M.R.O. I—5,006—16-10-50.

(1) Number of pages 22

(2) Date of repair 31-7-57

(3) Initials of the Referencer

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

Government of Madras

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. 376. Press
B.P. No. Mis.

Dated 11-3-1878 195 .

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GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

11th March 1878, No. 376.

Read the following paper: —

No. 101. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 28th January 1878, No. 232.

Read the following letter from R. K. PUCKLE, Esq., Director of Revenue Settlement, to H. E. STOKES, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Chingleput, 7th November 1877, No. 2,571-A—49 :—

I HAVE the honor to forward a report from the Special Assistant on the result of the Settlement of the Ottapidaram Taluq of the Tinnevelly District.

2. This taluq was taken up on the completion of Nanganeri in March last, and has occupied seven months to settle. A considerable portion of the adjoining taluq of Sattur was, however, settled simultaneously, and the average of the two will be well within the six months usually allowed.

3. A part of Ottapidaram near Tuticorin presented considerable difficulty as the waste Government lands under the Korampallam tank, the last supplied by the Srivaiguntam anicut on the north bank of the river, had to be laid out it blocks, and arrangements had to be made for cutting the needful distributing channels. All this I arranged for myself when last at Tuticorin and by parting with the right of occupancy at Rupees 15 an acre ordinarily and at Rupees 30 an acre in the bed of a ruined tank. I raised a sum of Rupees 6,190, and the channels are now nearly completed.

4. The bulk of the area capable of irrigation from the Korampallam tank is, however, inam and mittah, and as the landlords and tenants are at variance and there are no distributing channels in these villages some special arrangements will have to be made by the Collector and Engineer jointly before any revenue can be derived from the inam and mittah lands. The tank is one of the largest in the district, and the revenue to be derived from it is estimated at about Rupees 30,000.

5. The palmyras along the coast were treated in the usual manner, and an additional revenue of Rupees 1,242 has been brought in from their treatment.

6. Inland—the bulk of the area consisted of black cotton soil interspersed with small rain-fed tanks—the area under the latter was considerably overassessed formerly and the present settlement has reduced the charge by Rupees 2,079 on 2,628 acres, or by about 12 Annas an acre for single crop and by Rupees 545 for second crop. The charge for second crop, however, was mostly fictitious, there being really next to no second-crop water as is proved by only Rupees 83 of permanent double crop having been compounded at settlement in the entire taluq.

7. For the 156,658 acres of dry land the settlement average is 12 Annas 7 Pies an acre, precisely the same as formerly. A considerable area, however, was subject to Chatrabagam and Vararayat remissions. These remissions have now been abolished and all lands are charged full assessment. The average for the black cotton

lands is Rupees 1-0-9 per acre, which corresponds with the assessment of the adjoining Zemindari lands, and the averag for the red soil tracts is 6 Annas 2 Pies an acre, or rather more than the charge fo: the red soils in the river valley.

8. About 1,000 acres have been set aside as pasturage and 61 acres have been added to village sites where required.

9. There is much common land in this taluq; nine villages are entirely held in common and in four others there is still common land. 3,661 acres in other villages were divided among 108 shareholders, but owing to the absence of many of the shareholders in this disastrous year, the settlement officers failed to attain their usual success in division; the shareholders, however, will soon be returning to cultivate and the Collector might arrange even yet to effect a division before the end of the fasli. It must be remembered, however, that a division on paper is of no use whatever, but each man's share must be marked on the ground, and the areas thus marked must be entered in individual puttas before Samudayum is really divided. 1,863 puttas were transferred with the consent of the parties concerned. Certain "Company pannei" lands, the escheated home farm of the Punjalan Kurichi Poligar, comprising 1,371 acres in five villages, are still charged with Swamibagum or landlord's rent in addition to the taram assessment, while the puttas stand in the name of the Government. A still larger area is held on like tenure in the Tenkarai Taluq, and as the continuance of this arrangement is somewhat anomalous it would be well perhaps to allow the ryots to redeem the Swamibagum in the same manner as inams are enfranchised. Puttas might then be given to such ryots as assent to these terms and the lands would be merely charged with their taram assessment hereafter.

10. The renewal of the demarcation in the sea coast villages was purposely omitted as the soil is mere shifting sand that only grows palmyras, and stones are not procurable except at a cost out of all proportion to any possible advantage to be gained.

11. The registers are now in the Press, and the records of this taluq will be handed over to the Collector immediately.

12. The total increase of revenue by settlement is Rupees 10,472 or 8 per cent. on the former revenue of the taluq.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From T. VENKATCHARRIAR, Special Assistant to Collector in charge of the Additional Sub-Collector's Office, Tinnevelly, to R. K. PUCKLE, Esq., Director of Revenue Settlement, dated Kovilpalli, 31st October 1877, No. 247.

I HAVE the honor to submit a report of the financial result of the Ottapidaram Taluq.

2. This taluq contained sixty-nine villages as per Jamabandi, but by amalgamation, clubbing and subdivision, and by transfer of villages to Suttur and to and from Sankaranainarcovil as particularized in the margin, it now contains seventy-six villages consisting of 201,582 acres, or 315 square miles.

	No.	
Total number of villages as per Jamabandi	69	
Deduct—Transfer to Sattur	2	5
Do. to Sankaranainarcovil	2	
Decrease by amalgamation	1	
Remainder ...	64	
Add—Transfer from Sankaranainarcovil	2	
Increase by Sub-division	*10	
Total ...	76	

* Eight in the Survey and only two in the final Settlement.

3. *Irrigation.*—This taluq is irrigated in a few villages on the south-east by the Korampallam tank supplied by the north main channel from the 8th anicut on the Tambrapurani river designated the Srivaiguntam anicut and by rain-fed tanks supplied either by jungle streams or by drainage from the upper dry fields or high mounds. The irrigation from the Korampallam tank is in its first infancy and it will develope itself to the full extent in the course of time. The ryots are reclaiming for nunjah their punjah lands and waste taken up for the purpose, and channels for irrigation are estimated, and they will soon be completed. Under this tank the better lands for irrigation are in the inam village of Korampallam and the mittah village of Kulayan Karisal. If the proprietors and ryots come to proper arrangement, and the latter reclaim their

lands while the former provide branch channels, &c., for them, there will be a large income to Government by water-cess. Korampallam is perhaps the biggest tank in the district and has cost a great outlay to Government. The object of its construction is not only the extension of cultivation in the villages brought under it, but also the supply of fresh water to Tuticorin, a large and rising town on the sea coast with a large population of merchants, fishermen, and others, collected for trade, suffering for want of water. The construction of the tank and the extension of the Tambrapurni water to the town and its suburbs through the north main channel and the Korampallam tank under it have bestowed an immense deal of benefits on the town and have improved the face of it in point of fresh water-supply on a large scale through aqueducts and reservoirs constructed for the purpose by the Municipality. There are only two Government villages in this tract that are now affected by the Korampallam tank irrigation, and out of the rest 42 are affected by rain-fed tanks and 32 are dry villages.

4. *Grouping of Villages.*—The villages irrigated by the Korampallam tank are placed in the 3rd group, and the rest in the 4th for settlement purposes.

5. *Classification of Soils.*—The soil is black, and red loam and sand, viz., a little less than half is black loam, and the rest red loam in the irrigated tracts and more than two-third black loam and the rest mostly red sand in dry as particularized below:—

Wet or Irrigated.					*Dry.*		
Irrigation.	Group.	Classification. Class.	Sort.	Total Area in Acres.	Classification. Class.	Sort.	Total Area in Acres.
River irrigated.	3rd	4	2	147	2	1	15
		4	3	170	2	2	465
		4	4	312	2	3	505
	Total ...	...	...	629	Total ...	...	985
	3rd	7	4	12	4	2	29,163
					4	3	31,862
		4	2	20	4	4	21,478
		4	3	476	4	5	14,850
		4	4	353	5	4	1,755
		4	5	263	5	5	2,526
		5	3	10	7	1	90
Rain-fed...	4th	7	1	68	7	2	436
		7	2	656	7	3	270
		7	3	595	7	4	2,665
		7	4	106	7	5	742
		7	5	36	8	1	1,772
		8	3	3	8	2	1,746
		8	4	4	8	3	7,890
		8	5	26	8	4	22,812
					8	5	13,962
	Total ...	...	...	2,616	8	6	1,654
	Total Rain-fed ...	...	...	3,628	Total...	...	155,673
	Total Irrigated ...	...	...	3,257	Total Dry...	...	156,658
	Baling ...	...	...	44			
	Total Wet ...	...	...	3,301			

6. The assessment arrived at on the dry and wet lands are shown under each money rate now imposed in juxta-position with the assessment that hitherto existed. The average rates of assessment are also exhibited against different items with the result of settlement.

Irrigation.	As per Settlement.								As per Jamabandi.								Difference.	
	Rate per Acre.			Assessment.			Survey Area in Acres.	Average.	Rate per Acre.			Assessment.			Old Area in Acres.	Average.	Extent.	Assessment.
	1st Crop.	2nd Crop.	Total.	1st Crop.	2nd Crop.	Total.			1st Crop.	2nd Crop.	Total.	1st Crop.	2nd Crop.	Total.				
1	2	3	4	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Acres.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Acres.	Rs. A. P.	Acres.	Rs.
	..	..	..	..	..	..	147	..	7 8 0	..	7 8 0	1,106	..	1,106	139	..	8	+1,106
River Irrigated ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	170	..	6 0 0	..	6 0 0	1,021	..	1,021	152	..	18	+813
	..	..	..	..	..	..	—812	..	4 9 9	..	4 9 9	1,402	..	1,402	312	..	..	+1,402
Total ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	629	..	..	..	..	3,529	..	3,529	603	5 9 9	26	+3,321
	6 6 0	..	6 6 0	524	..	524	88	..	6 6 0	..	6 6 0	524	..	524	79	..	9	48
	4 8 0	..	4 8 0	5,089	..	5,089	1,132	..	4 8 0	..	4 8 0	5,089	..	5,089	1,040	..	92	+7
	3 8 0	..	3 8 0	3,356	..	3,356	960	..	3 8 0	..	3 8 0	3,356	..	3,356	894	..	66	1—8
Rain-fed	3 0 0	0 12 0	3 12 0	300	75	375	100	..	3 0 0	0 12 0	3 12 0	300	75	375	97	..	3	+14
	3 0 0	..	3 0 0	848	..	848	282	..	3 0 0	..	3 0 0	848	..	848	255	..	27	+371
	2 8 0	0 10 0	3 2 0	31	8	39	12	..	2 8 0	0 10 0	3 2 0	31	8	39	12	..	3	+2
	2 6 0	..	2 6 0	69	..	69	28	..	2 6 0	..	2 6 0	69	..	69	25	..	..	+24
	2 0 0	..	2 0 0	53	..	53	25	..	2 0 0	..	2 0 0	53	..	53	26	..	..	+10
Total ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,628	3 15 0	..	..	..	10,270	83	10,353	2,428	3 15 0	200	—2,612
Total Irrigated ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3,257	4 4 2	..	..	..	13,799	83	13,882	3,031	4 4 2	226	+709
Baling ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	44	2 2 2	..	..	..	94	..	94	41	2 2 2	3	+5
Total Wet ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3,301	4 3 9	..	..	..	13,893	83	13,976	3,072	4 3 9	229	+714

DRY.

Rate per Acre.	As per Settlement.			As per Jamabandi.			Difference.	
	Extent.	Assessment.	Average.	Extent.	Assessment.	Average.	Extent.	Assessment.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Rs. A. P.	Acres.	Rs.	Rs. A. P.	Acres.	Rs.	Rs. A. P.	Acres.	Rs.
5 0 0	15	76	...	14	68	4 13 8	+ 1	+ 8
3 8 0	465	1,629	...	426	1,519	3 9 1	+ 39	+ 110
2 8 0	505	1,264	...	460	1,131	2 7 4	+ 45	+ 133
Total... ...	985	2,969	3 0 3	900	2,718	3 0 4	+ 85	+ 251
1 8 0	29,253	43,878	...	27,389	42,761	1 9 0	+ 1,864	+ 1,117
1 0 0	34,070	34,075	...	31,558	39,133	1 3 3	+ 1,512	— 5,058
0 12 0	23,494	17,626	...	22,293	18,814	0 13 6	+ 1,201	— 1,188
0 8 0	25,405	12,706	...	24,143	12,324	0 8 2	+ 1,262	+ 382
0 6 0	25,309	9,496	...	23,804	9,769	0 6 7	+ 1,505	— 273
0 4 0	16,488	4,130	...	15,998	4,263	0 4 3	+ 490	— 133
0 3 0	1,654	311	...	1,143	232	0 3 3	+ 511	+ 79
Total... ...	155,573	1,22,322	0 12 7	147,328	1,27,296	0 13 0	+ 8,345	— 5,074
Total Dry...	156,658	1,25,191	0 12 9	148,228	1,30,014	0 14 0	+ 8,430	— 4,823
Total Dry and Wet ...	159,959	1,39,167	...	151,300	1,43,276	...	+ 8,659	— 4,109

7. From the above the following result will be gathered :—

River-irrigated Tract.—The rates imposed on this tract range from Rupees 7-8-0 to Rupees 4-8-0 per acre for single crop. About half of the irrigated area has been assessed at Rupees 6 and 7½ per acre. As per Jamabandi, these lands were either unassessed or assessed with a trifling punjah rate. The settlement average is Rupees 5-9-9 per acre for single crop, and a better average might have been expected had it not been for the lands irrigable under the big tank in Government villages are all poor sandy tracts or such as are impregnated with salt and soda. It is only a small extent and small beriz that may now come to account; but in the course of a short time a considerably larger area may come to assessment from punjah holdings of the ryots and from waste that may become fit for nunjah cultivation.

8. In the Government villages 1,200 acres may be expected to be gradually brought under cultivation which may fetch on an average about Rupees 5,000 more. In the Inam and muttah villages 3,000 acres may come under cultivation which may fetch about Rupees 12,000 as water-cess for a single crop. Water may become available for second crop, at least for half of this extent in this tract which may fetch a water-cess to the amount of Rupees 6,000. In the Government villages, also, about 1,000 acres may come to second-crop cultivation which may fetch an assessment of about Rupees 2,000 on an average. On the whole, the income under the Korampallam tank may be approximately estimated—at least Rupees 10,000 in the Government villages and Rupees 18,000 of water-cess in the Inam and muttah villages, making a total of Rupees 28,000 and may come up to Rupees 30,000 in the long run. These expectations cannot be said to be over-estimated, but may soon be realized to certainty provided all the needful was done by way of branch and drainage channels in all parts where extension of cultivation is feasible. All efforts must be put forth to bring the Muttahdar and Inamdar to excavate their channels for the ryots with whom they must be made to compromise. The ryots must be helped or rather encouraged to reclaim their lands and cultivate nunjah by the encouragement afforded to them by favorable and rather lenient consideration being accorded to them for a few years in the beginning in the charge of assessment. Your arrangements about laying out nunjah waste into acre blocks and providing some funds for the excavation of branch channel during the very short time you stayed at Tuticorin have given a very good impulse to the channel excavation work. In addition to these funds there must be a regular fund to about Rupees 10,000 at least spent to complete the more needful and effectual works towards the extension of cultivation. The Inamdar and Muttahdar must spend a similarly pretty good amount to encourage cultivation in their villages.

9. To the careful attention and energy to be displayed by Public Works Department on this point at an early possible date, must be added the care of the taluq officers to effect this most desirable end for the security of Government interest and making the Korampallam work really useful in point of income. The Tahsildar or other officers must be enabled to spend some time on the spot and encourage the ryots to undertake cultivation and afford them all the need-

ful facilities by way of excavation of channels, acqueducts, sluices, and drainages, and in effecting compromise between the Muttahdar and ryots. When the work is thus successfully started and the progress is made, and the season proves favorable, the expectations will be realized.

10. *Rain-fed Tanks.*—The rates imposed for lands under rain-fed tanks range from 6 to 2 Rupees an acre for single crop. A little less than half of the area of 2,628 acres is assessed at Rupees 4½ and 6 per acre. The assessment as per Jamabandi of Fasli 1286 was Rupees 12,349 for single crop with an average rate of Rupees 5-1-5 per acre; by settlement, it is Rupees 10,270 with an average rate of Rupees 3-15-0 per acre, exhibiting a loss of Rupees 2,079. The average rate arrived at is fair, being more than those obtained for rain-fed tanks in Tenkasi and Ambasamudram Taluqs, though a little less than the rates arrived at in Tinnevelly, Tenkarai, and Nanguneri. Compared, however, generally with the rain-fed tanks of Tinnevelly, Tenkarai, and Nanguneri, those of Ottapidaram are far inferior and less favorably situated for water-supply either in the midst of black-cotton soil where the tank is almost useless as a reservoir, the water oozing away or sinking in the earth soon after a few days of the rain and every fall of rain bringing good deal of deposit of earth, silt, or they are on or near gravelly and sandy hills where the bed soon silts with sand drift. The former rates were exorbitantly high in many cases, and the rates now imposed are fair and relieves the ryots, especially the shareholders or Chatarbogam losers, of much of the burden under which they were hitherto groaning. The small loss under this head is therefore inevitable and is but reasonable.

	Rs.	A.	P.
Tenkasi	3	13	8
Ambasamudram	3	14	5
Tinnevelly	4	4	9
Tenkarai	4	11	3
Nanguneri	5	5	5

11. *The Lands supplied by Baling.*—Baling has in every case been assessed at half the assessment of the block in which it is situated. The extent under this head is very small. The assessment as per Jamabandi was Rupees 77 with an average rate of Rupees 1-14-1 per acre; by settlement, it is Rupees 94 with an average rate of Rupees 2-2-2 per acre, exhibiting a small increase of Rupees 17.

12. The total wet assessment as per Jamabandi was Rupees 12,634 with an average of Rupees 4-1-10; by settlement, it is Rupees 13,893 with an average rate of Rupees 4-3-9 per acre, making a total gain of Rupees 1,259 in the single-crop wet assessment.

13. *Second-crop Assessment.*—Under the head of the second-crop charge the assessment as per Jamabandi of Fasli 1286 was Rupees 628; by settlement, it is only Rupees 83. The charge hitherto made under this head was either nominal or such as could be realized only in favorable years. In the settlement, the ryots did not compound for second-crop charge, excepting in one or two cases where the ryots wanted very much to compound owing to favorable circumstance under which the lands were situated.

14. In the river-irrigated tract, second-crop charge may be compounded for largely. But as the cultivation is in its cradle, the ryots were not allowed to compound, pending the result of regularly extended cultivation and the steadiness of water-supply for a second crop. Under the rain-fed tanks the ryots were generally allowed to withhold compounding as the growth of a second crop is precarious and scanty, there being no facilities for the same.

15. *Dry Lands under Government Wells.*—The assessment as per Jamabandi of Fasli 1286 was Rupees 2,718 with an average rate of Rupees 3-0-4 per acre; by settlement, it is Rupees 2,969 with an average rate of Rupees 3-0-3 per acre, exhibiting an increase of Rupees 251. The rates imposed range from Rupees 5 to Rupees 2-8-0; about half the area of 985 acres is assessed at Rupees 5 and Rupees 3-8-0 per acre.

16. *Ordinary dry Lands.*—The assessment as per Jamabandi of Fasli 1286 was Rupees 1,27,296 with an average rate of Rupees 0-13-10 or Rupees 0-12-7 excluding Chatarbogam; by settlement, it is Rupees 1,22,222 with an average of Rupees 0-12-7, exhibiting a loss of Rupees 5,074. For the black-cotton soil above, the average is Rupees 1-0-9 as per settlement against Rupees 1-2-0 per acre as per Jamabandi. The average is very fair compared with the average obtaining in all the better tracts of the Ettiyapuram and other Zemindaries where the general rate of 1 Rupee per acre for cotton soil prevails. The average rate for red soil is Rupees 0-6-2 as per settlement compared with Rupees 0-7-0 per acre as per Jamabandi, and far in excess of the rates obtained for the red soil in the river-irrigated taluqs.

Rupees 0-15-11 average rate excluding Chatarbogam.

Rupees 0-6-5 average rate excluding Chatarbogam.

17. The total dry assessment including the lands under Government wells was, as per Jamabandi, Rupees 1,30,014, with an average rate of Rupees 0-14-0 or Rupees 0-13-0 per acre excluding Chatarbogam; by settlement, it is Rupees 1,25,191 with an average rate of Rupees 0-12-9 per acre, resulting in a falling off of Rupees 4,823.

18. The total assessment wet and dry as per Jamabandi was Rupees 1,42,648; by settlement, it is Rupees 1,39,084 exhibiting a decrease of Rupees 3,564. Adding to this the loss of Rupees 545 under the head of Second-crop charge, the total loss is Rupees 4,109. Deducting the

fixed remissions of Chatarbogam, Rupees 11,404, from the Jamabandi, and making the comparison, there is an increase of Rupees 7,295.

19. *Palmyras.*—The total number of palmyras as per previous year's account was 83,244 charged with an assessment of Rupees 2,398; by settlement, it is 123,226 assessed at Rupees 3,472, besides seedlings numbering 80,018, of which 31,055 have been charged with Rupees 78, and the remaining 48,963 has yet to be charged, thus making a total of charge on palmyras Rupees 3,550. The charge on palmyras in the cultivated fields has, for a great part, been consolidated with the land assessment, viz., Rupees 2,457 on 84,387 out of 123,226 big palmyras, and Rupees 78 on 31,055 out of 80,018 seedlings. The subjoined table will exhibit in one view the particulars of the palmyras, the assessment on which has been consolidated with the land-tax and of those on which the cess has not been consolidated. The palmyras in this taluq are mostly confined to the few sea-coast villages and a few of the villages adjoining rivers and sand hills, there being almost none in the black-cotton plains and its vicinity:—

Particulars.	Palmyras.		Palmyras.		
	Palmyras.	Assessment.	Seedlings.	Assessment.	Assessment.
As per Settlement	No.	Rs.	No.	Rs.	Rs.
Consolidated	84,387	2,457	31,055	78	2,535
Not consolidated ...	38,839	1,015	48,963	..	1,015
Total ...	123,226	3,472	80,018	78	3,550
As per Jamabandi ...	83,244	2,308	...	...	2,308
Difference ...	+ 39,982	+ 1,164	+ 80,018	+ 78	+ 1,242

20. The principle followed in the settlement of the palmyras is the same as that pursued in the settlement of the river-irrigated taluqs. The result of settlement on palmyras is an increase of Rupees 1,242 in the assessment.

21. *Pasturage.*—Putta lands to the extent of 603 acres, assessed at Rupees 262, have been set aside for pasturage in four villages, besides 400 acres of waste land intermixed with them which were also added to the area of pasture ground. In the other villages, no putta nor waste lands were specially asked to be set aside for pasturage either owing to the lands consisting of black-cotton soil being too valuable to be given up for the purpose, or owing to the facility of finding pasturage in the adjoining sandy and gravelly hills, river or jungle streams and other poramboke.

22. *Building Site.*—About 61 acres, assessed at Rupees 35, have been added to the village building sites in twenty villages where the extension of the village sites was needed.

23. *Division of common Lands.*—Lands to the extent of 3,661 acres held in common have been divided among 108 shareholders in four villages and the sharing system in connection with these lands has entirely ceased. There remain some lands in fourteen villages of which nine villages contain the whole of its lands as common, and the remaining five contain only a small extent of common lands in each. Every effort was made by the ryots and officials to have these Samudayams divided, but to no effect, owing especially to the absence of a large number of shareholders at Trevandrum and other places in consequence of the severe effects of this unparallelled famine. Without the expressed consent of all the shareholders, no subdivision of Samudayam could be effectually carried out. All the existing ryots were asked to use their best endeavors to get this desirable end accomplished, and those that were present used their best attempts to respond to the call, but without their neighbours to sign the Kaitadies or lists of subdivision, their exertions became useless. During the progress of work, every facility was secured for a speedy and easy subdivision of the common lands at an early date when the shareholders again assemble. In some cases, notes were taken together with the Curnams and existing ryots for the preparation of a Kaitadi and in others Kaitadies have also been actually prepared, though they could not secure the signature of many of the shareholders.

24. *Transfer of Puttas.*—One thousand eight hundred and sixty-three puttas have been transferred with the consent of the parties concerned.

25. *Company Pannai Lands or Government Farm Lands.*—In this taluq there is an area of 1,371 acres, assessed at Rupees 1,532 in five villages in the Vilattikulam Division, consisting of 22 cares of irrigated lands assessed at Rupees 118, and 1,349 acres of punjah assessed at Rupees 1,414

held by Government by a putta issued under the designation of Company Pannai or Government farm lands. The cultivation is carried on by the ryots who pay Swamibagam* in addition to the taram assessment on punjah lands. The punjah is made over in auction to the highest bidder on annual Swamibagam in addition to the taram assessment. There are lands that once belonged to one Kattabomma Naikun, a State prisoner, as private farm who was levying Swamibogam or landlord's rent in addition to the land-tax. The practice has been continued by Government who preserved the tenor of this private farm ever since the lands were attached and added to the State, nothing having been done to dispose of the lands to the cultivators or others and get rid of the Government putta.

* Landlords Rent.

26. Similar lands exist in a larger scale in the Tenkarai Taluq where a reference having been made about the disposal of the lands, order (16th February 1876, No. 226,) has been passed to continue the practice of levying Swamibogam as usual.

27. *Redemarcation.*—Redemarcation was completed in all the villages in the taluq excepting 10 villages or parts of them in the sandy tracts and places where a large number of ryots were absent owing to famine, especially in the Villattikolam Division. In the sandy tracts of Tuticorin, Vypar, &c., the redemarcation and sinking of stones to the level of the ground have been stopped as has been done in the sand hills of the Tenkarai Taluq. In the other parts where the ryots were absent the work was left incomplete in one or two kandams here and there, but it is being completed by a few hands as most of the ryots have now returned to their villages and the ground is sufficiently wet for planting stones. The work that remains to be done is but small and it will be completed at no distant time. In 38 villages of the Tuticorin and Ottapidaram Divisions and a part of the Kayattar Division the work was inspected by Dorasawmy Iver, Deputy Inspector, specially deputed for the purpose, in co-operation with Head Classifiers Kistnasawmy Iyengar, Rama Chendra Row, and Tirakamiah who have worked at different times in this division under Superviser Balu Naidu. In the remaining portion of the Kayattar division, consisting of 28 villages, the work was inspected by Head Classifier Muttusawmy Iyangar, Ramaseshaiyar, and the Head Demarcator Subramaiyar of the Coimbatore Party under Supervisor Ramaiyar. The two Supervisors have generally inspected in different parts of their divisions at all times of their inspection of villages and superintending over registration in the fields and blocking out classification.

28. Mr. Bird visited all of the villages in the Tuticorin Division and several of those in Ottapidaram Division, as the redemarcation was then being made and was in point of completion. I have, together with the two Supervisors and Head Classifiers, gone over the different tracts of their divisions in blocking out classification while the redemarcation was in progress in some large villages and where they had been completed by that time in others, and I am satisfied that much care has been generally bestowed by the officials and their supervisors as well as by the ryots in the redemarcation. Where any deficiency was observed in the matter either in point of imbedding stones or other, the ryots were made to take an interest in the matter by good advice and impression made in their minds of the importance and necessity of attending to the work for their own good, and by insisting on the indispensability of their effectually doing it then and there.

29. To summarize the results of the settlement in the taluq of Ottapidaram, the heavy and anomalous rates of assessment on irrigated lands under rain-fed tanks and on dry lands in inferior tracts in the vicinities of jungle streams impregnated with soda and lime or adjoining sand hills and gravelly tracts have been got rid of, and fair rates imposed as suited to the circumstances of the country.

30. All nominal second crop charges on punjah have been stopped.

31. The fluctuating charges on palmyras have been compounded for permanently consolidated cess in all possible cases.

32. *Transfers of Puttas.*—One thousand eight hundred and sixty-three puttas were transferred in all unobjectionable cases.

33. *Division of Common Lands.*—Common lands were divided in all feasible cases and arrangements made for a speedy division of the remaining as far as practicable in the usual course.

34. The permanent remissions known locally as Dupatimaniem, Ivu Dittamaniem, and Stalamkaval, amounting to Rupees 1,620, have been brought to the credit of the general fund for the payment of the village establishment.

35. Lands held on favorable terms by privilege classes (Chaterbogom, &c.) have been brought to full assessment.

36. *Pasturage.*—Pasture lands were provided for in a few cases where they were required.

37. *Building Site.*—Extension of building sites was arranged for according to the actual requirements of the ryots.

38. The total final net result of settlement compared with the Jamabandi of Fasli 1286, after deducting permanent remissions and net loss of revenue by transfer of items from the Jamabandi assessment and adding the increase of palmyra revenue, is a gain of Rupees 10,472 specified below :—

			RS.
Total Jamabandi assessment			1,43,746
Deduct loss of time.			
Transfer to Poramboke, such as village-sites, pasturage, &c.	363		
Relinquishment	107		
		470	
Remainder ...			1,43,276
Deduct permanent remissions.			
Chaterbogam	11,192		
Shrotriem and Vararíyayat...	212		
		11,404	
Remainder ...			1,31,872
Deduct also Net loss of transfer of Items.			
	RS.		
Nunjah to Punjah	1,241		
Baling to do.	38		
Garden to do.	147		
Two crop to one crop	628		
	2,054		
Deduct Increase.			
One crop to two crop	71		
Punjah to Nunjah	42		
Do. to Garden...	6		
	119	1,935	
Remaining Jamabandi Assessment			1,29,937
Palmyra assessment			2,308
Total ...			1,32,245
As per Settlement.			
		RS.	
Land Revenue...		1,39,167	
Palmyra Cess		3,550	
			1,42,717
Net Result.			
		RS.	
Land Revenue		+ 9,230	
Palmyra Cess...		+ 1,242	
Net Increase ...			+ 10,472

39. The available assets in this taluq for further increase of revenue consists of Rupees 3,500, being assessment of irrigated and dry waste in all other villages, but those affected by the Sreevyguntam and Rupees 26,500* from the Government Villages and the Inam and Muttah Villages under the Korampallam tank supplied by the north main channel from the Streevyguntam Anicut as above particularized under the head of assessment, making up a total of Rupees 30,000.

	RS.
* Amount estimated in paragraph 8	30,000
Deduct assessment already brought to account out of occupied nunjah in Government Villages ...	3,500
Remainder ...	26,500

40. I beg to forward herewith the revised final taluq map showing the irrigation, &c., and scroll maps to show the mode of assessment pursued in different tracts of the taluqs.

41. The diglott registers and descriptive memoirs and eye sketches of all the 76 villages have already been submitted.

(True Copy)

(Signed) R. K. PUCKLE.
Director of Revenue Settlement.

WITH the foregoing letter the Director of Revenue Settlement submits a report on the settlement of the Ottapidaram Taluq of the Tinnevelly District which has been carried out by the application of the table of rates adopted for the rest of the district under the sanction conveyed in G.O., dated 22nd May 1877, No. 1,779.

2. The taluq formerly comprised 69 villages; the net result of clubbing, subdivision, and transfers is an increase of seven. The irrigated area is small amounting to only 3,301 acres out of a total of 159,959; the source of supply is chiefly rain-fed tanks at present, but a considerable extension of wet cultivation is expected from the Karampallam tank supplied from the Streevyguntam anicut on the north bank of the river, where certain disputes between the Inamdars who own the bulk of the land under this source and their tenants have been settled and distributing channels supplied. The possible increase of revenue is estimated at about Rupees 26,500—*vide* paragraph 39 of the Special Assistant's report. The attention of the Collector is called to paragraph 4 of the Director's report and he will take the matter into consideration at an early date. The irrigated villages have been placed in two groups, those under the Karampallam tank being placed in the third group and the rest in the fourth.

3. The soil in the irrigated tracts is black and red loam in nearly equal proportions; in the dry tracts more than two-thirds is black loam and the rest mostly red sand. The revised assessment and area by survey are shown in comparison with the old area and assessment in the subjoined abstract:—

—	AREA.		ASSESSMENT.		DIFFERENCE.	
	By Pymash.	By Survey.	As per Jamabandi of Fasli 1286.	Revised.	Extent.	Assessment.
						RS.
River-irrigated	603	629	208	3,529	+ 26	+ 3,321
Rain-fed. 1st crop ..	2,428	2,628	12,349	10,270	+ 200	— 2,079
Rain-fed. 2nd crop.			616	83		— 533
Baling	41	44	89	94	+ 3	+ 5
Total Wet ...	3,072	3,301	13,262	13,976	+ 229	+ 714
Dry lands under Government wells.	900	985	2,718	2,969	+ 85	+ 251
Ordinary dry lands ...	147,328	154,673	127,296	122,222	+ 8,345	— 5,074
Total Dry ...	148,228	155,658	130,014	125,191	+ 8,430	— 4,823
Grand Total ...	151,300	159,959	143,276	139,167	+ 8,659	— 4,109

4. The increase in the area by survey is a little more than 5½ per cent. The financial results have been incorrectly calculated at paragraph 38 of the Special Assistant's report, transfers due to settlement having been taken into account, whereas the permanent remissions discontinued at settlement should alone have been deducted from the Jamabandi demand. Applying the necessary correction the account will stand thus—

	RS.
Assessment of Fasli 1286 as given at paragraph 38	1,43,746
Deduct permanent remissions	11,404
	1,32,342
Add Palmyra Assessment	2,308
Total ...	1,34,650

Revised Settlement.	
Land Revenue	1,39,167
Palmyras	3,550
	1,42,717
Net Increase ...	8,067

or not quite 6 per cent. instead of 8 per cent. on the former revenue.

5. The following statement shows the area under each of the wet and dry rates with the proportion to the total extent:—

WET.			DRY.		
Rate per Acre.	Survey Area.	Per cent.	Rate per Acre.	Survey Area.	Per cent.
RS. A. P.			R. A. P.		
7 8 0	147	4·5	5 0 0	15	...
6 0 0	258	7·9	3 8 0	465	·3
4 8 0	1,444	44·3	2 8 0	505	·3
3 12 0	100	3·	1 8 0	29,253	18·7
3 8 0	960	29·5	1 0 0	34,070	21·8
3 2 0	12	·4	0 12 0	23,494	15·
3 0 0	282	8·7	0 8 0	25,405	16·2
2 8 0	28	·9	0 6 0	25,309	16·1
2 0 0	26	·8	0 4 0	16,488	10·5
...	...	...	0 3 0	1,654	1·1
Total ...	3,257	100·0	...	156,658	100·0

About two-thirds of the wet land is assessed at from Rupees 3-8-0 to 4-8-0 and the bulk of the dry land is rated at from 6 Annas to a Rupee and a half per acre. The average wet rate is Rupees 4-3-9 against Rupees 4-1-10 according to the accounts of Fasli 1286 and the average dry rate 12 Annas 9 Pies as compared with 14 Annas. The lands under rain-fed tanks having been formerly over-assessed relief has been afforded by a reduction of about 12 Annas an acre. There is but little second crop land; lands irrigated by baling have been rated at half the assessment of the block in which they are situated. The palmyras have been treated as usual; the total revenue derived therefrom is Rupees 3,550 as compared with a former charge of Rupees 2,308, the increase being Rupees 1,242.

6. Building sites have been extended and grazing grounds assigned where necessary, puttas revised, and common lands sub-divided so far as was possible. The Collector's attention is called to the remarks of the Director at paragraph 9, and he should endeavour to effect a division of the remaining Samudayam land as soon as may be; matters are probably too unsettled to admit of its being carried out within the current fasli. The redemption of the "Swamibogam" at 25 years' purchase, wherever the ryots assent, has been recently authorized—G.O., dated 7th January 1878, No. 16. There does not however seem to be much disposition to redeem, and there is no object in forcing redemption.

7. The Board consider the settlement of the Ottapidarum Taluq satisfactory and recommend that it be confirmed.

(True Copies and Extract.)

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

No. 102. ORDER THEREON, 11th March 1878, No. 376.

Land Revenue, No. 9.

HIS GRACE the Governor in Council approves and confirms the settlement of the Ottapidaram Taluq in Tinnevelly District reported in the foregoing Proceedings.

2. The average wet rate is Rs. 4-3-9 against Rs. 4-1-10 according to the accounts of Fasli 1286, and the average dry rate 12 Annas 9 Pies as compared with 14 Annas.

3. The net result of the settlement is an increase of 8,658 acres in the Survey area and of Rs. 8,067 in the assessment, viz., about 5½ and 6 per cent. over the present Revenue area and assessment respectively.

4. The palmyra topes have been settled as usual, the increased assessment derived therefrom being Rs. 1,242.

5. The Collector will attend to the Director's remarks regarding the special arrangements to be made in respect of the irrigation from the Korampallam tank and the division of the remaining "Sanudayam" or common land.

6. The settlement has been conducted, under the sanction conveyed in G.O., dated 22nd May 1877, No. 1,779, on the principles already sanctioned for the rest of the district, and calls for no special remark.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) C. G. MASTER,
Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.
" the Director of Revenue Settlement.

Exd. G. Freeman.

15. M. 38 & 11

Copies to
Govt. of {1878} Madras.

REVENUE.

To

THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

&c., &c., &c.

Dated March 11th.

Rect.

Encl.

G.O.

ARCH.
Nos. 101-102.

Taluq in Tinne-
confirming the—
venue.

376
11/3/78

Revenue Department.

No 376

Proceedings of the Madras Government

dated 11th March 1878

Read Proceedings of the Board
of Revenue dated 28th January
1878 No. 232 recommending
that the Settlement of Attu-
-paidaram Taluk in Tinnevelly
District be confirmed.

His Grace the Governor in
Council approves and confirms
the Settlement of the Attapi-
-daram Taluk in Tinnevelly
District, reported in the
foregoing Proceedings.

2. The average wet rate
is Rs 4-3-9 against Rs 4-1-10
according to the Accounts of
Fasli 1286, and the average

B.C. 9/3
MD
7/3

dry rate 12 annas 9 pies
as compared with 14 annas.

3. The net result of the
Settlement is an increase
of 8658 acres in the Survey
area, and of Rs 8067 in
the Assessment, or about
5½ and 6 per cent over
the present Revenue-area
and Assessment respectively.

4. The Palugrahams have been
settled, as usual, the increased
assessment derived therefrom
being Rs 1242.

5. The Collector will attend
to the Director's remarks re-
garding the special arrange-
ments to be made in
respect of the irrigation from
the Konampallam Tank,
and the division of the
remaining 'Samudayam'

9

or Common Lands.

6. The Settlement has been
conducted, under the Sanction
conveyed in G.O. dated 22nd
May 1877, No. 1,779, on the
principles already sanctioned
for the rest of the District;
and calls for no special
remarks.

14 Taluk Board of Revenue Dr. 20 Annas
2 to the Director of Dry Lands

20
4

12

19

Draft C. C.

Regarding the Settlement
of Estates during Rebellion
and Treasury Notes.