wrongful adjustments to dry in recent years of land that should properly have been retained under wet being hereafter noticed and reported to the Revenue Authorities for rectification.

24. Again, another important change has been effected by the Director's Proceedings, No. 842, of 30th April, which is given in full in the margin.

"The settlement of sixty-eight villages of the Chingleput District has now been made, and in no single case has it been found necessary to refer to the ayacuts lately revised on the ground, as the area held on putta as nunjah at the settlement now made has invariably been accepted as the ayacut under each work.

"The result of this practical experiment shows that the labor bestowed on the revision of tank ayacuts previous to introducing a settlement is time and money wasted, as there are ample opportunities for obtaining all the information need as each village comes up for hearing under the system of settlement pursued in Chingleput.

"The Director, therefore, requests that all further revision of ayacuts may be discontinued from this date."

25. In directing the discontinuance of the revision of tank ayacuts as heretofore in the manner intended by the rules in force, quoted marginally with other papers bearing thereon, and deemed by the Board and the Government to be a very necessary measure and essentially a part of the settlement of each district, Mr. Puckle has provided for the course indicated in his letter given in the Board's Proceedings of 31st March last quoted above, being adopted instead. Under the modification thus ordered, the Carnum of each village is called on at the time of preparing the settlement accounts to file a list of numbers needing alteration, and orders are passed thereon as may be requisite. The land the ryots are willing to hold as irrigated at settlement rates is thus determined as the ayacut for the future under any source. Unoccupied land, as a rule, though formerly wet and capable of irrigation, is registered as dry. This adjustment is intended to be effected without any regular fieldwar examination as at present, or separate plans as a guide that readily indicates the effect of the Carnums and villagers' proposals if carried out. The statements and sketches heretofore prescribed and prepared concurrently with field work are discontinued; and the changes will not come under the Collectors' cognizance save on appeal, or should he review the lists and orders given, which is not likely. Moreover, the extent to which revision may be necessary will not be known at the time that the general settlement proposals may be sanctioned, and consequently the tendency of the changes or the increase or decrease of assessment due to the measure will not be apparent until carried out.

G. O., No. 181, of 27th January 1871, and No. 1,628, of 29th November 1872.
Board's Proceedings, 22nd August 1872, and No. 758, of 31st March 1875.

26. Having thus recorded the difficulties that beset the conduct of settlement operations at present, it is necessary that I should represent what I consider requisite to remedy the effects of the changes which I thus hold to be, in some measure, unnecessary.

27. I would request that the system of fieldwar classification by classifiers be ordered to be reverted to, as the basis of operations, where heretofore displaced by the block-system adverted to. Whilst thus continuing future operations under the field-system, I would propose that, in the revision of classification by the upper subordinates, the villages be laid out into blocks, due provision being made for variations of soil usually recognised; and that as thus prepared the villages should be inspected and passed by the officer of the party. This course would admit of the classification results being recorded in the descriptive memoirs and illustrated by eye-sketches, as advocated by Mr. Puckle, and regarded by the Board most favorably. It is an undoubted improvement, and one which I wish to see perpetuated. I would further recommend that the five sorts or tarams under each class of soil be adopted generally as regards future operations, as far as such change may be compatible with work already more or less completed.

28. As thus formed the blocks would be more numerous than Mr. Puckle proposed; but as before remarked, I deprecate any particular restriction in this respect. In some localities, tracts of very hilly country and the like, it may not be feasible to adhere entirely to block classification, in Gumsur for instance. I would propose that the villages in such instances should be excepted, and treated solely by field classification.

29. The settlement proposals for the Chingleput Principal Division Taluqs submitted by Mr. Banbury having been sanctioned, I would recommend that the rates, with the slight alterations made by Mr. Puckle, be introduced* on the basis of the original classification, subject to such ordinary modifications as is necessarily

* Paragraph 25. As regards the remaining villages of Sydapet and the Trivellore and Ponneri Taluqs.

allowed at the time of introduction. Mr. Puckle, in referring to Chingleput, has already recorded: "I find the former classification works out singularly well into blocks, when some needless distinctions made by the classifiers in individual cases are rectified." With slight modifications where they can be effected without involving any particular departure from the ordinary process of rating the land, such distinctions might, in many cases, be adjusted, and the villages settled by blocks. This would enable the three taluqs being much more speedily disposed of than under the revision Mr. Puckle contemplates to the classification.

30. In North Arcot field classification would, as previously, proceed simultaneously with the demarcation now being performed by classifiers, &c.

31. In Ganjam, considering that Chicacole and the greater portion of Berhampore have been already classified fieldwar, and the block-system is probably* quite unsuited to the remaining taluq or Gumsur, I consider it would be best to complete the whole district in accordance with the fieldwar-system.

32. These changes would admit of the identification of all occupation fieldwar, referred to above at paragraph 23, being conducted as formerly.

33. The revision of tank ayacuts requires to be once more undertaken in conformity with the existing orders in this respect. As the adjustments made are not put in force, though previously worked up, until the actual introduction of settlement; and any appeals then preferred are attended to, and rectification, if requisite, is effected, the course hitherto pursued meets the requirements of Board's Proceedings, No. 788, of 31st March.

Paragraph 39.

34. The Deputy Directors might certainly with much advantage be empowered to deal with the several matters referred to by Mr. Puckle under No. IV. I would propose as well that Mr. Puckle's form of descriptive memoirs, and also that the eye-sketches, so far as block-classification may be practicable, be formally approved and ordered to be adopted.

Board's Proceedings, Nos. 4,137 and 8,649, of 8th June and 24th November 1869.

35. In conclusion, I would beg to remark that some of the measures thus advocated have previously been brought forward by Mr. Puckle, and have seemingly been negatived, *vide* paragraphs 75 to 80 of Mr. Master's letter, recorded in the second of the Proceedings referred to.

MADRAS,
*27th October* 1875.

(Signed) C. RUNDALL,
*Acting Director of Revenue Settlement.*

### ENCLOSURE No. 2.

From C. RUNDALL, Esq., Acting Director of Revenue Settlement, to H. E. STOKES, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Madras, 29th October 1875.

BY the direction of Government I herewith thus submit certain remarks on the proposed changes to settlement procedure and to the system of classification hitherto pursued, as advocated by Mr. Puckle in his Report No. 1,099-A—31-A of 9th June last to the Board.

2. I would request that the Memorandum may receive attention, and that it may be forwarded on to Government with the Board's remarks. Should any further information be desired, I shall be happy to furnish all in my power.

### ENCLOSURE No. 3.

Proceedings of the Director of Revenue Settlement, dated Madras, 9th March 1871, No. 503.

THE manner in which the classification should be hereafter carried out by this department requires careful consideration, and the present arrangement of allowing different systems in different districts must not be continued. Thus in Salem and in Chingleput, where the classifiers have been taken from the Tinnevelly and Salem parties, the tak-system or classification by tracts is in force. Whilst in Nellore and Cuddapah the old system of classification field by field prevails.

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* It has been treated exceptionally to some extent by the Survey, and Captain Cloeté gives as one of the reasons: "The peculiar nature of the country; the cultivation being throughout a great part of the taluq scattered about in small patches, in many cases of a few cases only," *vide* Enclosure to Board's Proceedings, No. 2,158, of 22nd October 1873.

2. From [illegible] accompanying extract from the Director's Proceedings, dated 9th May 1860, No. 449, it will be seen that this matter long since formed the grounds of discussion, and that the tract-system was then condemned. Subsequently, however, the Board have sanctioned this system in Tinnevelly, and Mr. Master appears to have offered no objection to it for Salem. It is, however, clear that either one or the other must be now universally adopted, and the question arises which of the two methods best meets the requirements of Government and the Ryots. The Acting Director requests therefore that the Deputy Director of*—will carefully consider the question and report fully which method he would advocate, and his reasons for such advocacy.

3. In favor of the field-classification, there is the important fact that as an individual field assessment is the basis of our revenue system; and as each holding must be consequently separately assessed and registered, it is only just and proper that each individual field should be separately classified, and thus appropriately taxed on its individual merits. If it is urged that each field *is* separately examined by the tak-system, the question naturally arises, then why not record it at once without fitting it into any particular tract? Again, the variations in the soils comprising even a small tract are frequently considerable, and thus in numerous instances the classification by taks becomes merely a distribution of "classes" in which the "sorts" are altogether practically ignored. Moreover, fields with "fullers earth" and salt effloresence are found in the same tract with lands of good quality, and thus the former have to pay the same as the latter.

4. On the other hand, the main advantages of the tak-system are the facility which it furnishes for inspection and the less chance that it is considered to afford for unfair dealing on the part of the subordinates. Greater expedition in the outturn of work should also result from this more general method of classification.

5. There are doubtless other points which will strike Mr.———owing to experience actually gained in the field, and these should also be discussed when furnishing the answer to this communication.

6. Finally, the Acting Director would draw attention to the supposed check to fraud by the tak-system, and would be glad to learn particularly the Deputies' opinions on this point. It is to be noted that under the "tak system" a classifier wilfully lowering a sort has the very specious answer: "I merely gave the field this 'sort' as it appertains to tak B, which is thus classed."

(Signed) G. BANBURY,
*Acting Director of Revenue Settlement.*

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* Salem, Cuddapah, and Nellore. Uncovenanted Assistant, Kistna.

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*Extract from the Proceedings of the Director of Revenue Settlement, dated 9th May 1860, No. 449.*

* * *

13. In the 15th and following paragraphs, Mr. Morris gives his views of the system of classification as now conducted, and proposes that the classification should be in tract and not in fields, and that these should be valued entirely by European agency, Native agency being confined to arranging the lands in tracts. He further takes objection to classifiers (as he says) on 15 and 20 Rs. a-month being entrusted with this work, and to their being allowed the exercise of any discretion.

14. The classifiers are paid 20 and 24 Rs., while the head classifiers get Rs. 30. They are selected in a measure, or at least it was intended they should be, from the classes of people who have practical agricultural knowledge, such as the Carnums' families and other residents of the district. Europeans have, with a very trifling exception, scarcely any practical knowledge of the agricultural value of lands, and what is learnt must, in a great measure, be derived from

the continued observation of agricultural processes and results with which the native mind has been long familiarised, though it may be advantageous to introduce along with this practical experience some of the scientific researches of Europe.

15. The Director has already expressed in his Proceedings of 7th instant, No. 437, his opinion as to the necessity of further European controlling and supervising agency; but he considers Mr. Morris's plan of having the whole country valued directly by Europeans quite out of the question, on the consideration of the enormous staff it would require and the consequent expense if it were otherwise practicable or desirable.

16. It seems to have been overlooked that the arrangement of the lands into tracts as proposed by Mr. Morris still leaves the discretion, to which objection is taken, with the Native agency; for this fundamental arrangement is, in reality, the classification, and as much irregularity and injustice may take place in this as in classifying the land in fields. Under the present system the classifier does not actually value the land, but classes it according to its relative productive powers, putting similar fields under the same class. The money value is afterwards assigned to each class after much investigation and consideration of the Settlement officers.

17. Mr. Morris's plan pre-supposes that the whole country can be laid out in large tracts without variations in them in the qualities of the soil; where this may occasionally be the case, the classifiers at present put down the whole of such tracts in the same class; where it is not the case, the arrangements of the tracts must be, in a great measure, arbitrary and attended with irregularities in the fields composing them, probably greater than exist under the present plan. Mr. Morris does not propose that Europeans should enter into the detail of the lands comprising these tracts, so that the classification of the lands would, as at present, rest with the Native agency, while the money values would, as also at present, be determined by the superior European agency.

18. No plan of classifying and valuing land can be devised without leaving much to the discretion of the agency, and this being the case the valuation can never be one of Arithmetical certainty, whether made by Europeans or Natives. One object must be to work out to the best of our power the plan that is found to be practicable, taking all precautions against irregularity and abuses.

19. The object of classifying in blocks engaged the Director's attention, and was considered with the two Deputy Directors in the north when the Director was last there. It underwent a full discussion with His Excellency the Governor on the same occasion at Masulipatam, with the view to its being made the basis of survey fields or divisions. The result was that it was considered impracticable. The principle that "although the details of classification extend to each field, the wider comparative view of the operations should never be lost sight of" is laid down in paragraph 19 of printed instructions to Deputy Directors. It is most desirable that the land should be thus viewed in a comprehensive way by the classifiers, and that the line of distinction of soils should be drawn according to a collection of several fields, where they lie together of the same quality, an entry, of course, being also made in the account for each field; but this is a different thing from laying out the whole country in tract for classification and ignoring single fields of different values in the primary arrangement.

(Signed) H. NEWILL,
*Director of Revenue Settlement.*

(A true Copy and Extract.)
(Signed) C. RUNDALL,
*Acting Director of Revenue Settlement.*

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## Enclosure No. 4.

Proceedings of the Director of Revenue Settlement, dated Madras, 9th April 1871, No. 1,611.

Read the following letter from the Deputy Director of Revenue Settlement, Salem, dated 13th March 1871, No. 36.

Abstract.—Offering opinion in regard to classification by blocks as compared with the system of classification by fields.

From the Deputy Director of Revenue Settlement, Kurnool and Cuddapah Districts, dated 18th April 1871, No. 922.

ABSTRACT.—Same subject as above.

From the Deputy Director of Revenue Settlement, Nellore and North Arcot Districts, dated 1st June 1871, No. 236.

ABSTRACT.—Same subject as above.

From the First Uncovenanted Assistant, Central Office, in Charge of Kistna Settlement Party, dated 10th June 1871, No. 73.

ABSTRACT.—Same subject as above.

THE replies from the Deputies contained in the foregoing letters are generally unanimous in their unfavorable view taken of the tak-system. In those districts where it has not been introduced, the Deputy Directors do not wish to see it adopted, and in Salem where the plan has been in force, Mr. Goodrich writes: "I now look upon the takwar map as a mere sketch of the classification useful in inspection, and am not influenced by consideration of its symmetry to throw lands together which are rightly classed apart." The Acting Director's own personal experience likewise leads him to favor the original system, as greater celerity and a greater protection against unfair dealings, the two chief points generally asserted on behalf of the takwar method, do not appear, in practice, to maintain their supposed position. Under these circumstances, it is fruitless to reiterate the arguments already placed on record as regards this question, and the Acting Director need only order that the original system of classification field by field upon individual merits be maintained and reverted to. Should Mr. Goodrich still think proper to continue the takwar map for convenience of inspection, he is at liberty to do so but must insist upon each field being dealt with separately and individually without reference to its neighbouring survey numbers.

2. Captain Stuart should report whether he finds any inconvenience and difficulty from only having for the Cuddapah District two sorts under the classes 7 and 8 of the red series, and whether it would be advisable to have a third sort as in Nellore and Trichinopoly. It would appear to the Acting Director that the large tracts of red soil in the Pullampett and Sidhout Taluqs, some of which is evidently very productive, would require more than two sorts for its correct and suitable classification.

(Signed) G. BANBURY,
*Acting Director of Revenue Settlement.*

while 6 and 7 further off were classed as 3.

Revenue 1875 Deposit
No 4761
From
The Ag: Secy to the
Board of Rev:
To
The Secy to Govt.
Rev: Depart
Dated 8: Dec 1875
S.O.No 221 - 15 February
1876

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No 1014.

152 Coimbattur
144 Cadapah
148 Chittore
108 Ganjam.

# Memo.

For the assistant Director Ganjam.

The following papers exhibit the several processes connected with the settlement on the block system of one of the villages of Chinglepat.

2. The classes and sorts originally assigned to the fields by Mr Banbury's classification are marked on the Survey Map. A pencil line has now been drawn round all fields similarly classed, and from the Survey Map thus marked, a sketch map A is prepared. It will be seen that within the outer boundary of each block in the sketch map A some fields are included bearing lower sorts than the generality, but the field classification of this village was fairly divisable into 9 blocks on a mere inspection of the Survey map in office.

3. It was impossible, however, to accept this division as conclusive, for there seemed no reason why block I near the village and under the tank should be classed as 3.5 while C and G further off were classed as 3.

and the very outskirts of the village E and D were classed as 3.5 and 3.2 respectively.

4. A subsequent inspection of the ground showed the alterations that should be made in the sketch and consequently in the original field classification, sketch B exhibits these alterations made after a careful inspection of the ground. It was found practicable to reduce the 9 blocks to 5, the lands near the tank and th village were changed from 3.5 to 3.1, the skirt of the irrigation was changed from 3.2 to 3.4, the isolated 3.1 blocks were got rid of and the small scattered patches of various sorts were merged in the one taram assigned to the block in which they are situated. The only resemblance left between the original field classification, and this result of personal inspection was, that the class of soil, viz, black clay remained unchanged. Better distribution of sorts, however, and the outlay of the village into the convenient and suitable blocks assessed with reference to their respective irrigation, situation, level, and quality of soil, resulted in a difference of but Rs 31

vide abstracts A and B. The result showed the uselessness of the field classification as made by native subordinates without reference to general considerations, as practically the same results were obtained on a more intelligible system and with all due regard to the requirements and wants of the village in the course of a morning's walk without any reference made to the original field classification

5. The inspection of the village and the preparation of the sketch and abstract prepared by a classifier (who picked up the numbers, and particulars of the numbers that fell in each block, as per account No. 1 attached) occupied perhaps two days. A comparision between the old and the proposed assessment was then made and the results were thought to be sufficiently satisfactory to warrant the issue of rough pattahs or tickets to the ryots.

6. Before these tickets could be issued, however, the Samudayam or Common lands of the village, amounting to acres

had to be divided among share holders as per statement No. 2.

A list of the Manavari land was prepared as per No. 3.

The particulars of the grazing ground applied for by the villagers were entered in No. 4.

The details of Kudimaramat to be performed hereafter, were entered in No. 5.

Particulars of deductions required for roads, threshingfloors, village sites, &c. were entered in No. 6.

Joint pattahs were divided at the request of the villagers as recorded in No. 7.

Pattahs were transferred to the names of actual occupants at their request and when no objection was raised by the assembled villagers as per No. 8.

A correction list embodying all the changes proposed was prepared as per No. 9.

A taravari Katamani of all lands cultivated or waste was prepared as per No. 10. and a notice explaining the mode of Settlement with a tamil eye sketch showing the tarams assigned to the village was sent through the Curnam with pattahs. He was instructed to distribute these, afford information to applicants and warn all parties concerned to appear before the Director at the time and place named in the notice for the final disposal of takarars. 15 days is as a rule amply sufficient for the ryots to scrutinize the contents of their pattahs. The ryots of this village appeared before the Director accordingly and urged their objections. Orders on these were passed in the accompanying diary, and a few more pattahs were changed. This slightly affected both the abstract and the eye Sketch B. So a final abstract and eye sketch C were prepared and the village was finally settled. Not a Ryot remained unheard or a reasonable complaint unredressed. The division of Samudayam, the tranfer of pattahs, allotment of grazing ground, nattam &c and the careful outlay of the lands with reference to general circumstances and with due regard in their former assessment gave general satisfaction, and nothing more could have been done for this village. The outline of the village, and the several blocks determined were then laid into a fair scroll map on a scale of 3 inches to the mile as per specimen enclosed. (Circulated with Board's Proceedings on the financial results of the Settlement of the villages under the Streevaygundam anicut in the

Tinnevelly District).

8. So far the Settlement is complete, but other accounts had to be prepared to furnish the information required for the Descriptive Memoir, viz. Nos 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16 as per forms in the descriptive memoir in the accompanying printed Volume. The Chittah was then written, and the register, descriptive memoir, and final eye sketch were prepared.

9 The important points to be noted from the foregoing details are:—

1st That field classification by native Subordinates is wholly unnecessary.

2nd That the A form registers, Katamany (averjah) and detail statements prepared prior to making a Settlement are useless.

3rd. That it is absolutely necessary that the officer who makes the Settlement should inspect every village.

4th That when he does so inspect the village, he can then and there lay it out for Settlement.

5th That a subsequent comparison of the results obtained with the former assessment, and the modification of the boundaries of blocks where necessary is requisite to arrive at Satisfactory results.

6th. That everything that the village requires should be disposed of, at Settlement, at one and the same time.

7th That, ample notice should be given of the time and place for hearing takarars & tacaras should only be heard before the assembled villagers.

8th That full information should be afforded to the ryots as to the mode in which the village has been laid out for settlement when tickets are issued to them.

9th That the wishes of the people should be attended to, and redress afforded on all reasonable complaints of over charge, erroneous entry &c.

10th That a Settlement thus made is cheaper, more expeditious, and more Satisfactory than one made under the old System, while the records obtained the scroll maps, eye sketches, and descriptive Memoirs illustrate the method pursued to an extent never attempted before.

11th That there is, comparatively but small opening for fraud in this system as the Officer does the work himself, carries his projects calculations and schemes in his own head and makes himself thoroughly acquainted with the country that he has to deal with.

12th That a Settlement on this system might progress at the rate of 2 Talugs annually &c.

13th That under this system elaborate "schemes" for Settlement and voluminous tabular Statements need not be submitted beforehand. All that is needed in the way of a Settlement scheme being a narrative explaining the circumstances of the district generally the peculiarities of any one particular talug — selected as a specimen, the mode of operations pursued to arrive at a table of rates, the applications of these rates to the land and the financial results expected. Such a scheme or estimate as I would prefer to call it should be carefully illustrated by scroll maps somewhat similar to that now circulated and on such an estimate the Government could pass early orders. When orders are received, the Settlement of the talug estimated for should be carried out and briefly reported with a request that the rest of the district may be similarly treated subject to such modifications as experience may find necessary.

10. For the success of this system an elastic scale of tarams is requisite and the use of five sorts has been found practically, to provide a scale capable of application to almost any district. In the following scale now being used in Chingleput it will be noted that the black loam series extends from the first to the fifth taram, black clay and the red loam series from the 2nd to the 6th taram and the red sand series from 3rd to the 7th tarams thus these 7 tarams provide for all the soils usually found in any district and the gradation of tarams is such that there is never more than 1 Rupee and seldom more than a few annas difference in the rate of assessment assigned to any 2 contiguous sorts.

(Sd). R. K. Puckle

Revenue Settlement Office
Madras
21st May 1875

Ag 3rd Member Rev: Board
in charge of Settlement Deptu.

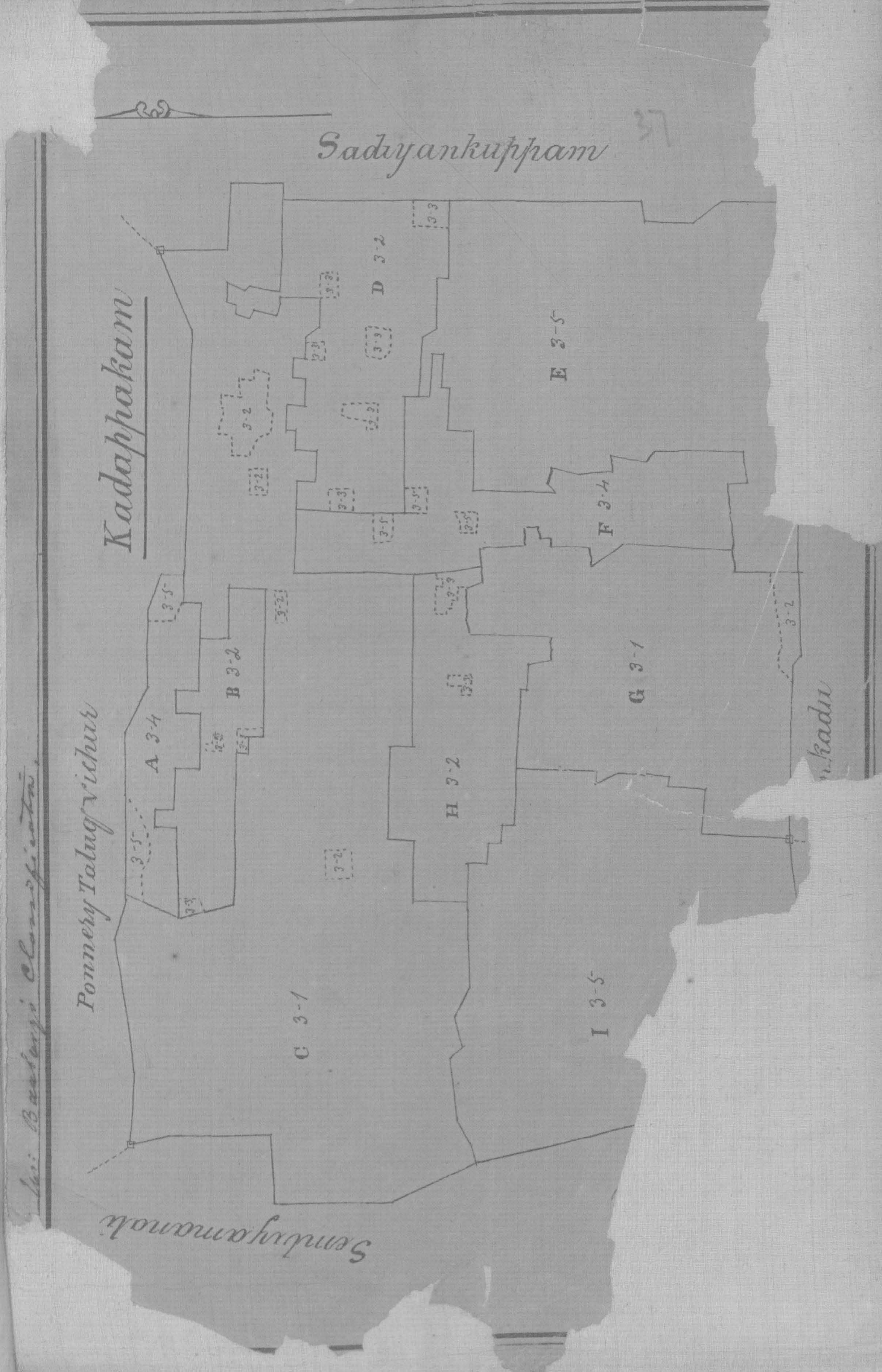
Copy to the Deputy Directors of Coimbatur, Kurnool & Cadapah and North Arcot Districts for information.

(Signed) R. K. Puckle
Ag: 3d Member Bd of
Revenue in Charge &c.

Abstract as per

|  |  | t | ate | As per new settlement |  | [illegible] |  |  |  |  |  |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
|  |  |  |  | Extent | Assessment | Extent | Assessment | Extent | Assessment | Extent | Assessment |
| C<br>G | Wet | 3 1 | 5 · | 129 | 645 · | 112 | 617 2 | +17 | +27 14 | 15 | 5 |
|  | Dry | 3 1 | 1 12 | 2 | 3 8 | 2 | 3 6 | · | +0 2 | · | - |
| B<br>C<br>D<br>G<br>H | Wet | 3 2 | 4 · | 92 | 368 · | 82 | 387 15 | +10 | −19 15 | 12 | 5 |
| B<br>D<br>H | Wet | 3 3 | 3 8 | 21 | 73 8 | 16 | 96 · | +5 | −22 8 | 31 | 24 |
| A<br>F | Wet | 3 4 | 3 · | 96 | 288 · | 77 | 309 10 | +19 | −21 10 | 25 | 7 |
| A<br>E<br>F<br>J | Wet | 3 5 | 2 8 | 166 | 415 · | 152 | 485 7 | +14 | −70 7 | 9 | 15 |
| Total | Wet | Occupied |  | 360 | 1385 8 | 308 | 1414 12 | +52 | −29 4 | 17 | 2 |
|  |  | Unoccupied |  | 144 | 404 · | 131 | 481 6 | +13 | −77 6 | 10 | 16 |
|  |  | Total |  | 504 | 1789 8 | 439 | 1896 2 | +65 | −106 10 | 15 | 6 |
|  | Dry | Occupied |  | 2 | 3 8 | 2 | 3 6 | · | +· 2 | · | · |
|  |  | Grand Total |  | 506 | 1793 0 | 441 | 1899 8 | +65 | −106 8 | 15 | 6 |

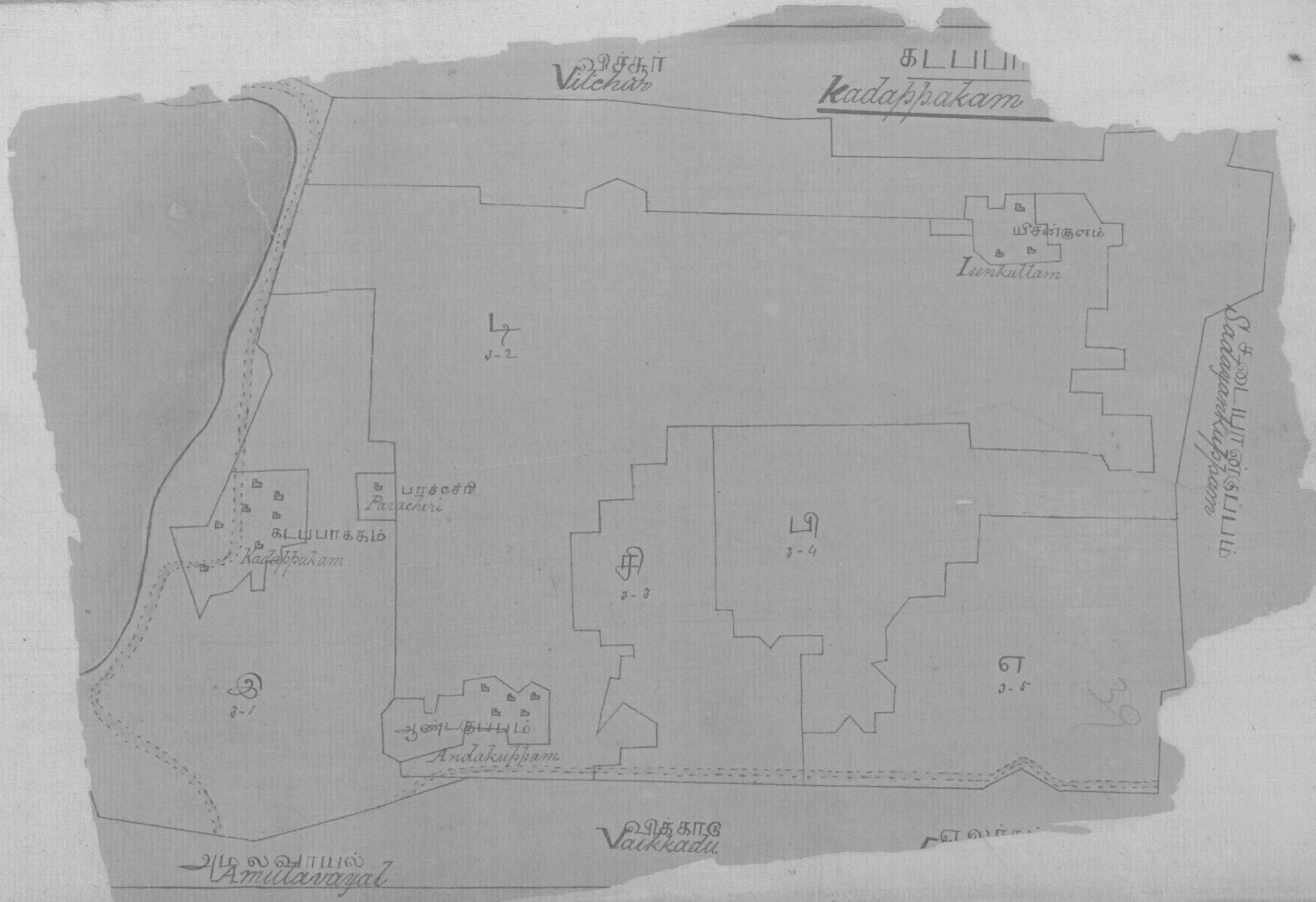
Recd. G.O. 15th Feby /96 [illegible]


Sadyankuppam
Kadappakam
Ponnery Talug Vichur
Semdiyamanali
nkadu
Lw: Baalaji Chinnappiento
A 3·4
B 3·2
C 3·1
D 3·2
E 3·5
F 3·4
G 3·1
H 3·2
I 3·5

Kadapákam. Sydapet Taluq. — Chengleput Dt.
Wet - 3rd Group.
Dry 3rd Do.

Abstract as per Mr. Puckle's revision

| Dist. | Wet or D. | occupied or unoccupied | Soil |  | Rate per acre |  | As per Revenue account |  |  | As per New Settlement |  |  | Difference |  |  | Percentage |  |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
|  |  |  | C | S | Rs | As | Extent | Assessment |  | Extent | Assessment |  | Extent | Assessment |  | Extent | Assessment |
|  | Wet. | Occupied. | 3 | 1 | 5 | " | 77 | 410 | 4 | 91 | 455 | " |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | 3 | 2 | 4 | " | 93 | 469 | 9 | 105 | 420 | " |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | 3 | 3 | 3 | 8 | 20 | 83 | 13 | 26 | 91 | " |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | 3 | 4 | 3 | " | 67 | 287 | 9 | 81 | 243 | " |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | 3 | 5 | 2 | 8 | 51 | 163 | 9 | 59 | 147 | 8 |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 308 | 1414 | 12 | 362 | 1356 | 8 | +54 | -58 | 4 | +17 | -4 |
|  | Dry. |  | 3 | 5 | " | 6 | 2 | 3 | 6 | 2 | " | 12 | " | -2 | 10 | " | -78 |
|  |  |  | Total |  |  |  | 310 | 1418 | 2 | 364 | 1357 | 4 | +54 | -60 | 14 | +17 | -4 |

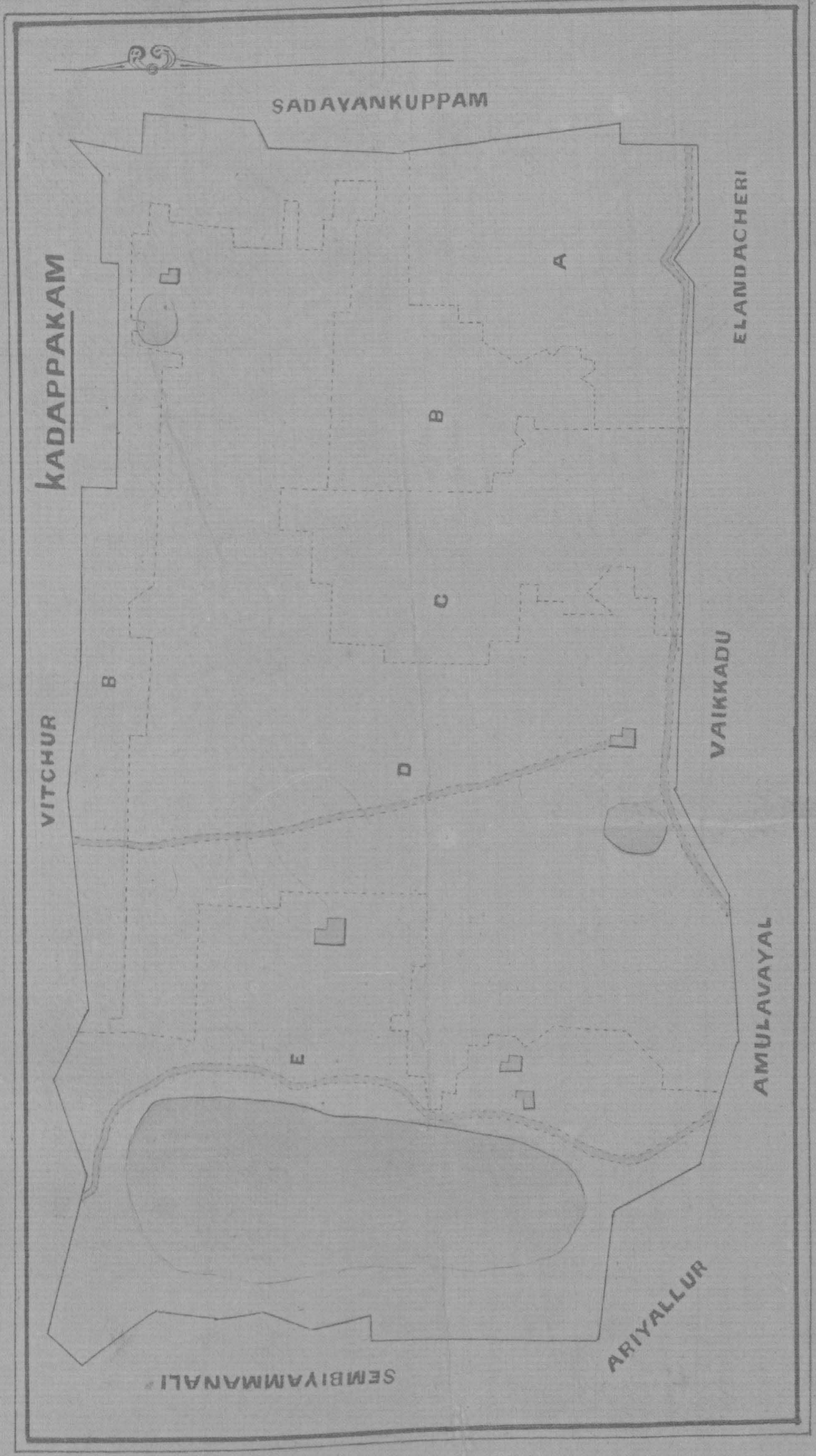

விச்சூர்
Vitchur
கடப்பா
kadappakam
யிசன்குளம்
Isenkullam
டு
3-2
சடையான்குப்பம்
Sadayankuppam
பரச்சேரி
Parachri
கடப்பாக்கம்
Kadappakam
சி
3-3
பி
3-4
இ
3-1
ஆண்டகுப்பம்
Andakuppam
எ
3-5
வைக்காடு
Vaikkadu
அமுலவாயல்
Amullavayal

Kadapákam - Sydapet - Talug Chingleput - Dt.
Wet - 3rd Group.
Dry 3rd - Do -

A°

Final abstract.

| Wet or Dr | ccupi unoc | Soil |  | Rate per acre |  | As per Revenue account |  |  |  | As per New Settlement |  |  |  | Difference |  |  |  | Per Centage |  |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
|  |  | C | S | Rs | As | Extent |  | Assesst |  | Extent |  | Assesst |  | Extent |  | Assesst |  | Extent | Assesst |
| Wet | Occupied | 3 | 1 | 5 | " | 41 | 44 | 242 | 12 | 47 | 5 | 235 | 1 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 3 | 2 | 4 | " | 144 | 2 | 689 | 6 | 164 | 92 | 660 | 1 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 3 | 3 | 3 | 8 | 22 | 66 | 96 | 15 | 28 | 27 | 99 | " |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 3 | 4 | 3 | " | 48 | " | 203 | 8 | 55 | 68 | 167 | 4 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 3 | 5 | 2 | 8 | 44 | 88 | 147 | 11 | 50 | 14 | 125 | 5 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | 301 | " | 1380 | 4 | 346 | 6 | 1286 | 11 | ×45 | 6 | −93 | 9 | ×15 | −7 |
| Manávary Dry |  | 3 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 30 | 3 | 11 | 1 | 33 | 1 | 11 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | 2 | 7 | 6 | 3 | 2 | 62 | 3 | 5 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | 3 | 37 | 9 | 14 | 3 | 95 | 5 | " | × " | 58 | −4 | 14 | × 17 | −50 |
| Total | − |  |  |  |  | 304 | 37 | 1390 | 2 | 350 | 1 | 1291 | 11 | ×45 | 64 | −98 | 7 | +15 | 7 |



Trial Sketch.

C.

# Table of money rates for the Chingleput Dt. - Principalities

## Wet

| Classification: Class and sort | | 2d Group: Tarum | Rs. | A. | 3d Group: Tarum | Rs. | A. | 4th Group: Tarum | Rs. | A. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 4 | 1 | 1 | 7 | 8 | 2 | 6 | 4 | 3 | 5 | - |
| 3<br>4<br>7 | 1<br>2<br>1 | 2 | 6 | 4 | 3 | 5 | - | 4 | 4 | - |
| 3<br>4<br>5<br>6<br>7<br>8<br>12 | 2<br>3<br>1<br>1<br>2<br>1<br>1 | 3 | 5 | - | 4 | 4 | - | 5 | 3 | 8 |
| 3<br>4<br>5<br>6<br>7<br>8<br>12<br>13 | 3<br>4<br>2<br>2<br>3<br>2<br>2<br>1 | 4 | 4 | - | 5 | 3 | 8 | 6 | 3 | - |
| 3<br>4<br>5<br>6<br>7<br>8<br>12<br>13 | 4<br>5<br>3<br>3<br>4<br>3<br>2<br>1 | 5 | 3 | 8 | 6 | 3 | - | 7 | 2 | 8 |
| 3<br>5<br>6<br>7<br>8<br>12<br>13 | 5<br>4<br>4<br>5<br>4<br>3<br>2 | 6 | 3 | - | 7 | 2 | 8 | 8 | 2 | - |
| [illegible] | 5<br>5<br>3<br>3 | 7 | 2 | 8 | 8 | 2 | - | 8 | 2 | - |

## Dry

| Classification: Class and sort | | 1st Group: Tarum | Rs. | A. | 2d Group: Tarum | Rs. | A. | 3d Group: Tarum | Rs. | A. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2 | 1 | 1 | 4 | - | 2 | 3 | - | 3 | 2 | 8 |
| 2<br>4 | 2<br>1 | 2 | 3 | - | 3 | 2 | 8 | 4 | 2 | - |
| 3<br>4<br>7 | 1<br>2<br>1 | 3 | 2 | 8 | 4 | 2 | - | 5 | 1 | 8 |
| 3<br>4<br>5<br>6<br>7<br>8<br>12 | 2<br>3<br>1<br>1<br>2<br>1<br>1 | 4 | 2 | - | 5 | 1 | 8 | 6 | 1 | 4 |
| 3<br>4<br>5<br>6<br>7<br>8<br>12<br>13 | 3<br>4<br>2<br>2<br>3<br>2<br>2<br>1 | 5 | 1 | 8 | 6 | 1 | 4 | 7 | - | 12 |
| 3<br>4<br>5<br>6<br>7<br>8<br>13<br>14 | 4<br>5<br>3<br>3<br>4<br>3<br>2<br>1 | 6 | 1 | 4 | 7 | - | 12 | 8 | - | 8 |
| 3<br>5<br>6<br>7<br>8<br>12<br>13<br>14 | 5<br>4<br>4<br>5<br>4<br>3<br>3<br>2 | 7 | - | 12 | 8 | - | 8 | 9 | - | 6 |
| 5<br>6<br>8<br>14 | 5<br>5<br>5<br>3 | 8 | - | 8 | 9 | - | 6 | 10 | - | 4 |

No. 1

Group {Dry / wet} 3 Numberwar list of

| Block | Survey No. | Dry or wet | As per Jamabandi<br>Extent | <br>Assessment | As per settlement<br>Extent | <br>Assessment | Description of soil<br>Class | <br>Sort | Remarks |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| A | 228 | Do | 1.28 | 4.1.10 | 1.25 | 3.2 | 3 | 5 | |
| | 229 | | 1.38 | 4.7.3 | 1.57 | 3.15 | | | |
| | 232 | | 1.24 | 3.15.9 | 1.36 | 3.6 | | | |
| | 233 | | 2.7 | 6.10.3 | 2.47 | 6.3 | | | |
| | 234 | | 1.6 | 3.6.9 | 1.21 | 3.." | | | |
| | 236 | | 1.91 | 6.2.3 | 2.17 | 5.7 | | | |
| | 237B | | 1.38 | 4.7.2 | 1.32 | 3.5 | | | |
| | 238A | | 4.89 | 15.12.10 | 5.2 | 12.9 | | | |
| | 239A | | ..63 | 2..4 | ..52 | 1.5 | | | |
| | 241 | | 2.53 | 8..2 | 3.21 | 8.." | | | |
| | 244 | | 3.31 | 10.15.3 | 4.20 | 10.8 | | | |
| | 243 | | ..84 | 2.11.7 | 1.33 | 3.5 | | | |
| | 245 | | ..25 | ..11.2 | ..26 | ..10 | | | |
| | 246A | | 1.65 | 5.5.1 | 1.76 | 4.6 | | | |
| | | | ..9 | ..6.4 | ..12 | ..5 | | | |
| | 247 | | Do | Do | Do | | | | |
| | | | 44.80 | 147.10.7 | 50.6 | 125.1. | | | |

## No 2

## Statement showing the Samoodayam division in the Village of ——

| Name of the Puttahdar | As per Samoodayam |  |  |  |  |  | According to present division |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Signature of the shareholder |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
|  | As per survey |  | Extent | Assessment |  |  | Name to which transferred | As per survey |  |  | Extent | Assessment |  |  |  |
|  | Number | Letters |  |  |  |  |  | Number | Direction | Letters |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1 | 2 |  | 3 | 4 |  |  | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |  |  | 11 |
| 17 Samoodayam | 321 |  | " 30 | 1 | 8 | 5 | 2 Subbaraya Mudali | 321 |  |  | " 20 | 1 | " | 4 | Sd/ Appasami Mudali |
| Marimuthammal |  | 322 | " 30 | 1 | 10 | 3 | do |  |  |  | do | do |  |  |  |
| Appasami do | 324 |  | " 21 | 1 | 2 | 9 do |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Total wet |  | " 81 | 4 | 5 | 5 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Signed / Kurnam ——

## No 3

Statement giving the particulars of manavari lands in the Village of—

|  |  | As per survey |  | As per jamabandy |  |  |  |  |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
|  |  |  |  |  | Assessment |  |  |  |
| Items | Cultivated or waste | Number | Letter | Extent | ain assessment | Remission on account of manavari | Remainder | Remarks |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| Manavari Poonjah |  |  | None |  |  |  |  |  |

Signed / Kurnum——

## No 4.

## Statement giving the particulars of allotments for grazing grounds

| As per Survey | | Extent | | Asst | | Occupied or Waste | Signature of the Puttadars | Remarks |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Number | Letter | | | | | | | |
| 1 | | 2 | | 3 | | 4 | 5 | 6. |
| 38 | | 1 | 86 | 2 | 3 .. | Waste | | The Villagers have applied for these numbers for grazing land & the Puttahdars who resigned the land have affixed their signatures hereunto. |
| & | | | | | | | Sd/ Appasami Mudali | |
| 296 | | 1 | 38 | 1 | 3 3 | Occupied | | |

Sd/ Ramanan

## No. 5.

Kyfeat filed by the Villagers of
as to the nature and extent of Kudimaramut
to be performed by them.

We hereby agree to perform the customary repairs to the Chembrambaukum Tank forming the source of Irrigation for this Village, its sluice and Main Channel, which we have hitherto done unto them. (Signed) Appasawmi
&c.

Further explanation on this point can separately be given. (Signed) R. H. Peakle
Colr.

## No 6.

Statement showing the allotments for roads & nattams in the Village of

| Survey number & Letter | Extent | Assessment | Occupied or Waste | Signatures of the Pattadars | Remarks |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 288 | 4 91 | 5 2.2 | Waste | | The Villagers request that No 228 & 28B may be set aside as Poramboke for a road & threshing floor respectively |
| 28B | " 8 | " 11.2 | occupied | Sd/ Appasami Mudali | |

(Signed) Kernan

No 7

tement showing the division of Joint puttahs in the Village of

| o and name of Pattahdars | As per Jamabundy | | | | According to present division | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Survey | | Extent | Assessment | Nos and Names to which transferred | Survey Number | Bearing Letter | Extent | Assessment | |
| | Number | Letter | | | | | | | | |
| 19. Appara ni Mudaly 1 | 294 | " | 1 67 | 1 6 9 | 1 Irani muttamal | 210 | B | .58 | .121 | (Signed) Thirunada Pillai |
| | 305 | A | 1 38 | 3 5 5 | | | | | | |
| thiruappa Mudaly 2 | " | do. | " do. | " do. | 2 K. Sub. Narrya Mud. | 294 | D | .42 | .68 | |
| do. Total | | | 8 10 | 10 3 8 | | | | | | |

(Signed) Karnam ——

Statement sh[illegible] [illegible]uttahs transferred at [illegible]e request of the par[illegible] in the Vi[illegible] of

| | | | As per Jammabundy | | | Now transferred | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Survey Number | Letter | Dry or Wet | Extent | Assessment | Name of the Pattahdar | Survey Number | Letter | Dry or Wet | Extent | Assessment | Name of the Pattahdar | Reasons for transfer | Signatures of both parties. (the transferrer & the transferee) | Signatures of the Village officers |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 283 | A | wet | - 65 | 3 12 7 | 2. K. Subbaraya Mudaly | 283 | A | wet | - 65 | 3 12 7 | 8. Apparasami Mudaly | Sale | (Signed) K. Subbaraya Mudaly<br>(Signed) Apparasami Mudaly | |
| 287 | . | | . 72 | 3 - 4 | | 287 | | | . 72 | 3 - 4 | | | | |
| 118 | A | | - 44 | 1 9 4 | | 118 | A | | - 44 | 1 9 4 | | | | |

(Signed) Harnam

No 4

# Correction list of Kadapakam village, Saidapet Talug, Chinglepet District

| Survey No and Letter | Extent | Particulars | Final Orders |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 160 A | 1 30 | These numbers being a high ground, order is requested for their transfer to dry | Enter as dry |
| 327 A | . 85 | | |
| 327 B | 1 77 | Do | Do |
| 58 A. | 3 65 | Transfer of pattah from Vengudmudaly's name to the Venkata Reddi is requested | Transfer accordingly. |
| 265 A | 3 30 | Order is requested for deducting these numbers on account of a road | Survey plan shews path in No 265 and must be deducted but not in No 318 |
| B | . 33 | | |
| 318 A | 1 53 | | |
| B | . 33 | | |
| 96 | . 75 | Transfer of pattah from Tulukanam's name to the Marappa Naiken is requested | Transfer accordingly. |
| 11 | . 23 | | |
| 50 A | . 69 | As this number was sold to Nynappa Naiken, order is requested for entering his name in the pattah as requested by Sinnatambi Naiken, the pattadar | Enter as Nynappa Naiken |
| 269 | . 67 | Do | Do. |
| 281 | . 22 | | |
| 282 | 1 . 1 | | |

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 275<br>279 | 11<br>A | "<br>" | 59<br>28 | According to family division these No.s having fallen to Mottiya Naiken's share; Transfer of pattah into his name is requested. | |
| 102<br>276<br>219<br>278 | <br>A<br><br> | <br>1<br>3<br>" | 36<br>1<br>26<br>53 | As the pattadar Katalia Naiken is dead transfer of pattah on his sons Virasami Naiken and Tiagaraja Naiken is requested respectively as noted in the margin | Transfer accordingly. |
| 177<br>226<br>286<br>315 | <br>A<br>A<br>B | "<br>1<br>1<br>" | 40<br>88<br>18<br>15 | | |
| 71 | A | 1 | 29 | The land having been sold to Ponnappa Mudali it is requested that the pattah may be transferred to his name. | Transfer |
| 27<br>30<br>205 | A<br><br>B | "<br>"<br>1 | 89<br>93<br>2 | These No.s having been relinquished order to strike them off the pattah is solicited | Strike off |
| 86<br>190 | B<br>A | <br> | 4<br>83 | Do. | Do |
| 178 | B | | 82 | This number having been sold out right to Letchmana Mudali transfer of pattah into his name is requested. | Approved |
| 294<br>315 | A<br>A | | 39<br>15 | Pattadar Mari requests that the No.s noted in the margin may be respectively transferred to his brother Sinna Latchmanan, Sinna appa Naiken and himself. | Do. |
| 302<br>306 | A<br> | | 12<br>77 | | |
| 303 | | | 83 | | |
| 61 | | 1 | 67 | Pattadar Para Kadatlian having given this No. as a gift to Para Viraragavan, order is requested to transfer the pattah to the latter. | Do. |
| 28 | A | 1 | 7 | Land having been sold by Pattadar Letchmana Naiken to Eda Muniappillai, transfer of pattah to the latter is requested. | Do. |

raw Kalanani as per settlement No 10 for the Village of in the Taluq District
சங்கல்பட்டுஜில்லா தாலுகா கிராமத்தின் செட்டில்மெண்டு தரவாரி கதாவணி.

| Survey No. சர்வே நெம்பர் | Letter லெட்டர் | Irrigated நஞ்சை. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | As per jamabandy ஜமாபந்தி படிக்கு. | | | | | | | | | | | As per settlement செட்டில்மெண்டு படிக்கு. | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | Extent விஸ்தீரணம். | | Assessment தீர்வை. | | | | | | | | | Extent விஸ்தீரணம். | | Assessment தீர்வை. | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | 1st crop முதல் போகம். | | | 2nd crop 2-ம் போகம். | | | Total ஆக. | | | | | 1st crop முதல் போகம். | | | | | | 2nd crop 2-ம் போகம். | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Ain சர்க்கார். | | Swatantram சுதந்திரம். | | Total ஆக. | | Ain சர்க்கார். | | Swatantram சுதந்திரம். | | Total ஆக. | |
| | | acres ஏ. | C செ. | Rs ரூ. | A அ. | P பை | Rs ரூ. | A அ. | P பை | Rs ரூ. | A அ. | P பை | Acres ஏ. | C செ. | Rs ரூ. | A அ. | Rs ரூ. | A அ. | Rs ரூ. | A அ. | Rs ரூ. | A அ. | Rs ரூ. | A அ. | Rs ரூ. | A அ. |
| | | | | | | | Block A 3-5 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 228 | " | 1 | 28 | 4 | 1 | 10 | | | | 4 | 1 | 10 | 1 | 25 | 3 | 2 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 229 | " | 1 | 38 | 4 | 7 | 3 | | | | 4 | 7 | 3 | 1 | 57 | 3 | 15 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 32 | " | 1 | 24 | 3 | 15 | 9 | | | | 3 | 15 | 9 | 1 | 36 | 3 | 6 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 33 | " | 2 | 7 | 6 | 10 | 3 | | | | 6 | 10 | 3 | 2 | 47 | 6 | 3 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 234 | " | 1 | 6 | 3 | 6 | 9 | | | | 3 | 6 | 9 | 1 | 21 | 3 | " | | | | | | | | | | |
| 236 | | 1 | 91 | 6 | 2 | 3 | | | | 6 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 17 | 5 | 7 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 237 | B | 1 | 38 | 4 | 7 | 2 | | | | 4 | 7 | 2 | 1 | 32 | 3 | 5 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 238 | A | 4 | 89 | 15 | 12 | 10 | | | | 15 | 12 | 10 | 5 | 2 | 12 | 9 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 239 | A | " | 63 | 2 | " | 4 | | | | 2 | - | 4 | " | 52 | 1 | 5 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 241 | " | 2 | 53 | 8 | 2 | 2 | | | | 8 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 21 | 8 | " | | | | | | | | | | |
| 244 | | 3 | 31 | 10 | 15 | 3 | | | | 10 | 15 | 3 | 4 | 20 | 10 | 8 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 243 | | " | 84 | 2 | 11 | 7 | | | | 2 | 11 | 7 | 1 | 33 | 3 | 5 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 245 | | " | 25 | " | 11 | 2 | | | | " | 11 | 2 | " | 26 | " | 10 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 246 | A | 1 | 65 | 5 | 5 | 1 | | | | 5 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 76 | 4 | 6 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 247 | | " | 9 | " | 6 | 4 | | | | " | 6 | 4 | " | 12 | " | 5 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 248 | A | 1 | 11 | 3 | 9 | 4 | | | | 3 | 9 | 4 | 1 | 41 | 3 | 8 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 253 | A | 1 | 18 | 3 | 12 | " | | | | 3 | 12 | " | 2 | 5 | 5 | 2 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 259 | | 3 | 45 | 11 | 2 | " | | | | 11 | 2 | " | 4 | 2 | 10 | 1 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 260 | | 2 | 43 | 7 | 14 | 2 | | | | 7 | 14 | 2 | 2 | 57 | 6 | 4 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 261 | | 1 | 82 | 5 | 15 | 6 | | | | 5 | 15 | 6 | 2 | 18 | 5 | 7 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 262 | | 1 | 36 | 4 | 5 | 7 | | | | 4 | 5 | 7 | 1 | 56 | 3 | 14 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 263 | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 7 | | | | 3 | 4 | 7 | 1 | " | 2 | 8 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 265 | | 4 | 26 | 13 | " | 8 | | | | 13 | " | 8 | 3 | 30 | 8 | 4 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 267 | | 2 | 73 | 12 | 6 | 5 | | | | 12 | 6 | 5 | 3 | 15 | 7 | 14 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 68 | | " | 41 | 1 | 5 | 3 | | | | 1 | 5 | 3 | " | 44 | 1 | 2 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 269 | | " | 52 | 1 | 11 | 1 | | | | 1 | 11 | 1 | " | 67 | 1 | 11 | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | 44 | 80 | 147 | 10 | 7 | | | | 147 | 10 | 7 | 50 | 6 | 126 | 1 | | | | | | | | | | |

| பட்டா நம்பர். | சர்வே நெம்பர். | டெட்டா. | நஞ்சை. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | ஜமாபந்தி படிக்கு. | | | | | | | | | | | செட்டில்மெண்டு படிக்கு. | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | விஸ்தீரணம். | | தீர்வை. | | | | | | | | | விஸ்தீரணம். | | தீர்வை. | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | முதல் போகம். | | | 2-ம் போகம். | | | ஆக. | | | | | முதல் போகம். | | | | | | 2-ம் போகம். | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | சர்க்கார். | | சுதந்திரம். | | ஆக. | | சர்க்கார். | | சுதந்திரம். | | ஆக. |
| | | | ஏ. | செ. | ரூ. | அ. | பை. | ரூ. | அ. | பை. | ரூ. | அ. | பை. | ஏ. | செ. | ரூ. | அ. | ரூ. | அ. | ரூ. | அ. | ரூ. | அ. | ரூ. | அ. | ரூ. | அ. |

rawar-Tatsivani as per Settlement for the village of in the Taluq District
செங்கல்பட்டுஜில்லா தாலுகா கிராமத்தின் செட்டில்மெண்டு தரவாரி கதாவணி.

| | | | Dry புஞ்சை. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | புஞ்சை. | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | As per Jama bandy ஜமாபந்திபடிக்கு. | | | | | As per Settlement செட்டில்மெண்டுபடிக்கு. | | | | | | | | | | | ஜமாபந்திபடிக்கு. | | | | | செட்டில்மெண்டுபடிக்கு. | | | | | | | |
| பட்டா நெம்பர். | சர்வே நெம்பர். Survey No. | லெட்டர். Letter | விஸ்தீரணம். Extent | | தீர்வை. | | Assessment | விஸ்தீரணம். Extent | | தீர்வை, Assessment | | | | | | பட்டா நெம்பர். | சர்வே நெம்பர். | லெட்டர். | விஸ்தீரணம். | | தீர்வை. | | | விஸ்தீரணம். | | தீர்வை. | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | சர்க்கார் | | சுத்த இனாம். | | ஆக. Total | | | | | | | | | | | | சர்க்கார் | | சுத்த இனாம் | | ஆக. | |
| | | | ஏ. | செ. | ரூ. | அ. | பை. | ஏ. | செ. | ரூ. | அ. | ரூ. | அ. | ரூ. | அ. | | | | ஏ. | செ. | ரூ. | அ. | பை. | ஏ. | செ. | ரூ. | அ. | ரூ. | அ. | ரூ. | அ. |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Black I. 3-2 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 14 | 299 | B | - | 8 | - | 2 | 8 | - | 11 | - | 2 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 28 | | C | - | 10 | - | 3 | 3 | - | 13 | - | 3 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 7 | | E | - | 10 | - | 3 | 3 | - | 13 | - | 3 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 12 | | F | - | 6 | - | 2 | - | - | 8 | - | 2 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 15 | | G | - | 10 | - | 3 | 3 | - | 13 | - | 2 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | - | 44 | - | 14 | 5 | - | 58 | - | 12 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Black E. 3-1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 5 | 140 | B | - | 8 | - | 2 | 8 | - | [illegible] | - | 2 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 6 | | C | - | 14 | - | 4 | 8 | - | 15 | - | 4 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 7 | | D | - | 10 | - | 3 | 3 | - | 11 | - | 3 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 24 | | E | - | 9 | - | 3 | 3 | - | 11 | - | 3 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 70 | | F | - | 17 | - | 5 | 7 | - | [illegible] | - | 4 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 46 | | G | - | 64 | 1 | 4 | 6 | - | 66 | 1 | - | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | 1 | 23 | 2 | 7 | 11 | 1 | 30 | 1 | 15 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | 1 | 67 | 3 | 6 | 4 | 1 | 68 | 2 | 0 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

செங்கல்பட்டுஜில்லா தாலூகா கிராமத்தின் செட்டில்மெண்டு தரவாரி கதாவணி.

| டாநெம்பர், | ர்வேநெம்பர், | லெட்டர். | புஞ்சை, | | | | | | | | | | | | | பட்டாநெம்பர். | சர்வேநெம்பர். | லெட்டர். | புஞ்சை. | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | ஜமாபந்திபடிக்கு | | | | | செட்டில்மெண்டுபடிக்கு. | | | | | | | | | | | ஜமாபந்திபடிக்கு. | | | | | செட்டில்மெண்டுபடிக்கு. | | | | | | | |
| | | | விஸ்திரணம். | | தீர்வை. | | | விஸ்திரணம். | | தீர்வை. | | | | | | | | | விஸ்திரணம். | | தீர்வை. | | | விஸ்திரணம். | | தீர்வை. | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | சர்க்கார் | | சுதந்திரம். | | ஆக. | | | | | | | | | | | | சர்க்கார் | | சுதந்திரம். | | ஆக. | |
| | | | ஏ. | ஸெ. | ரு. | அ. | பை. | ஏ. | ஸெ. | ரு. | அ. | ரு. | அ. | ரு. | அ. | | | | ஏ. | ஸெ. | ரு. | அ. | பை. | ஏ. | ஸெ. | ரு. | அ. | ரு. | அ. | ரு. | அ. |

# Translation of Tamil

## Notice

## Kadapakam

This village is classed in the 3" group for Nanjai and punjai, the rates of assessment approximately fixed are

| | | | Rs | As | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Nanjai | III | Taram | 5 | " | per acre |
| | IV | " | 4 | " | |
| | V | " | 3 | 8 | |
| | VI | " | 3 | " | |
| | VII | | 2 | 8 | |
| Punjai | V | | 1 | 8 | |
| | VI | | 1 | 4 | |
| Manavari | | " | " | " | |

The VII Taram Nanjai is applied to Nos 228 to 230. 232 to 270 comprized within block A skirting blocks A and D of Sadayankuppam.

The VI Taram Nanjai is applied to Nos 1 to 4. 12. 14 to 17 36 to 40. 65 to 67. 71. 72. 76 to 78. 107 to 110. 211 to 214 216 to 227. 231. 271 to 275 situated in block B to the north of blocks A and

The V" Taram Nanjai is applied to Nos 192 to 197. 205. 215. 276 to 281. 287. 288 in block C lying west of blocks A and B

The 4" Taram Nanjai and 6" Taram punjai is applied to Nos 5 to 11. 13. 18 to 35. 41 to 64. 68 to 70. 73 to 75. 79 to 98. 103 to 106. 111 to 115. 118 to 121. 189 to 191. 159

to 176. 198 to 204. 206 to 210. 282 to 286. 289 to 326 situated in block D lying north and west of C. The 3rd Taram nanjai and 5th Taram dry is applied to Nos 99 to 102. 116. 117. 122 to 158. 177 to 188. 327 to 329 situated in block E lying west of block D

If the ryots wish to compound for 2nd crop, they can compound for the entire 3rd Taram block at Rs -1-4- per acre in addition to the single crop assessment, but they will not be allowed to compound for only a portion of this blocks. The Inamdars in the 3rd Taram block can compound at the same rates as the ayan ryots. [The Samudayam lands have been divided among shareholders, & have been entered in individual puttahs with the consent of the parties concerned].

No. 327 E has been set aside as Nuttam; Nos. 1 B. 78. 9. 35. 41. 43. 44. 238. 239. 240. & 257 comprizing acres 2.83 for roads; Nos. 327 D. 53 & 20 as pasturage, and registered as poramboke. These lands will not be granted on durkhast hereafter.

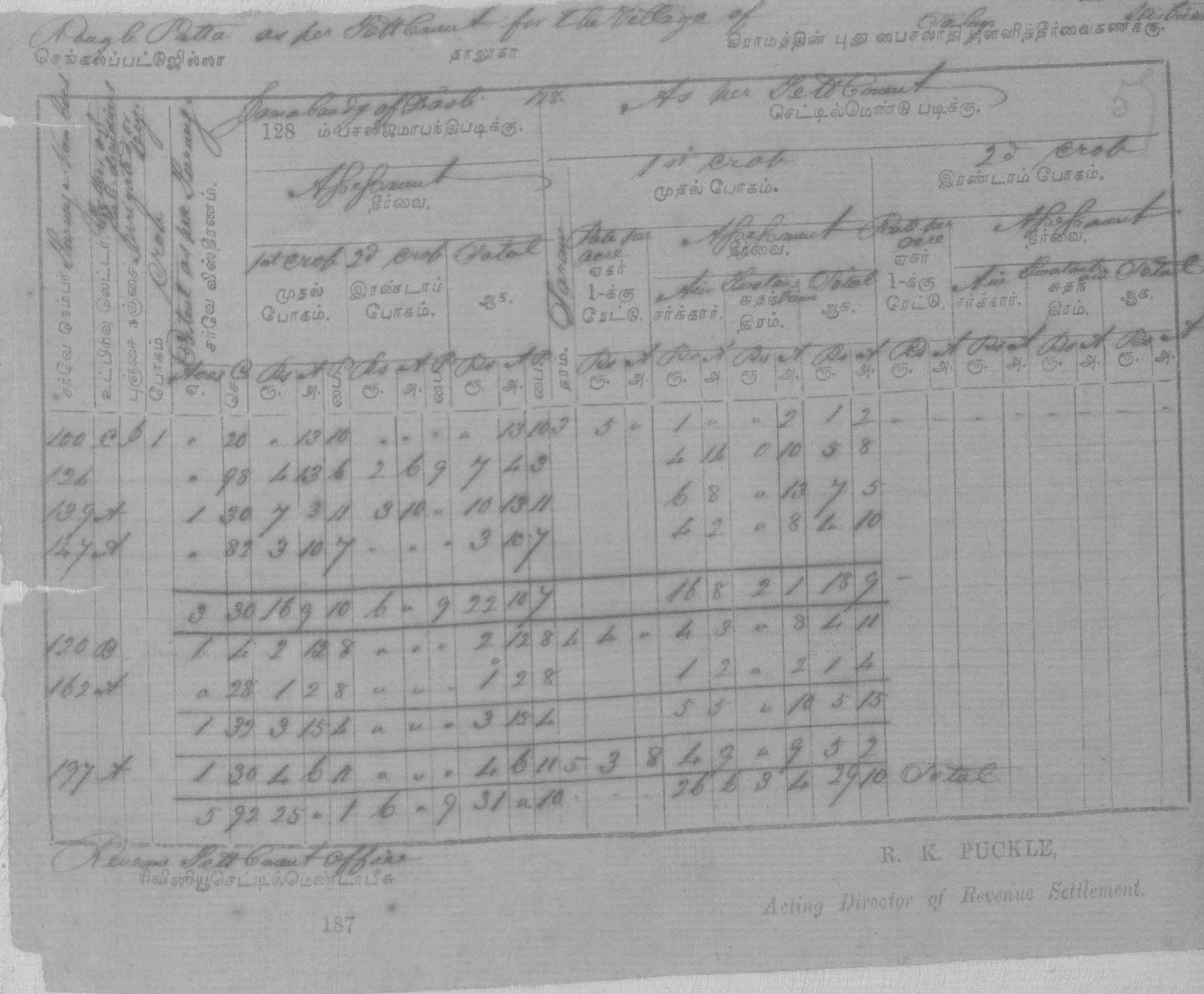
Ryots desirous of resigning land or transferring puttahs should make immediate application as the accounts of this village will soon be closed.

When the accounts are closed rough puttahs showing the present & future assessments of

of each field will be issued and a day will be named for hearing all complaints on these puttahs. The village officers and ryots must attend on the day named with their puttahs as no complaints will be received afterwards, and when the puttahs have been corrected, the chitta and register will be written and this village will then be settled.

Date (named) 15th (enter) April

Sd/ R. N. C.



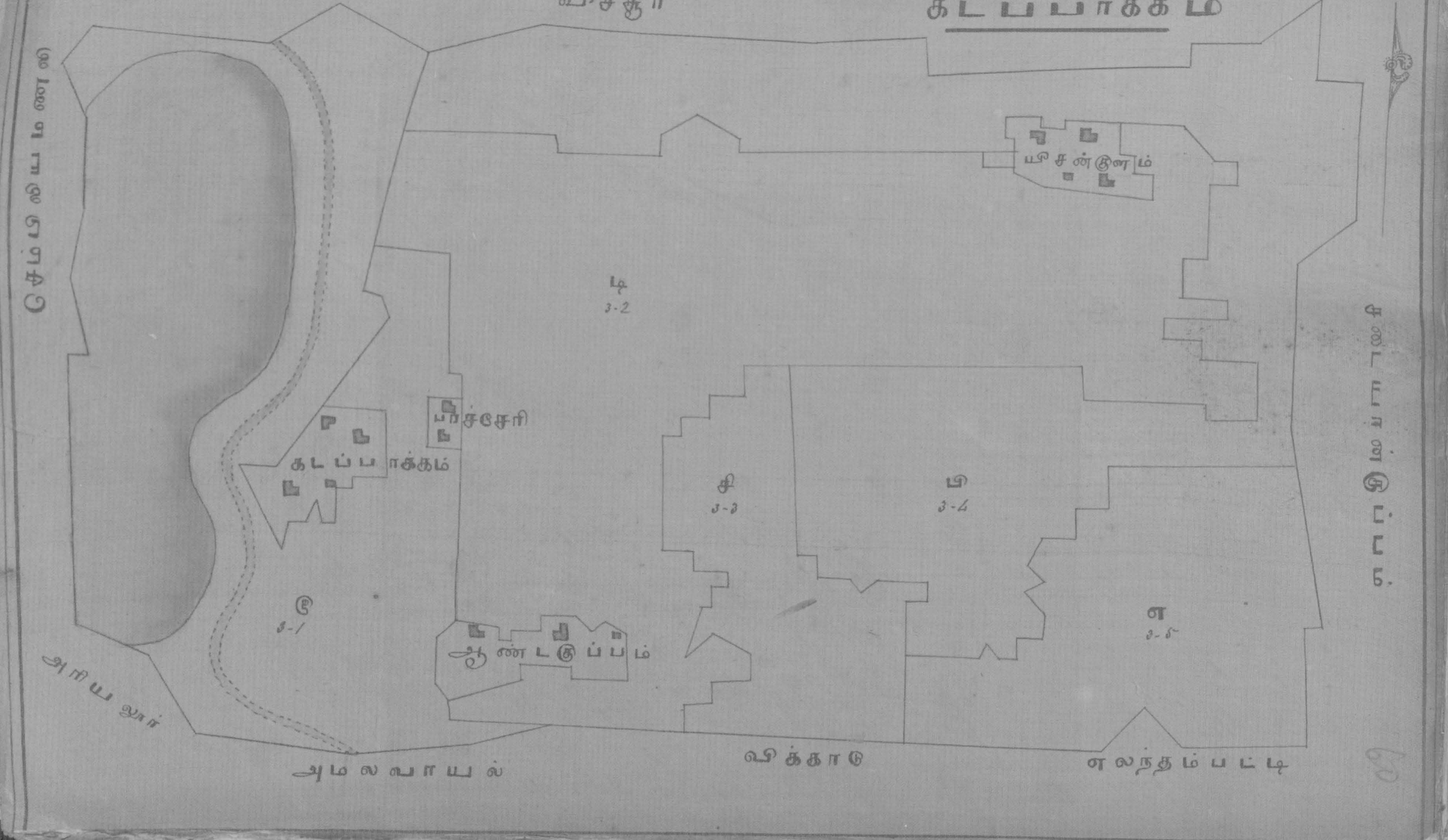
Adangal Patta as per Settlement for the Village of ... in the ... District
கிராமத்தின் புது பைசலாதி தீர்வைகணக்கு
செங்கல்பட்டுஜில்லா தாலுகா

| சர்வே செம்பர் | உட்பிரிவு லெட்டர் | புஞ்சை நஞ்சை | போகம் Crop | சர்வே விஸ்தீரணம் Extent as per Survey | | Jamabandy of Fasli 128 ம் பசலிஜமாபந்திபடிக்கு Assessment தீர்வை 1st Crop முதல் போகம் | | | 2d Crop இரண்டாம் போகம் | | | Total ஆக. | | | Taram தரம். | As per Settlement செட்டில்மெண்டு படிக்கு 1st Crop முதல் போகம் Rate per acre ஏகர் 1-க்கு ரேட்டு | | Assessment தீர்வை Sircar சர்க்கார் | | Swastyam சுதந்திரம் | | Total ஆக. | | 2d Crop இரண்டாம் போகம் Rate per acre ஏகர் 1-க்கு ரேட்டு | | Assessment தீர்வை Sircar சர்க்கார் | | Swastyam சுதந்திரம் | | Total ஆக. | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | Acres ஏ. | C. செ. | Rs. ரூ. | A. அ. | P. பை. | Rs. ரூ. | A. அ. | P. பை. | Rs. ரூ. | A. அ. | P. பை. | | Rs. ரூ. | A. அ. | Rs. ரூ. | A. அ. | Rs. ரூ. | A. அ. | Rs. ரூ. | A. அ. | Rs. ரூ. | A. அ. | Rs. ரூ. | A. அ. | Rs. ரூ. | A. அ. | Rs. ரூ. | A. அ. |
| 100 | C | b | 1 | · | 20 | · | 13 | 10 | · | · | · | · | 13 | 10 | 3 | 3 | · | 1 | · | · | 2 | 1 | 2 | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – |
| 126 | | | | · | 98 | 4 | 13 | 4 | 2 | 6 | 9 | 7 | 4 | 3 | | | | 4 | 11 | 0 | 10 | 5 | 8 | | | | | | | | |
| 129 | A | | | 1 | 30 | 7 | 3 | 11 | 3 | 10 | · | 10 | 13 | 11 | | | | 6 | 8 | · | 13 | 7 | 5 | | | | | | | | |
| 147 | A | | | · | 37 | 3 | 10 | 7 | · | · | · | 3 | 10 | 7 | | | | 4 | 2 | · | 8 | 4 | 10 | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | 3 | 30 | 16 | 9 | 10 | 6 | · | 9 | 22 | 10 | 7 | | | | 16 | 8 | 2 | 1 | 18 | 9 | – | | | | | | | |
| 120 | B | | | 1 | 4 | 2 | 12 | 8 | · | · | · | 2 | 12 | 8 | 4 | 4 | · | 4 | 3 | · | 8 | 4 | 11 | | | | | | | | |
| 162 | A | | | · | 28 | 1 | 2 | 8 | · | · | · | 1 | 2 | 8 | | | | 1 | 2 | · | 2 | 1 | 4 | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | 1 | 32 | 3 | 15 | 4 | · | · | · | 3 | 15 | 4 | | | | 5 | 5 | · | 10 | 5 | 15 | | | | | | | | |
| 197 | A | | | 1 | 30 | 4 | 6 | 11 | · | · | · | 4 | 6 | 11 | 5 | 3 | 8 | 4 | 9 | · | 9 | 5 | 2 | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | 5 | 92 | 25 | · | 1 | 6 | · | 9 | 31 | · | 10 | | · | · | 26 | 6 | 3 | 4 | 29 | 10 | Total | | | | | | | |

Revenue Settlement Office
ரிவின்யூசெட்டில்மெண்டாபீசு

R. K. PUCKLE,
Acting Director of Revenue Settlement.

# கடப்பாக்கம்


விச்சூர்
சடையாண்குப்பம்
எலந்தம்பட்டி
விக்காடு
அமலவாயல்
அரியஊர்
செம்மேடு எல்லை
யிசண்குளம்
டி 3-2
கி 3-3
பி 3-4
ள 3-5
ஓ 3-1
பாச்சேரி
கடப்பாக்கம்
ஆண்டகுப்பம்

60

# Diary

## Kadapakam

| | |
|---|---|
| (1) The Dircast lands entered in Merasi puttahs should all be entered as Merasi as they were resigned by the Merasidars formerly and were again taken up by the same persons who resigned them - | 1. As all the Merasidars agree and have given a petition to this effect, the dircast lands in Merasi puttahs may all be registered as Meras |
| 2 Some of the lands included in block E are over assessed in III taram - | 2. Nos. 159 to 176 - 307 to 310 . 317 to 326 may be reduced from III to IV taram & be adde to block D. - |
| 3. Nos 160 & 327 are entered as Nunjah but are really Manavari - | 3. to be transferred to dry - |
| 4. In Nos 265 & 288 the road is not deducted and in the latter No there is also a cattle stand. the needful deduction should be made - | 4. The Survey seem to have omitted allotment of a separate No for road in this spot, as the 2 Nos traversed by the road were marked at Survey; the deduction ~~sh~~ should be made, 97 cents in No 288 & 33 cents in No. 265 - all as road poramboke |
| 5. The tract shown as Khaadam & in the Survey map should be set aside as grazing ground & nattam - | 5 No 327 (a) Nattam (b) Grazing ground. |

Sd/ R. H. P.

Individual Chittah as per Settlement for the Village of in the Taluq District

செங்கல்பட்டு ஜில்லா தாலுகா

கிராமத்தின் செட்டில்மெண்டு பைசலாதி நபர்கதி சிட்டா.

| Survey Number<br>சர்வே நம்பர். | Letters of Sub-division<br>உட்பிரிவு லெட்டர். | Irrigated or Dry<br>நஞ்சை புஞ்சை. | Crop<br>போகம். | Taram<br>தரம். | Extent<br>விஸ்தீரணம். |  | Ain Assessment<br>அயன் தீர்வை. |  | Swatantram<br>சுதந்திரம். |  | Remarks<br>ஷரா. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
|  |  |  |  |  | Acres<br>ஏக்கர். | Cents<br>செ. | Rs<br>ரூ. | A<br>அ. | Rs<br>ரூ. | A<br>அ. |  |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |  | 7 |  | 8 |  | 9 |
|  |  |  | No. | I. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 135 | A | D | 1 | 3 | „ | 40 | 2 | „ | „ | 4 | Kistaiengar |
|  |  |  |  | 2 |  |  |  |  |  |  | Sabapati Mudali |
| 100 | C | D | 1 | 3 | „ | 20 | 1 | „ | „ | 2 |  |
| 122 |  |  |  |  | „ | 98 | 4 | 14 | „ | 10 |  |
| 139 | A |  |  |  | 1 | 30 | 6 | 8 | „ | 13 |  |
| 147 | A |  |  |  | „ | 82 | 4 | 2 | „ | 8 |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | 3 | 30 | 16 | 8 | 2 | 1 |  |
| 120 | B |  |  | 4 | 1 | 4 | 4 | 3 | „ | 8 |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | „ | 28 | 1 | 2 | „ | 2 |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | 1 | 32 | 5 | 5 | „ | 10 |  |
| 197 | A |  |  | 5 | 1 | 30 | 4 | 9 | „ | 9 |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | 5 | 92 | 26 | 6 | 3 | 4 |  |

செங்கல்பட்டு ஜில்லா தாலூகா

கிராமத்தின் செட்டில்மெண்டு பைசலாதி நபர்கதி சிட்டா.

| சர்வே நம்பர். | உட்பிரிவு லெட்டர். | நஞ்சை அல்லது புஞ்சை. | போகம். | தரம். | விஸ்தீரணம் | | அயன் தீர்வை. | | சுதந்திரம். | | ஷரா. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | ஏக்கர். | செ. | ரூ. | அ. | ரூ. | அ. | |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | | 7 | | 8 | | 9 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | |

llement Register for the Village of in the Taluq District

ப்பட்டு ஜில்லா தாலூகா கிராமத்தின் செட்டில்மெண்டு பைசலாதி ரிஜிஸ்டர்:

| ing No இக்கு | Sub Division Letter உட்பிரிவு லெட்டர். | Adangal Number or Name of the field அடங்கல் நம்பர் அல்லது நிலத்தின் பேர். | Govt. or Inam சர்க்கார் அல்லது இனாம். | Irrigated Dry or Poramboke நஞ்சை புஞ்சை அல்லது புறம்போக்கு. | Source of Irrigation பாய்ச்சலின் விவரம் | Crop போகம். | Description of Soil மண்வயணம் | Taram தரம். | Extent விஸ்தீரணம். Acre ஏகர். | Cents செண்டு. | Ain assessment அயன்தீர்வை. Rs ரூபா. | As அ. | Swatantram சுதந்திரத் தீர்வை. Rs ரூபா. | As அ. | Pattadars பட்டாதார் | Name பேர். | Remarks ஷரா: |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
|  | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |  | 11 |  | 12 |  | 13 |  | 14 |
|  | A | 469.474.475 | G | I | Tank | 1 | Black clay | 6 | 2 | 50 | 7 | 8 |  |  | 53 | Kaliyani |  |
|  | B | 469 |  | P |  |  | 3.4 |  | " | 67 |  |  |  |  |  |  | Road. |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 3 | 17 | 7 | 8 |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 435.477.478 | I | I |  |  |  |  | 6 | 69 | 20 | 1 |  |  |  | Varadarajaperumal of Kaladipettai |  |
|  |  | 480.481 | G | P |  |  |  |  | " | 60 |  |  |  |  |  |  | Burial ground |
|  | A | 482.483.484 |  | I |  |  |  |  | 1 | 80 | 5 | 6 | " | 11 |  | " |  |
|  | B | 400.401.433 |  |  |  |  |  |  | 1 | 75 | 5 | 4 | " | 11 |  | " |  |
|  | C | 431.432 |  |  |  |  |  |  | " | 74 | 2 | 4 | " | 5 |  | " |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 4 | 29 | 12 | 14 | 1 | 11 |  |  |  |
|  |  | 393 |  |  |  |  | 3.2 | 4 | " | 99 | 3 | 15 | " | 8 |  | " |  |
|  |  | 392.436 |  |  |  |  |  |  | " | 31 | 1 | 4 | " | 3 |  | " |  |
|  | A | 438 |  | P |  |  |  |  | " | 30 |  |  |  |  |  |  | Road |
|  | B | 438 |  | I |  |  |  |  | " | 63 | 2 | 8 | " | 5 |  | " |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | " | 93 | 2 | 8 | " | 5 |  |  |  |
|  | A | 391 |  | P |  |  |  |  | " | 28 |  |  |  |  |  |  | Road |
|  | B | 391 |  | I |  |  |  |  | " | 26 | " | 1 | " | 2 | 5 | Muragesa Mudali |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | " | 54 | " | 1 | " | 2 |  |  |  |
|  | A | 394 |  | P |  |  |  |  | " | 72 |  |  |  |  |  |  | Road |
|  | B | 390.395 |  | I |  |  |  |  | " | 61 | 2 | 7 | " | 5 |  | " |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 1 | 33 | " | 7 | " | 5 |  |  |  |
|  |  | 390 |  | P |  |  |  |  | " | 15 |  |  |  |  |  |  | Threshing floor |

No. 11.

Statement Showing the Areas merged by demarcation in the Village of by Survey

| | Number | Name of the Village | Whether whole or portion merged. | Area. | | Remarks. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | Acres | Cents | |
| 1 | 1. | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6. |
| | | | Nil | | | |

(Signed) Vennam ——

No 12

Abstract of demarkation marks for the Village of

| Boundary Stones | | Offsets | | Field marks | Remarks |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Village | Khandam | Village | Khandam | | |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 24 | 16 | 83 | 48 | 715 | |

(Signed) Karnam

No. 13

Census account for the village of

| Houses | Bazaars | Population | No. of Puttahs as per settlement | | Wells | | Cattle | Sheep | Remarks |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | Single | Joint | Old | New | | | |
| 28 | 2 | 230 | | | 1 | 3 | 160 | | |

( Signed ) Hurnam

3d Group wet
" " dry

## Kadapakam

Mode in which the Village was laid
out for Settlement -

Commencing from the frontie
of Sadayankuppam block
A. comprizing Nos 228 to 230
232 to 270, a very poor Soil
far from the tank is aſseſ
in Class VII. North of A
block B. skirting the
Village on the East and
North comprizing Nos 1 to 4
12. 14 to 17. 36 to 40. 65 to 67. 71 to 72
76 to 78. 107 to 110. 211 to 214. 216
to 227. 231. 271 to 275 is aſseſsed
in Class VI, West of A.B. block
C, comprizing Nos 192 to 197.
205. 215. 276 to 281. 287 to 288, better
irrigated, is aſseſsed in Class
V. West & North of C, block
D. Comprizing Nos 5 to 11. 13. 18
to 35. 41. to 64. 68 to 70. 73 to 75
79 to 98. 103 to 106. 111 to 115. 118
to 121. 159 to 176. 189 to 191. 198
to 204. 206. to 210. 282 to 286. 289
to 326, and extending from
the Jabankulam nattam

to the Paracherry is aſseſsed in Class IV. West of D, block E. comprizing Nos 99 to 102. 116 to 117. 122. to 158. 177 to 188. 327 to 329. round and about the Ayen nattam is aſseſsed in class III. South of E, block F, a tract of dry lands is set a side as grazing ground.

The dry lands interspersed in the irrigation are aſseſsed in the Class and sort aſsigned to the block in which they are situated. There are no Manavari lands or lands supplied by baling-

No 14

Statement showing the revised aſseſsment for the Village of ——

| Names of the Irrigation Sources | Area | | Aſseſsment | | Remarks |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Acres | Cents | Rupees | Annas | |
| Chembrambankum Tank | 174 | 62 | 672 | 15 | This area is that held on puttah as requested at settlement |

Signed/ Kurnum ——

No. 15.

Statement showing the area of the several crops grown in the village of

| Description of crops grown | Dry or Wet | Extent | Remarks |
|---|---|---|---|
| Paddy. | Dry. | 1 — 55 | |
| Gingelly oil seed | | 4 — 94 | |
| Varagoo | | 2 — 69 | |
| Haramani. | | 1 — 91. | |
| | Total | 11 — 9.. | |
| Paddy | Wet | 135 — 83. | |
| Plantains | | .. — 66 | |
| Beetel | | 8 — 53 | |
| Gingelly oil seed. | | .. — 24 | |
| Varagoo. | | 16 — 10. | |
| | Total. | 161 — 56 | |
| | Grand total | 172 — 65 | |

Sd/ Hurnam

No. 16.

Abstract Statement of Inam holdings for the village of

| Number | Names of Inamdars | Dry or wet | Cultivated single or double crops | Extent | | Quit rent | | | [illegible] past comps. [illegible] for ab Tts. | | Total | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | acres | cents | Rs | As | P | Rs | As | Rs | As | P |
| 1 | Village Mirasidars | W | 1. | 3 | 82 | 6 | .. | .. | | | | | |
| | Narayana Pillaiyar | D. | .. | .. | 75 | .. | 4 | .. | | | | | |
| | Hondalrao | W | 1 | 2 | 1 | 3 | .. | .. | | | | | |

(Sd.) Hurnam

3401-

Revd. 1005/75

G.O. 15th Feby /76 [illegible]

No. 503

Revenue Settlement Office
Madras 9th March 1871

E. No. 3

## Proceedings of the Director of Revenue Settlement

1 The manner in which the classification should be hereafter carried out by this Department requires careful consideration and the present arrangement of allowing different systems in different Districts must not be continued. Thus in Salem and in Chingleput where the classifiers have been taken from the Tinnevelly and Salem parties, the tank system or classification by tracts is in force. Whilst in Nellore and Cuddapah the old system of classification field by field prevails.

2 From the accompanying Extract from the Director's proceedings dated 9th May 1860 No. 1449 it will be seen that this matter long since formed the grounds of discussion, and that the tract

system was then condemned. Subsequently however the Board have sanctioned this system in Tinnevelly and Mr. Master appears to have offered no objection to it for Salem. It is however clear that either the one or the other must be now universally adopted, and the question arises which of the two methods best meets the requirements of Government and the Ryots. The Acting Director requests therefore that the Deputy Director of + will carefully consider the question and report fully which method he would advocate, and his reasons for such advocacy.

+ Salem
Cuddapah &
Nellore
Uncovenanted Assistant, Kistna.

3 In favor of the field classification there is the important fact that as an individual field assessment is the basis of our Revenue System, and as each holding must be consequently separately assessed and registered, it is only just and proper that each

each individual field should be separately classified and thus appropriately taxed on its individual merits. If it is urged that each field is separately examined by the tarf system, the question naturally arises, then why not [illegible] it at once without fitting it into any particular tract? Again, the variations in the soils comprising even a small tract are frequently considerable and thus in numerous instances the classification by tarfs becomes merely a distribution of "classes" in which the "sorts" are altogether practically ignored. Moreover fields with "fullers earth" and salt efflorescence are found in the same tract with lands of good quality, and thus the former have to pay the same as the latter.

4 On the other hand the main advantages of the task system are the facility which it furnishes for inspection and the less chance that it is considered to afford for unfair dealing on the part of the Subordinates. Greater expedition in the outturn of work should also result from this more general method of classification.

5 There are doubtless other points which will strike Mr. —— owing to experience actually gained in the field, and these should also be discussed when furnishing the answer to this communication.

6 Finally the Acting Director would draw attention to the supposed check to fraud by the task system, and would be glad to learn particularly the Deputies' opinions on this point. It is to be noted that under the task

"task system" a classifier wilfully lowering a sort has the very specious answer. "I merely gave the field this "sort" as it appertains to task B which is thus classed."

(Signed) G. Banbury

Acting Director of Rev. Sett.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Director of Revenue Settlement dated 9th May 1860 No. 449

× × ×

13. In the 15th and following paras Mr. H[illegible]ris gives his views of the system of classification as now conducted, and proposes that the classification should be in tracts and not in fields, and that these should be valued entirely by European agency, Native agency being confined to arranging the lands in tracts. He further takes objection to classifiers (as he says) on 15 and 20

20 Rs a month being entrusted with this work and to their being allowed the exercise of any discretion.

14 The classifiers are paid 20 & 24 Rs while the Head Classifiers get Rs 30. They are selected in a measure, or at least it was intended they should be, from the classes of people who have practical agricultural knowledge, such as the Curnams' families and other residents of the District. Europeans have, with a very trifling exception, scarcely any practical knowledge of the agricultural value of land, and what is learnt must in a great measure be derived from the continued observation of agricultural process and results with which the native mind has been long familiarised, though it may be advantageous to introduce along with this practical experience some of the scientific researches of Europe.

16 The Director has already expressed in his Proceedings of ye Instant No. 437 his opinion as to the necessity of further European controlling and supervising agency; but he considers Mr. Morris's plan of having the whole country valued directly by European quite out of the question, on the consideration of the enormous staff it would require and the consequent expense, if it were otherwise practicable or desirable.

16 It seems to have been overlooked that the arrangement of the lands into tracts as proposed by Mr. Morris still leaves the discretion, to which objection is taken, with the native agency; for this fundamental arrangement is in reality the classification, and as much irregularity and injustice may take place in this as in classifying the land in fields. Under the

present system the classifier does not actually value the land, but classes it according to its relative productive powers putting similar fields under the same class. The money value is afterwards assigned to each class after much investigation and consideration of the Settlement officers.

17. Mr. Morris' plan presupposes that the whole country can be laid out in large tracts without variations in them in the qualities of the soil: where this may occasionally be the case, the classifiers at present put down the whole of such tracts in the same class. Where it is not the case, the arrangements of the tracts must be in a great measure arbitrary and attended with irregularities in the fields composing them, probably greater

than

than exist under the present plan. Mr. Morris does not propose that Europeans should enter into the detail of the lands comprising these tracts, so that the classification of the lands would, as at present, rest with the native agency while the money values would, as also at present, be determined by the superior European agency.

18. No plan of classifying and valuing land can be devised, without leaving much to the discretion of the agency, and this being the case the valuation can never be one of Arithmetical certainty whether made by Europeans or Natives. Our object must be to work out to the best of our power the plan that is found to be practicable taking all precautions against irregularity

and abuses.

19 The object of classifying in blocks engaged the Director's attention and was considered with the 2 Deputy Directors in the North when the Director was last there. It underwent a full discussion with His Excellency the Governor on the same occasion at Masulipatam, with the view to its being made the basis of Survey fields or divisions. The result was that it was considered impracticable. The principle that "although the details of classification extend to each field, the wider comparative view of the operations should never be lost sight of" is laid down in para 19 of printed Instructions to Deputy Director. It is most desirable that the land should be thus viewed in a comprehensive way by the classifiers, and that the line of distinction of soils should be drawn according to a collection of several fields, where they lie together of the same quality, an entry of course being also made in the account for each field; but this is a different thing from laying out the whole country in tract for classification and ignoring single fields of different values in the primary arrangement.

x x x

(Signed) H. Newill
Director of Rev. Sett.

(True Copy and Extract)

Acting Director of Rev. Sett.

compd. P.M.

Rev 3/4761/75

No. 1411.

Revenue Settlement Office
Madras.
9th April 1871.

En No. 4

Proceedings of the Director of Rev. Settlement

Read the following Letters

From the Deputy Director of Rev. Settlement, Salem

Offering opinion in regard to classification by blocks as compared with the system of classification by fields — H. E. 13th March /71 No. 36

From Deputy Director of Rev. Settlement, Kurnool & Cuddapah Dists.

Same subject as above — H. E. 18th April /71 No. 922.

From the Deputy Director of Rev. Settlement N. Arcot & S. Arcot Dists

Same subject as above — H. E. 1st June /71. No. 236

From the 1st Uncovenanted Asst., Central Office, in charge of Kistna Settlement Party.

Same subject as above — H. E. 10th June /71. No. 73.

The replies from the Deputies contained in the foregoing Letters are generally unanimous in their unfavourable view taken of the system. In those Districts where it has not been introduced, the Deputy

Directors do not wish to see it adapted, and in Salem where the plan has been in force, Mr Goodrich writes — "I now look upon the Tarwar map as a mere sketch of the classification useful in inspection and am not influenced by consideration of its symmetry to throw lands together which are rightly classed apart." — The Ag Director's own personal experience likewise leads him to favor the original system, as greater celerity, & a greater protection against unfair dealings, the two chief points generally asserted on behalf of the Tarwar method, do not appear in practice to maintain their supposed position — Under these circumstances it is fruitless to reiterate the arguments already placed on record as regards this question, and the Ag Director need only order that the original system of classification field by field upon individual merits be maintained and

reverted

reverted to. Should Mr Goodrich still think proper to continue the Tarwar map for convenience of inspection he is at liberty to do so, but must insist upon each field being dealt with separately and individually without reference to its neighbouring Survey numbers.

2. Capt Stuart should report whether he finds any inconvenience and difficulty from only having for the Cuddapah District two sorts under the classes 7 & 8 of the Red series, and whether it would be advisable to have a third sort as in Bellary and Trichinopoly. It would appear to the Ag. Director that the large tracts of red soil in the Pullampet and Sidhout Talugs, some of which is evidently very productive, would require

more than two sorts for it's correct and suitable classification.

(Signed). G. Barclay
Ag: Director of Rev: Settmt

(True copy)
C. Rundall
Ag: Director of Rev: Settmt

W McIvor

Rev 4/4761/75

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**D.O.** Ev No. 2

Revenue Settlement Office,
Madras, 29. 10. 1875

To,
The Secretary to the
Board of Revenue.

Sir,

By the direction of Government I herewith thus submit certain remarks on the proposed changes to settlement procedure, and to the system of classification hitherto pursued, as advocated by Mr Puckle in his report No $\frac{1099ct}{31ct}$ of 9th June last to the Board.

I would request that the Memo. may receive attention & that it may be forwarded on to Government with the Boards' remarks. Should any further information be desired, I shall be happy to furnish all in my power.

I have &c
(signed) C. Rundall

To

Foster Press—Madras

Demi Official

From
The Ag: Dir of Rev. Settlt.

To
The Ag: Secy:, Bd. of Rev.

Dated 29 } Octr/75
Recd }

Enc: 1.

Submitting a report on the proposed changes to the settlt. procedure & to the system of classification hitherto pursued

2
Rsv 4761/75

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S P

Enc No. 1

# Memo.

Report to Board No. 1099 A – 31 A of 9th June 1875.

As the changes which Mr. Puckle has advocated and submitted for the orders of Government will not only involve considerable alteration of ordinary settlement procedure, but will as well materially modify the system upon which classification has hitherto proceeded, I beg to submit the following remarks upon the recommendations thus made & now under the consideration of Government. The change of system contemplated is a question of the greatest importance as it will affect prejudicially, or otherwise, the final settlement of the remaining districts of the Presidency, and several of those now under operation.

2. So far as the proposals affect settlement procedure only, the recommendations to make actual settlement more complete are undoubted improvements which can be adopted with advantage - such as the transfer

of puttahs, division of
common lands, allotment
of grazing ground, and
assignment of lands re-
No. IV of para 39. quired for public purposes
&c &c.

3. The system of classifi-
cation by blocks by a
No. I of para 39. responsible Officer, or mainly
by European Agency, is not
altogether new; for the records
of this Office shew that the
question was raised and
duly discussed departmentally
and negatived, in the early
days of settlement operations
—1860. The remarks which
Mr. Newill then recorded
were circulated by Mr.
Bunbury in 1871 for the purpose

of eliciting further discussion of the question by the deputy directors, with reference to the system of classification pursued by Mr. Puckle in Tinnevelly;— and from the copies of the marginally* noted Proceedings of Mr. Banbury as director, which I subjoin, it will be evident that the opinion of the District officers was adverse to any change. It may be said that Mr. Puckle's classification system, and the mode in which he gave effect thereto, was not sufficiently known to be discussed

*Nos. 503 & 1611 of 9th March & 9th August 1871.

discussed and rejected; but I have no hesitation in asserting, now that it is known by officers generally, and has been personally explained by Mr. Puckle, that the same unanimity of opinion still exists.

4. It is not only the system that is proposed to be altered, but in a great degree the basis of classification as well. The difference may be briefly described as follows.

5 Under the present system every endeavour is used to secure relative accuracy

and equal treatment of similar soils, regard being had mainly to the quality of the soil. Under the modified system, as already put in force by Mr. Puckle in Chingleput & elsewhere, the present assessment if either high or low, determines in a great measure I find the rating of the block, as to the sort under which it should be assessed; for it is generally understood by those who have been instructed by Mr. Puckle that great divergence from the present assessment should be obviated.

6. For this latter purpose an experimental table of rates, considered applicable to the district generally, is furnished to the few subordinates to whom classification is now entrusted, so that as blocked out the tentative results of any village can be at once arrived at.

7. The aim of the proposed system of classification being thus to work more or less to a foregone conclusion, it necessarily follows that in a greater or less degree relative accuracy of classification must be

sacrificed – each village being treated more with reference to the assessment the land may formerly have borne, than in accordance with the merits of the village as arrived at by a careful classification of the soils.

8. Under the departmental system of classification it may be justly contended that the efforts to secure relative accuracy have been successful; and that the undoubtedness of this success will ensure the system standing the test of time. The earliest work of

SP

of the department, whilst experience was being gained, may not perhaps – and cannot well – be expected to be equal to that of later years; but still the classification and assessment resulting, are regarded with favor by Revenue officers who have experience therewith. In the Tamil districts, I much doubt if the classification was ever as systematic & as thorough as that of the northern or Telugu districts.

What has been the verdict of Collectors & their Assistants in different districts as to the relative & positive incidence of the settlements assessments? Have we distinct expressions of opinion?

9. The sacrifice of so important a general principle

as relative accuracy as to classification, involves a very much greater departure from the ordinary system than the proposals submitted by Mr Puckle would appear to convey.

10. Mr Puckle when referring to the results of existing settlement prominently
Para 33
notices that very serious discrepancies often occur between the former & the revised assessment, and that consequently the ryots are sometimes greatly dissatisfied.

11. The system that Mr Puckle
Para 34.
advocates is next described, and

and he states that in forming blocks under his system, "the general lie of the country, the nature of the irrigation, the soil, situation &c have all to be considered together, so that in like villages similar blocks may be similarly classified and such rates of assessment may be imposed as will apply not only to existing circumstances, but to the former assessment and the future requirements of the people."

12. It is clearly impossible that any rates of assessment resulting from a system of

classification that is similar in its application to different villages can comply with or in many cases even approach the several conditions set down. If the incidence of the existing assessments which are under revision was found to be even, and the existing circumstances and future requirements of the people were generally uniform in most villages, there might then be some hope of such conformity being attained. But it is well known that very great diversity exists, both as regards the assessment of different villages & of individuals of such villages. A Classification to be relatively accurate, and more reliable than the former paimaish which in many instances has been found to have been tampered with — must occasion important variations between the former and revised assessment. That such is the case, is no discredit to the existing system of Classification, provided the general accuracy of the rates of assessment imposed can be demonstrated as just and fair, by comparison of the classification results and averag- assessment as adjusted with that of the neighbouring villages or similar villages similarly circumstanced. With the personal knowledge of the villages that the settlement officer acquires, it is a safe test & one that carries conviction with it.

13. It is thus impossible for any classification to accord, as a rule, with the conditions which Mr. Puckle lays down as necessary to give consideration to all the circumstances

together. No doubt weight should always be and is given to the advantages or disadvantages as to level for irrigation, and as to the situation, for these form essential elements in any such consideration. Consideration as to assessment, however, can only be given to any extent at the expense of the general accuracy of the classification results.

14. Under the system Mr. Suckle has already inaugurated, I contend that undue consideration is often thus bestowed upon the present

assessment; and that the result is that under his system similar blocks in like villages would be liable to be less frequently classified in a similar manner and at equivalent rates of assessment, than under the ordinary system.

Bd's Proc: No. 2168 of
4th August/75 para 16.

15. In reviewing & endorsing the proposals, the Board of Revenue remark that under the new system Deputy Directors "will have to be selected with great care"; and apprehend that "in unskilful or careless hands there will be danger that the settlement

'will become a mere process of rearranging the old bereiz instead of an attempt to arrive at a just Estimate from independent data and defined principles of the Government share of the crop." It is clearly thus intended that merely the procedure of classification and not the principle should be modified. The principle as I have attempted to shew being more or less at stake, the change to the system of classification as inaugurated and put in force by Mr. Puckle, is clearly incompatible with these views.

for the change tends to make settlement an adjustment instead of a revision of assessment.

16. The classification under the existing system though deemed so crude by Mr Puckle has been vouched for & reported on by his predecessors & embodies much more systematic action than it is credited with in the remarks recorded.

Para 32.

Though conducted fieldwar by the Classifiers, yet, so far as the soils run the same, the land is similarly rated; & hence, where tracts of the same soil occur the result of the ordinary classification is in blocks. Under the latter, allowances are made for minor variations which exist. These are sometimes essential; but to some extent can be merged without occasioning any particular hardship. In dealing with the land, it is right that classifiers, as regards work performed by them, should record & not ignore existing variations of this nature.

17. Under the block system of classification thus advocated, it is claimed that work can be done much

more quickly and at less expense than at present. The system is the outcome of the settlement operations so specially conducted by Mr. Puckle in the Tinnevelly district; and it is therefore to be expected that fair progress would have been the result under the system in the Tinnevelly district. Even if allowances are made for the maturing of the system in that district & for extraneous work; the progress and the cost do not omen well for either expedition or economy. Tinnevelly has already been ten years under settlement

* Paras 34 & 35 of Mr Puckle's report

for a district; & it stands to reason that if the formation of the blocks depends* upon a single or even two officers, as in Tinnevelly, the area that can be disposed of each month must be more or less limited; and consequently that the number of classifiers at work in the field must be restricted. It is unlikely that the officer can provide a sufficient area of villages blocked out to keep the number of ordinary classifiers of a party employed in the manner Mr Puckle indicates. They may of course be settlement, & barely four of the nine Talugs are finished. Operations have to some extent been extended to two others; but three I believe have not yet been touched. I venture to predict that under the system Mr. Puckle condemns, Tinnevelly would have been out of hand by this time, so far as the introduction of settlement might be concerned, & the cost would not, proportionately to the work accomplished, have been so much.

18. A settlement party engaged solely on classification invariably has only one officer for

be otherwise employed; but yet the result claimed for the system is not likely to be realized. As soon as introduced in Chingleput it was found that it was impracticable for an Officer to take up a village without any sketch or information as a guide to the run of the soils, & dispose of it with expedition; and in the Villages of the Chingleput Taluq, when newly undertaken in accordance with this block system, the villages consequently were blocked out beforehand by the Supervisor &c, and

Major Stuart personally inspected & settled the work thus prepared. Had he attempted to lay out the villages himself, it must inevitably have proved a most unnecessary waste of his time & labor. Under such a system, even if the discretion solicited under head III. was granted, & two officers were engaged, I para 38 doubt if, as contemplated, two Talugs per annum in each District could be accomplished. With one officer it would be hopeless to expect progress to that extent, or if the laying of lands by the officer himself in each village was insisted on.

19. Moreover, under the block system as worked by Mr. Puckle a great deal too much importance is attached, I think, to the limitation of the blocks of a village to a small number. The number of the blocks into which a village may be divided, should in all cases be sufficient to ensure the relative and apparent variations being recognized & separately treated.

20. Shortly after assuming charge of the department,

Mr Puckle stopped the ordinary fieldwar classification of the Chingleput Taluq & had all subsequent work undertaken under his block system. Some 20 villages of Chingleput had then been commenced or classified under the field system; & the work of these was revised, and the whole Taluq closed in accordance with the block classification. The work of Conjeveram was subsequently similarly revised to the block system.

21. Mr Mayer was as well summoned from Ganjam & initiated into the altered system; & upon his return he

be arranged, in accordance with the instructions he received, for future villages to be done under this system. Upon a representation being made to me that nearly two-thirds of the Taluq had previously been completed under the fieldwar or ordinary system, and that pending the orders of Government as to the proposed changes the men were not fully employed, I directed that the whole Taluq should be completed by the Classifiers as commenced under the field system. This is however being corrected upon Mr. Mayer's inspection to the block system, as ordered by Mr. Puckle. I doubt much if the block system is applicable at all to Ganjam, or at all events to Gumsur.

22. Field classification was similarly stopped in N. Arcot, in the Gudiattum Taluq — whilst I was absent on leave — & the field hands are employed now solely on demarcation. The classification is conducted by blocks by the Head Classifiers and Supervisors, or subordinate

agency in the first instance, and personally inspected and settled by the Assistant Director. In Cuddapah and Coimbatore field work had progressed too far for like changes to be effected in those districts. Orders were however given for the application of the block system to the wet lands when introducing to any further extent revised rates of assessment. It will thus be evident that when Mr. Puckle left, classification under the ordinary fieldwar system had practically been stopped in all districts save Coimbatore. Field operations had already been closed in Cuddapah.

23. There are as well other changes which have been effected as enumerated below. Under the block system as given effect to by Mr. Puckle in the Chingleput Taluq, the classifiers did not record the particulars of occupation of the blocks by examination & identification of holdings comprising the blocks, but according to the particulars of occupation ascertained

from the Kurnam for the several Survey Nos appertaining to each block. The discontinuance of the identification field was of all occupation, both Government and Inam, on the basis of the Revenue accounts, would prevent unrecorded occupation in respect to land; & omission to charge water-rate for irrigation; also the wrongful adjustments to dry in recent years, of land that should properly have been retained under wet, being hereafter noticed and reported to the Revenue Authorities for rectification.

24. Again, another important change has been effected by the Director's Proceedings No 842 of 30th April, which is given in full in the margin.

"The settlement of 68 Villages of the Chingleput District has now been made & in no single case has it been found necessary to refer to the Ayacuts lately revised on the ground, as the area held on puttah as Nunjai at the settlement now made has invariably been accepted as the Ayacut under each work.

The result of this practical experiment shows that the labor bestowed on the revision of tank Ayacuts previous to introducing a settlement is time & money wasted, as there are ample opportunities for obtaining all the information need ~~as~~ each Village comes up for hearing under the system of settlement pursued in Chingleput.

The Director therefore requests that all further revision of Ayacuts may be discontinued from this date."

25. In directing the discontinuance of the revision of tank Ayacuts as heretofore in the manner intended by

G.O. No. 181 of 27 June 1871, & No. 1628 of 29 Nov. 1872 Bd's Procs: 22d August/72 & No. 758 of 31st March/75.

by the rules in force - quoted marginally with other papers bearing thereon & deemed by the Board and the Government to be a very necessary measure & essentially a part of the settlement of each District, Mr. Puckle has provided for the course indicated in his letter given in the Bd's Proceedings of 31st March last, quoted above, being adopted instead. Under the modification thus ordered the Kurnam of each village is called on at the time of preparing the settlement accounts to file a list of Nos needing alteration, & orders are passed thereon as may be requisite. The land the ryots are willing to hold as irrigated at settlement rates is thus determined as the ayacut for the future under any source. Unoccupied land, as a rule, though formerly wet & capable of irrigation, is registered as dry. This adjustment is intended to be effected without any regular fieldwar examination as at present, or separate plans as a guide that readily indicates the effect of the Kurnams and Villager's proposals if carried

unsafe

carried out. The Statements and sketches heretofore prescribed and prepared concurrently with field work are discontinued; and the changes will not come under the Collector's cognizance save on appeal, or should he review the lists, and orders given — which is not likely. Moreover, the extent to which revision may be necessary will not be known at the time that the General settlement proposals may be sanctioned, and consequently the tendency of the changes or the increase or decrease of assessment due to the measure, will not be apparent until carried out.

26. Having thus recorded the difficulties that beset the conduct of settlement operations at present, it is necessary that I should represent what I consider requisite to remedy the effects of the changes which I thus hold to be in some measure unnecessary.

27. I would request that the system of field-wor classification by classifiers be ordered to be reverted to, as the basis of operations, where heretofore displaced by the

block system adverted to.— Whilst thus continuing future operations under the field system, I would propose that, in the revision of classification by the upper subordinates, the villages be laid out into blocks, due provision being made for variations of soil usually recognized; and that as thus prepared the villages should be inspected & passed by the officer of the party.* I would further recommend that the five sorts or tarams under each class of soil be adopted generally as regards future operations,

as

* This course would admit of the classification results being recorded in the descriptive memoirs and illustrated by eye sketches, as advocated by Mr. Puckle, and regarded by the Board most favorably. It is an undoubted improvement, and one which I wish to see perpetuated.

as far as such change may be compatible with work already more or less completed.

28. As thus formed the blocks would be more numerous than Mr Puckle proposed, but, as before remarked, I deprecate any particular restriction in this respect. In some localities – tracts of very hilly country & the like – it may not be feasible to adhere entirely to block classification – in Gumsur for instance. I would propose that the Villages in such instances should be excepted, and treated solely

by field classification.

29. The settlement proposals for the Chingleput Principal Division Talugs submitted by Mr. Banbury having been sanctioned, I would recommend that the rates with the slight alterations made by Mr. Puckle be introduced* on the basis of the original classification, subject to such ordinary modifications as is necessarily allowed at the time of introduction. Mr. Puckle, in referring to Chingleput, has already recorded, "I find the former classification works out singularly well into blocks, when

Para 25.

* As regards the remaining villages of Sydapet & the Trivellore & Ponneri Talugs.

when, some needless distinctions made by the classifiers in individual cases are rectified". With slight modifications where they can be effected without involving any particular departure from the ordinary process of rating the land, such distinctions might in many cases be adjusted, and the villages settled by blocks. This would enable the three Talugs being much more speedily disposed of than under the revision Mr. Puckle contemplates to the classification.

30. In N. Arcot field

classification would, as previously, proceed simultaneously with the demarcation now being performed by Classifiers &c.

31. In Ganjam, considering that Chicacole & the greater portion of Berhampore have been already classified fieldwar, and the block system is probably# quite unsuited to the remaining Taluq or Zemindari, I consider it would be best to complete the whole District in accordance with the fieldwar system.

32. These changes would admit of the identification of all occupation fieldwar referred to above at para 23 - being

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# It has been treated exceptionally to some extent by the Survey & Capt: Clarke gives as one of the reasons. "The peculiar nature of the country; the cultivation being throughout a great part of the Taluq scattered about in small patches, in many cases of a few cases only." Vide Enc: to Bd's Proc: No. 2158 of 22d Oct./73.

being conducted as formerly.

33. The revision of tank ayacut requires to be once more undertaken in conformity with the existing orders in this respect. As the adjustments made are not put in force, though previously worked up, until the actual introduction of settlement; and any appeals then preferred are attended to, & rectification if requisite is effected, the course hitherto pursued meets the requirements of Board's Proceedings No. 788 of 31st March.

34. The Deputy Directors might certainly with much

advantage be empowered to deal with the several matters referred to by Mr
para 39. Puckle under No II. I would propose as well that Mr Puckle's form of descriptive Memoirs, & also that the eye sketches — so far as block classification may be practicable — be formally approved and ordered to be adopted —

35. In conclusion I would beg to remark that some of the measures thus advocated have previously been brought forward by Mr Puckle

and have seemingly been negatived. Vide para 75 to 80 of Mr. Master's letter recorded in the second of the Proceedings referred to.

Bd's Prop: Nos. 4137 & 8649 of 8 June & 24th Nov. 1869.

Madras
27th October 1875

C. Rundall
Ag: Director of Rev: Settt

Compd

See a D. O. letter
from the Ag. Director
of Rev: Settlement to
the Ag. Secy. to the
Board of Revenue date
29th October 1875

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The covering
letter from the
Actg. R. S. [illegible]
forwarded the
[illegible]
papers & [illegible]
further [illegible]
[illegible]
The [illegible]
been [illegible]

Rev $\overset{1}{4761}$/75

Revenue Board Office
Madras

Demi Official

8th December 1875

From,
The Ag Secretary to the
Board of Revenue
Madras;

To,
The Secretary to
Government Revenue
Department

Sir,

Referring to Board's Proceedings 4th August 1875 No. 2168, I am directed to submit for the consideration of Government a Memorandum (in original) by the Acting Director of Revenue Settlement in which he records his views with reference to the changes proposed by Mr. Puckle in the System of Settlement heretofore adopted, and referred to by the Board in paras 15 to 18 of the Proceedings just quoted.

2. The most important point of divergence between the views of Messrs. Puckle and Rundall is the advisability of adopting the block System of classification in lieu of that by fields. Mr Rundall maintains that the principle of the settlement is at stake, that it will become, if the proposals made by Mr. Puckle, are sanctioned a mere readjustment of the Existing assessment and not a revision; that the relative accuracy of assessment which it is desired to secure is already obtained under the field-war system and must be sacrificed under that proposed; that the block system must necessarily be expensive and slow, as one officer cannot keep the classification sufficiently in advance of the party to provide them with full occupation; that the results in Tinnevelly

where the System has been followed bear out this assertion; that under it the advantage gained by a thorough and detailed Examination of the occupation the bringing to light unrecorded cultivation and evasions of revenue are lost, and that the revision of tanks Ayacuts a measure which the Board and Government have considered of prime importance is either abandoned, or conducted in an unsafe or futile manner on mere lists drawn up by the Karanams shewing fields requiring alteration.

Mr Rundall further shews that the proposal is not a new one, but had been in the Department already fully discussed and rejected by officers of greater experience in settlement work. He asserts that now that the system has been, in anticipation of the orders of Government, practically brought into operation, the opinion of the Officers of the Department is unanimous against it.

3. The acting Director's proposal in para 27 in fact amounts to this that the lining out the land in blocks should be effected after the field Classification has been completed in the usual way and thus the block system made the test of the other where from the character of the country this is feasible. Mr. Rundall agrees with the Board in warmly approving Mr. Puckle's proposal that Settlement Officers should exercise such of the ordinary powers of Revenue Officers as will enable them to redress all grievances and make the settlement a real adjustment of village affairs; and of the admirable form in which he exhibits the final Settlement results.

4. I am desired to say that, on perusal of Mr. Rundall's Memorandum of which the purport has been briefly sketched in the preceding paragraphs, the Board are disposed to recede from the recommendation in favor of the block system of classification which they made in their Proceedings under reference.

put before them as it was there appeared to be considerable advantages in the shape of saving of time, expense and labor, not inconsistent with a sufficiently minute and careful examination of soils conditions and circumstances. But on descending from generalities to details, it becomes clear that there will be great danger of such an examination being neglected and that if it be really efficiently and properly made there will be little to choose, in point of expenditure of time and money between the two systems; while

the

the fieldwar system gives a considerable guarantee of the thoroughness of the work. On the block system settlement will be apt to degenerate into a mere adjustment of the old assessments and the rectification of occasional anomalies. Officers of marked experience and special ability might perhaps be safely trusted with powers of settlement, on the block system; but there would be no real check on the work and a supply of a succession of such fully qualified officers cannot be relied on with sufficient certainty to justify the adoption of a

Scheme which would divest the ultimately responsible authorities of all real supervising power. These considerations had already suggested themselves to the Board; but they did not at the time seem to them so conclusive against Mr. Puckle's proposal, as in the light of the memorandum drawn up by Mr. Rundall, they now do. The change in reality involves the sacrifice of the whole principle of the Settlement which has been accepted and ratified by the Secretary of State, and though there may be imperfections in the old System, efforts should be directed rather to improving it than substituting for it an entire new one.

In conclusion, I am to say that the Board approve generally of the proposals for future operations now brought forward by Mr. Rundall.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your Most Obd Servt

H E Stokes
Ag Secretary

To
The Secretary to Government,
Revenue Department, with copy of director's letter and its 3 enclosures in original

Revenue 1875 Deptt.
No. 4761
Demi Official

From
The Asst. Secretary
to the Board of Revenue
To The Secretary to
Government R. D.

Dated 8th December 1875
Despd. 8 " "
Recd. 10 " "
on 4

G. O. 15 February/76
No. 221.

Submitting for the consideration of Government memoranda from the Asst. Director of Rev: Settlement relative to the system of Settlements approved of by the Board generally.

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Cuddapah—
24 Feby/1876.

My dear Mr Carmichael,

With reference to your d/o of 22, the work done under the Block system is as under:—

I Chingleput Taluq almost the whole—

II Gudiattam Taluq of N. Arcot Part only, less than half—

III Berhampore. Part originally done under ~~[illegible]~~ field

system has been revised
to block under five sets,
the original work being
under three sets.

I Besides classification
of the single plot under block
system, the work of Com-
parison undertaken
fieldman was revised to
the block.

Upon the receipt of Bo:
Res. No. 2168 of 14 Augt 1875,
Major Stuart was directed
to work up and submit
the financial results of

applying to the two Talugs
in question, the rates sanc-
tioned for the Pen Div. Ta-
lugs - The details are
nearly ready, and I have
again requested that the
particulars already called
for may be submitted, as
Major Stuart proposed
reporting thereon should
be deferred until [illegible]
Talug - shortly to
be commenced - may be
field classified, and the
other revised fieldmen.

It is essential, however, that the proposals so framed for Chingleput and Conjeveram should be sent up and orders obtained thereon. This will allow of Major Stuart proceeding there with the settlement of the two Taluqs, as soon as he may finish the Prin: Divn. of Chingleput.

In the greater portion of the Chingleput Taluq the identification & registration of holdings will need to be undertaken prior to settlement being introduced, and the block classification will need to be generally revised in most villages. It has been partially revised only. In Tinnevelly under Mr. Puckle's system both these operations will be undertaken in this manner immediately prior to settlement. The villages will in fact be treated in the manner contemplated by Mr. Puckle at paras 29 & 36 of his report, & stones put on to accept-the same. As the registration of holdings will need to be carried out by Classifiers, I propose that any particular deviations from the block classification assigned, shd be noted for the Dy Director's consideration when finally revising the villages —

II In N. Arcot the bulk of the work already completed under the block system was originally classified fieldwise —

this performed solely under block system will stand as already done —

III In Ganjam the field classification revised to the block system will need confirmation and correction to the original work, to accord with system observed throughout Berhampore & Chicacole divs. This course has been sanctioned by 31 of my memo, referred to as para 3 of the G. O. The bulk of the work being quite

different – one under the
other the five sorts – the
work done cannot be
made to accord. In Ganjam
therefore, the Revision to
the block system cannot
be accepted – the original
work will hold good –

Some Asst Supts are
on the 27th, to set work
to rights in Berhampore.

Items of this with Cancelation
may be satisfactory. In
Tinnevelly, [illegible] [illegible],
the remainder of the five
Talugs are being disposed of
uniformly with those already
settled – Yours sincerely
E Rundall

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REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

No.

D/o

From Mr Rundall – Ag Director Rev Settts

Dated 24/2– 1876

FOR ORDERS.

I asked him, as desired last Council, about the work done under the "Blocks" System –

This is his reply.

Mr Rundall should be requested to expedite matters in Chingleput and submit reports as proposed.

In Conjeeveram the original fieldwar estimates should be reverted to, and the proposal for settlement based thereon submitted without delay.

As regards Chingleput taluq (where no fieldwar classification has been made) I would order the block settlement to be sent up for disposal, the Director taking special

care that he tests it reliably and report accordingly.

The proposals as respects Tinnevelly are good.

In North Arcot the fieldwar classification should be reverted to & become the basis of the proposals to be submitted.

I am glad that Mr. Arundale is proceeding to Ganjam

26/2.

FOR ORDERS.

"Extent of work done under the block system".

/ Sir W. R.

✓ Mr E.

(Cops/

Dear Rundall –

"Blocks" system.

I send you a note of Sir W. R. concurred in by Mr Ellis, on on [illegible] d/o [illegible] of 24th inst.

yours

28/2/76. D. H.

D 28/2

C 26 Feby/76. M 28 Feby/76.

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Revenue Department.

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Instructions solicited as to whether the enclosed Notes by the Hon'ble Sir W. Robinson K.C.S.I. are to be printed and brought on Proceedings.

17th February 1876.

No – Let them stand as Notes

We have here Mr. Rundal's report on Mr Puckle's proposed change in the system of valuation and classification of land for settlement purposes and the Board's review.

Looking to the facts of the past, I think Mr Puckle is to blame for failing to mention the departmental discussion to which his plans have been more than once subjected with unfavourable result. The matter came before me at least as something quite new, whereas it has occupied the attention

I concur in the opinion and proposals contained in this note and would restore the system which Mr. Puckle has altered, so extensively, without the authority of Govt. After reading Mr. Rundall's ~~exceedingly~~ temperate & well reasoned Memo: I find myself exactly in the frame of mind so candidly avowed by the Board of Revenue, in Para 4 of Mr. Stokes demi-official letter. WR

28/1/76

attention of two Experienced Directors whose unfavourable views are on record. The experience of the Department is alleged to be adverse still.

As to the Comparative Completeness of the two modes of valuation of landed properties, there can be no question that Mr Puckle's is pretty much what an Eye Sketch is to Completed measuration in Surveying and I fear his plan practically presents in some degree most of the shortcomings charged against it by Mr Rendal. The plan in fact means getting rid of the inconvenient principles of the revision of Settlement

Settlement by valuation, under an inaccurate designation of what is to be substituted viz. in the main merely a readjustment of the existing revenue demand and rectification of revenual anomalies with little reference to any actual valuation or Condition of Soil.

We learn now that Mr Puckle has already altered the processes wherever it was possible and given directions to Carry out Settlements on his block System without authorization of Government. This Course was clearly wrong and should at once be stopped pending the decision of Government and possibly of the Secretary of State, and Departmental Officers must be told that no fundamental changes can be inaugurated without the authority of previous sanction of Government.

I would affirm the recommendations made in Paras 27, 28, 29, 30, 31 & 33 of Mr. Rundal's letter. When Mr. Puckle returns the matters may be reconsidered, in the light of further explanation, there is no doubt that the plan is calculated to escape from the tendency, which follows more accurate valuation, to raise the demand on theoretical grounds – a tendency which must cause much popular discontent.

28/1.

I confess considerable difficulty about the disposal of the settlement part of this paper involving 69 villages of the Sydapet Taluq of the Chingleput District – not so much in respect to the actual settlement itself, which I would accept unhesitatingly, but as respects the wide changes in the principles and methods which have hitherto obtained in the resettlement of the land-revenue to which the operation itself and the further recommendations of Mr. Puckle, endorsed

as

the

as they are by the Board in general terms, Commend us. And I feel the more anxious about it because the changes advocated and in fact inaugurated by Mr. Puckle are with certain reservations in the direction of my own mind on the matter

The facts broadly stated are these:- The Settlement of the 3 northern Taluqs of Chingleput District viz- Ponnery, Sydapet and Trivellore - was carried out under the personal supervision of Mr. Banbury on the ordinary principles of settlement - that is - the soils were minutely classified by the subordinates of the Department, yield esti:mated and a "half-net" arrived at through

the

the usual somewhat artificial processes. These processes were generally checked by the Director of Revenue Settlement, and a scheme submitted which was generally approved and sanctioned by G. O. dated 24. Feby: 1875

The G. O was drawn up a good deal in accordance with my views of all such settle:ments. As accurate valuations of a true net produce I believe the processes gone through are more or less arti:ficial formalities to suit a foregone conclusion that the general demand must not be greatly enhanced, the Secretary of States "half-net" notwithstanding; as between the State and Cultivator they are little better than a fairer readjustment of the Existing Revenue Demand. As between the holders of land these Settlements are an Equitable adjust:ment of burdens according to the relative condition of their holdings and therefore not altogether unpopular. In this spirit Mr Bunbury's proposals were accepted and their Execution has fallen into the Experienced hands of Mr Puckle.

The papers (amongst which I include one sent to me by Mr Puckle d/ 21st May 1875 and indeed my own observations of the work in Camp with Mr Puckle) show that he has practically made a new settlement of

of the tracts on different principles and by new methods which he has adopted in substitution of the practice of past years. He has practically thrown aside the minute classification of subordinates, altered widely the grouping of some villages and done the whole over again in a wider and rougher way by what he calls "blocks" determined mainly by his own eye – without tarams & kyls, calculation of net produce & so forth, some of which he condemns as useless; & I believe that the conclusion he arrives at is an adjust:ment of the future demand with reference to existing demands (which he

Only in 18 villages out of 69.

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be sacrifices, rather than with reference to the processes of valuation, which the methods &c hitherto pursued in order to meet the requirements of the Secretary of State have encouraged.

In short Mr. Puckle has submitted a more or less new settlement on somewhat new principles and methods and has, I understand, directed his subordinates to carry it forward throughout the tract to which Mr. Banbury's proposals apply, on the method so inaugurated. Of course Mr. Banbury's Tarams and rates will be referred to by those to whom Mr. Puckle has consigned the work of resettlement and are available for check by the Board & Government. But

But perhaps the fact is that we shall have to deal with a complete revision at the hands of Mr. Puckles subordinates of the settlement sanctioned. Be ~~Be~~ this as it may, I think we are invited to decide the questions, which will involve some rather radical changes both of methods and agency in the long run - perhaps an abandonment of the whole theory of the settlement is at issue, although practically the matter is not so serious for the theory is not really thoroughly applied at this moment.

As before said I have no hesitation whatever about Mr. Puckles revised settlement of 69 villages and I am inclined towards changes in the direction indicated.

But I have Considerable hesitation about going further with less Experienced and reliable agency than Mr. Puckle without more Complete Knowledge and Examination of the proposals and their Effect. If we are to give up Native Agency in Classification and rely on the Settlement Officers to the Extent I am willing to trust Mr. Puckle (Paras 29 and 30 of Report and instruction to subordinates of 21st May), we shall require a different agency from that we have I fear and a reorganization of the Subordinate Deptt. may be before us. Mr. Puckle probably does not, I think give sufficient Consideration to

to Mr. Bunbury's previous work in his estimate of the cheapness & expedition which is undoubtedly a recommendation of his work over the same area.

But the real gist of the matter probably lies in the latter part of Para 32 of the report and some of the instructions dated 25 May 1875. The theory of the settlements as laid down by the Secretary of State, is, I believe, a true valuation of the land" with a "view to a demand Equivalent to the half-net (in itself perhaps an impossible demand) irrespective of the Existing assessments and the result — despite all sorts of adjustments &c. — no doubt is that "serious "discrepancies often occur "between the former and "the revised assessments". (Para 33). Of course former assessments – despite theories – is the most important factor of the result we endeavour to work out in practice and is the test we apply to the whole, when sanction is accorded by Govt: and the approval of the Secretary of State is given. And it is not improbable that Mr. Puckle like others doubts the expediency of all the costly intermediate processes and ~~is~~ really advocates their abandonment in favor of a rough and ready settlement "so that "in like villages similar "blocks may be similarly "classified and such "rates of assessment "may be imposed as will "apply not only to existing

Circumstances

"Circumstances, but to "the former assessment "and the future requirements of the people". In this change the principle of the settlement is involved and the discussion of last year is revived in a very much more subversive form.

Now if this be so, or if the possible effect of adopting Mr. Puckle's proposals will be in this direction, it is desirable to examine the whole matter with great care before we commit ourselves to it. In the meantime, I would sanction Mr. Puckle's revision of the settlement of 69 villages. It is no doubt quite as good as the other; probably far better though as to shape &c in Statement Columns while in its adjuncts, the settlement of Pattahs, division of Commons &c it is greatly superior.

But I would require the Ag: Director of Revenue Settlement & Board of Revenue to report fully what is now being done by Major Stewart (in Chingleput) in the same direction and by others to whom the instructions of the 21st of May were directed and I would further ask Mr Rundall to submit his views on the proposed changes - The Board should be requested to state whether the agency at hand is reliable

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reliable for the change and what in this respect will be needed to give effect to changes which present so few checks and leave ~~so~~ so much in the hands of Executive Officers.

As regards No II & III proposals (Para 39 of the Report) I will not object to a Talugwar Settlement (No II) although I greatly prefer the present system which brings a larger & safer area under consideration of the Board and Government before sanctioning so important a step as the settlement of a District.

No III I would reject in toto. There is so wide a difference between the conditions of different Talugs in different Districts that the proposal is out of the question as it appears to me.

No IV I would accept - subject to the condition of control of the Collector - as an integral and a useful part of any Settlement:

Mr Puckle has only carried out one of the first principles & object of all land valuations and Settlements in this Country by recording in the Settlement registers. (as it was done in the Paimash registers of A.D. I believe - the incontestable claims of the Mirassidars or joint-owners of the cultivated as well as uncultivated - or recently occupied - areas of their village. The existence of

of his right to a rent charge or simple rent is, I think, clearly established - though reluctantly acknowledged and partially traversed by our administration - and its registration must be conceded. This admitted, I think that on the whole Mr Puckle's proposal to commute these Mirassi claims on the gross outturn of a crop, into a money rate is commendable, and it is convenient that it should, if possible, become a fixed rate as he suggests. His proposal that the rate should bear a ratio to the Government assessment is likewise logical; for in theory at least the demand has a direct relation to the yield of the land. The question now to be solved is:- What should be the amount of this rent charge.

The Amount in Mirassidars claim on the crop in different villages has, I understand, been investigated by Mr. Puckle with care - it has varied greatly in different villages - and I think that probably an average which the Mirassidars may fairly accept has been struck at 2as: an acre. This average charge named by Mr. Puckle is doubtless a low rent-charge (more especially if permanent)

and

and it may be contended with truth that our valuations (for assessment purposes) are too low for landlords' purposes - are not a fair fair basis for an assessment of rent; but we may perhaps hope that the certainty which this admission and record of the claim and the fixity of the demand will give to the Mirassi claim, may be accepted as a setoff by the Mirassidars and make it popular with the Paykaries. On the whole I think Govt: may use their influence to arrange a settlement between the Mirassi landlords & tenants (Paykaries) of all classes on the

bases

basis proposed by Mr. Puckle. The question is:- Will it stand the test of ~~the~~ practice & of the Courts of Law

I quite agree with Mr. Hudleston that the Mirassi Swantantra has no place under the arrears of Revenue Law; nor is it desirable that it should. It is a rentcharge and I should like to see the claim tried in a Court of Law under clause 2 of section 1 of Act VIII of 1865 now that Mirassidars are practically "registered holders of "land in proprietary right".

I certainly should not legislate until this course is tried. In the mean time we might ask the Law officers to examine the whole question and report.

It is difficult to foresee what view may be taken of the registration and of the proposed settlement by the Courts of Law and what effect the Law of limitation may have. The result will no doubt be gradual. But we may fairly, I think, anticipate that the Courts will accord much increasing weight to a Record and registration by the Settlements Depart. and perhaps treat the 'preliminary Settlement' as

6

on the basis proposed as a quasi arbitration as respects back-claims between Mirasidars & Parkaries whether under Darkhast or other tenures.

As regards the future: all accepted Darkhast Pattahs – whether for the cultivation of new land or for land thrown up and to be reoccupied – should register the anticipatory Swatantrums at the rate proposed in the same manner as the Jenma bhogum is entered in the pattah in Malabar.

As regards Sales of land, in respect of which the change has not taken effect – whether for arrears of Revenue or under Court Sales.

to

the Govt. cannot interfe

The Status quo ante rema
Subject to Court-adjudication –

On the whole I would not for the present urge legislation but would direct the registration of Claims at the Commuted Rates to be universally proceeded with in the manner already commenced

15/10 AN

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

No. 3401

From Bd. of Rev.

Dated 4 August 1875.

FOR ORDERS.

Govt. express satisfaction with the results of the settlement & entire confidence in the details of Mr. Puckle's procedure.

Govt. sanction the general adoption of the Block system of classification in future operations.

Govt. also sanction the proposal in para 10. of Mr. Puckle's letter to the extent recommended by the Bd. in their para 17.

Govt. express their

I entirely concur. I think Mr. Puckle has clearly shown the advantage of classification by blocks by a responsible officer over classification in fields by minor subordinates

Yes —

I view favourably future proposals for adopting the principle of Propos.ns 2 & 3 in particular cases. but concur with the Bd in thinking that each District must be dealt with on its merits. Yes. RW

The 4th Prop: will of course be accepted with full approval. Yes RW

The principle of the Block system I entirely approve in reliable & competent hands. as we may safely assume those of our Superior Settlt. officers will always be.

Paras 18 & 24 of Mr. Puckle's letter shd. be comm.d to the P.W.D. Yes RW

I concur WR
12/10

The subject

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I think Mr. Huddleston has clearly stated the intentions of the Govt in sanctioning the arrangement proposed by Mr. Barlow & strongly supported by Mr. Puckle for the ~~[illegible]~~ settlement of the long standing dispute regarding

of para 19 of the Bd. Pro: shd. be brought under consid.n for orders — I fail to find the Director's letter of 28 May 74 in the papers —

As regards the future realization of [illegible] for the Mirasidars. the Bd. observe that the Mirasidars have probably accepted the present settlement of this question on the understanding that these fees are to be collected for them by the Revenue in the same manner as Land Rev. arrears. but that the law does not at present admit of this — that ∴ the old difficulties will soon recur — & that to meet these it is advisable that an Act shd. be passed empowering Govt. officers to collect as Land Rev. arrears — &c. but they offer to draft if desired.

I feel considerable hesitation as to adopting the Bd.'s proposal wh. I think very questionable in principle. for these Swatantrams are not State dues. & I am not at all satisfied that the Mirasidars have relied on collection being made for them by coercive measures in the event of default.

Mr. Barlow in his letter of 11. Novr. 74 [Bo: Paps. 75 R.D.] shows that collection of Swatantrams by Rev: authorities from Payakari puttadars wd. necessitate fresh legislation wh. might be held objectionable for obvious reasons. & he only advocates the taking of an agreement to pay them, from each such non Mirasi ~~occupying~~ puttahdar on issue of a puttah & that the Rev: officers be authorised to recover them with the Govt. dues when payt. wd. usually follow as a matter of course. The existence of the agreement wd. be of use - give the Mirasidar a clear title on wh. to sue & with

FOR ORDERS.

Bd.'s report on the result of the [illegible] in certain villages [illegible]

Swatantram fees — An agreement was to be taken from all future Darkhastdars to pay the swatantram & the amount was to be registered ~~[illegible]~~ — This was to place the Mirasidar on vantage ground, if the fee was refused, & he had to sue the tenant who would stand

ndemned by his own
greement. There was
no mention of the collection
of these fees, ~~as~~ as ordinary
revenue, & if any such
expectation was held
out to the Mirasidars
it was unauthorized —
AK

~~[illegible]~~ I am afraid the
oard are right in their
inion that Act II of
764. is inapplicable —
nd if there is to be
gislation the course

with such a document - the Civil Ct. wd. surely be resorted to, for the purpose of enforcement.

This registration of Swatantrams & recognition of liability to payt. by Payakaris &c. was cordially approved & advocated by Mr. Puckle & the Bd. & sanctioned by Govt. & has been carried out in the case of the villages the settlt. of wh. is now reported - but I see nothing in any of the papers to lead to the supposition that the Mirasidars were induced to suppose that these dues wd. be coercively colld. for them in case of default.

The particular contingency agst. wh. the Bd. now deem it necessary to guard by legislation is the case of offl. sales of land now held by a non Mirasidar without payt. of Swatantrams under the recent procedure since 56/ & generally those of refusal to accept the agreement.

I have not the Bd.'s recovery act at hand to refer to - but it appears to me that these "Manorial" dues are much more analogous to Landlords rents than to State Revenue - and that it wd. probably be preferable to extend to them the summary means of realising rents rather than to empower Govt. officers to collect them as arrears of Revenue. The "Customary" rents of "Lords tenants" in a Manor in England wh. are very analogous to these Swatantrams are I think leviable by summary distraint &c. - & the amounts will generally be so trifling that I do not suppose such summary powers wd. ever affect the sufficiency of the assets wh. may be said to be hypothecated for the State demand on the land.

I shd. be disposed to suggest this course for the consid.n of the Bd. in lieu of this proposal. & to ask them to submit for the consid.n of Govt. Drafts of the enactments wh. they on further deliberation think suited to give effect to their views

proposed by the Board is probably the most effective.

~~[illegible]~~ ~~[illegible]~~ ~~[illegible]~~ Mr. Puckle has however represented to us that the Mirasidars are content with the present arrangement & it may be prudent to see how far he was justified in his supposition. I do not think that Act viii of 1865 will give relief. ~~[illegible]~~

W.E.

Chingleput
Settlement

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Chingleput Settlt.
69 Vills.
Bd. Ro. 6 Aug 75

I asked to see these papers again because question had been raised whether Mr. Puckle's system made suff<sup></sup>t. provision for consideration of quality & variety of soils –

I have had also ~~now~~ the advantage of seeing Mr. P.'s description of his

process furnished to
the Settlt. Officer in
Ganjam & circd. with
his note on the present
paper by the Hon W.
Robinson.

The result of my further
consideration of these
papers is to satisfy
me that W. Puckle's
process makes suff.
provision for considn.
of quality i.e. of soil
& I have no doubt
that as stated in my
former note - it may
safely be adopted in

such competent hands -
as those of our experienced
Settlt. Officers -

I therefore do not
wish to modify my
former note on
these papers -

18.10.75.

For orders.

D.O. from Secretary to the Board of Revenue forwarding a memo: from Mr. Rundall recording his views of Mr. Puckle's so called "block system" of classifying lands for settlement purposes

While the draft order on Mr. Puckle's letter reporting on his mode of conducting a settlement was in circulation Mr. Rundall called at the Government office & expressed a hope that the accompanying memorandum which he had submitted to the Board would reach the Government before they passed orders on Mr Puckles proposals. On the

19th of November the Secretary, to the Board asked semi-officially that the memo: might be awaited as the Board's review of it would be shortly submitted.

The memo: has now been printed and is circulated with the draft G.O. above referred to as it seems probable that it may be considered necessary to modify the latter.

A description of the authorized system of settlement in force in this Presidency will be found at pages 15-1 of Part II of the General Administra Report for 72.73.

Lal

For orders

Mr Rundall's
Memo: on Mr
Puckle's Dir
of Settlement

Circ

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Revenue Dept.

Proceedings of the Madras Government

Under date the Oct 1875

Read the following

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue

Reviewing and submitting, with remarks, report of Dir: of Rev Settlement, on results of introduction of new settlement in certain villages of Sydapet Taluq — Chingleput Dt

B. E. 4: Aug/75 No. 2168

~~From~~ In these ~~it appears~~ it appears papers

~~that~~ Mr Puckle, the Director of Rev Settlement ~~to~~ ~~[illegible] settlement in [illegible]~~ refers to introduction of the revised settlement into ~~he caused~~ the sixty nine

villages in the Principal division of the Chinglepet District ~~to be resettled~~ which comprise the whole area to be irrigated from the Red Hills tank

done under his own immediate supervision with a view

1. to illustrate his views

as to the best method of making a settlement, and 2dly to show the manner in which it is proposed to carry out the orders of Govt. in the matter of the Merasidars' claim to Swatantram fees, ~~of~~ the division of common (Sammudayam) lands, and ~~of~~ the treatment of Manavari ~~or~~ lands ~~irrigable~~ dependent by rainfall ~~or other uncertain sources~~.

2. His Excellency the Governor in Council is ~~fully~~ quite satisfied with the results of this resettlement, and has ~~entire~~ full confidence in the details of the procedure adopted when worked by an officer at once so able and Experienced.

Mr. Fickle revised the field classification of the soils on his "block" system and modified the grouping of 18 villages out of the 34. In four cases adjustment to the Tarams was found necessary.

The application of the Tarams to "blocks" instead of fields was personally effected by Mr. Fickle who states the result to have been most satisfactory & that he has absolute confidence in the relative correctness of the assesst. of every village.

This work was of course exceptionally facilitated by Mr. Brackenbury's previous operations (in the present instance).

The ultimate result of the settlement is a decrease of Rs. 2296 in the Govt. Demand consequent on an increase of Rs. 1312 in the wet lands under superior irrigation & a decrease of Rs. 3609 in the Dry lands.

Iwe Lay

He recognizes the advantages of

as Mr. Fickle

Experienced. He ~~is also prepared to view with approval~~ ~~an extension~~ of the system of classifi- soils -cation by blocks by a and experienced superior responsible officer, ~~in preference to that of~~ ~~special~~ field classification by minor subordinates ~~and obtaining~~. The process is doubtless ~~far~~ more speedy and economical and in ~~skilful~~ competent hands should be of adequate ~~or technically of equal~~ efficiency but the Acting Director of Revenue Settlement ~~should~~ will report without delay how far it is proposed to carry it out in the operations now in progress in Chingleput or elsewhere, and ~~show~~ will submit his own views on the subject.

3. The principle of the second and third proposals made by Mr. Puckle for the settlement of a District being sanctioned on the results obtained in only one or two taluqs is one ~~that~~ the application of which the Govt. will be prepared to ~~accept~~ consider favorably in particular cases, but they concur with the Board of Revenue in thinking that each District must be dealt with on its own merits.

4 The fourth proposal is accepted, subject to the condition of control by the Collector which should be regarded as an

integral part of every ~~settlement~~ such adjustment of disputes.

5. It remains to notice Mr. Puckle's mode of dealing with the Swatantram fees. The Board observe that the Mirasidars have probably accepted the present settlement of this question on the understanding that the fees are to be collected for them by the Kurnums in the same manner as arrears of Land Revenue, but that the Law does not admit of this and that therefore the old difficulties will soon recur. To meet the difficulty, the Board suggest legislation, but the Govt. hesitate

to adopt their proposal, which they think very questionable in principle, for these fees are not State dues in any sense, and they further are not satisfied that the Mirasidars are relying on collection being made for them by coercive measures as parceners of State Holency in event of default.

6. Under the arrangement proposed by the Collector, which was warmly supported

supported by Mr. Puckle and accepted by Government, an agreement was to be taken from all future Dur-Khastdars to pay the Swatantram, and the amount was to be registered.

The object was to place the Mirasidars on vantage ground, if he had to sue a recusant; but there was no mention of the collection of these fees as ordinary revenue, and if any such expectation was held out to the Mirasidar, it was unauthorized. It seems moreover improbable that this can have been the case, as the Collector himself+ remarked that "the collection of the Swatantrams by the Revenue authorities from the Poyakary puttah holders would necessitate fresh legislation" which "might be objected to for obvious reasons" and they should generally be "authorized *to receive* them" –

+ para 11 of letter dated 11th Nov. 1874 No. 630 in G.O. 13th April 1875, No. 590

7. It is stated by Mr. Puckle that the Mirasidars are content with the present arrangement and the Govt. resolve to take at present no legislative action in the matter but to await results. The Mirasidars will now be practically+ "registered holders of land in proprietary right"; and it is possible that the rent recovery Act may be held to apply to these manorial dues which are much more analogous to landlord's rents than to State Revenue.

+ §1. Act VIII of 65

8. Paras 18 to 24 of Mr. Puckle's report will be communicated to the P.W. Dept. and the matter alluded to at the close of para 40 will be separately disposed of –

G.O.

Result of introduction of New Settlement into certain Villages of Chingleput Dist.

Circ.

*Note*: This draft Order returned from circn., passed by Members, on 18th Nov. ulto; but has not been put to Press, as the Bd. informed us that it wd. be proper to consider a Note by the Officer (Rundall) who is acting for Mr Puckle as Director of Settlements, before disposing of the question of *Block* v. *Field* settlement.

L.S.

C 30 Oct/75. Rd 18 Nov/75.

× Is this to be printed?
9 March 1876.

Yes

No. 221

Read Proceedings of the Board of Revenue d/4 August 1875 No 2168.

Read also Demi official letter from Actg Secretary to the Board of Revt. d/8 Decr 1875.

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With the first of the papers above recorded, the Board of Revenue submit the report of Mr. Puckle Director of Revl Settlement on the introduction of the revised settlement into the sixty nine villages in the Principal division of the Chingleput District which comprise the whole area to be irrigated from the Red hills tank, done under his own immediate supervision with a view (1) to illustrate his views as to the best method of making a settlement & 2ndly to shew the manner in which it is proposed to carry out the orders of

Government in the matter of the Mirasidar's claim to Swatantaram fees, the division of common (Samudayam) lands & the treatment of Manavari lands dependant upon rainfall.—

Mr Puckle revised the field classification of the soils on his "block" system & modified Mr Banbury's grouping in 16 villages out of the 69. The ultimate result of the settlement is a decrease of Rs 2296 in the first demand consequent on an increase of Rs 1312 in the wet land under superior irrigation & a decrease of Rs 3608 in the dry lands.

While the report was engaging the attention of Government, the second paper above recorded submitting

a lucid & exhaustive memorandum drawn up by Mr Rundall the acting Director, brought prominently to their notice that Mr Puckle's proposals involved a radical change of the principle of settlement accepted & ratified by the Secretary of State; that his plans were more than once subjected to departmental discussion with unfavorable results; & that the experience of the department is still adverse to them. It further appears that Mr Puckle has already altered the processes of settlement wherever it was possible & given directions to carry out his "block" system. The Government consider that Mr Puckle is to blame for altering the system of settlement ~~[illegible]~~ so extensively without the authority of Government.

Judging by the light of the detailed information afforded by Mr Rundall the "block" system would seem to be a mere readjustment of the existing revenue demand & rectification of revenual anomalies with little reference to any actual valuation or condition of soil. His Grace the Governor in Council directs therefore that Mr Puckle's system wherever enforced be at once stopped & operations under the old system resumed: & sanctions the recommendations made in paras 27, 28, 29, 30, 31 & 33 of Mr Rundall's Memorandum.

His Grace is however of opinion that on Mr Puckle's return the matter may be reconsidered in the light of further explanation, as there is no doubt that Mr Puckle's plan is calculated to escape from the tendency, which follows more accurate valuation, to raise the demand on theoretical grounds — a tendency which must cause much popular discontent.

In regard to the mode of dealing with the Swatantaram fees treated of in Mr Puckle's report, the Board observe that the mirasidars have probably accepted the present settlement of

these.

this question on the understanding that the fees are to be collected for them by the Government in the same manner as arrears of Land Revenue, but that the law does not admit of this & that therefore the old difficulties will soon recur. To meet the difficulty the Board suggest legislation; but the Govt. hesitate to adopt their proposal which they think questionable in principle, for these fees are not State dues in any sense & they further are not satisfied that the Mirassidars are relying on collection being made for them by coercive measures as

of arrears of State Revenue in event of default.

Under the arrangement proposed by the Collector which was warmly supported by Mr Puckle & accepted by Government an agreement was to be taken from all future Durkastdars to pay the Swantantaram & the amount was to be registered.

The object was to place the Mirassidar on vantage ground if he had to sue a recusant; but there was no mention of the collection of these fees as ordinary revenue & if any such expectation was held out to the Mirassidar it was unauthorized. It seems moreover improbable that this can have been the case as the Collector himself remarked that "the collection of the Swatantrams by the Revenue authorities from the Poyakary Puttah holders would necessitate fresh legislation", which "might be objected to for obvious reasons", & that they should generally be "authorized to receive them".

It is stated by Mr. Puckle that the Mirasidars are content with the present arrangement & the Government resolve to take at present no legislative action in the matter but to await results. The Mirasidars, as respects Swatantrams) will now be practically "registered holders of land in proprietary right" & it is possible that the rent recovery act may be held to apply to these manorial dues which are much more analogous to landlords' rents than to State revenue.

Paras 18 to 24 of Mr. Puckle's report will be communicated to the Public Works Department.

14. To the Board of Rev. No. 16 Feb
13 The Secy. Bd of Rev. Sett „
21. The P.W. Dept „

4/2/6

15th Feby 1876

180/6

SR 4-2-76

Block v Field settlers

Forwarded
despatch – [illegible]
[illegible]