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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.G.O. No. 1719Press *original*
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GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.
REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

18th August 1879, No. 1,719.

No. 305. READ THE FOLLOWING PAPER:—

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 2nd May 1879, No. 1,162.

Read the following letters:—

From A. T. ARUNDEL, Esq., Acting Deputy Director of Revenue Settlement, Party No. IV., to W. WILSON, Esq., Acting Director of Revenue Settlement, dated Bhavani, 27th September 1878, No. 192.

I HAVE the honor to report on the settlement of the Conjeveram and the Madhurantakam Taluks of the Chingleput District with which the settlement of the whole of that district is brought to a close. Both taluks have been settled under the table of rates of assessment sanctioned for the rest of the district.

2. The work accomplished has been much the same in both taluks and consisted of—

- (1.) Revision of the irrigated area.
- (2.) Examination of the original classification and formation of blocks for assessment.
- (3.) Checking the entries of all holdings and preparing new village registers.
- (4.) Miscellaneous accounts and corrections in each village, with comparative statements of the assessment in Fasli 1287.
- (5.) Transfer of puttās.
- (6.) Division of Samudayam or common lands.
- (7.) Registry of Mirāssi lands and entry of Swatantram or Manorial fee.
- (8.) Allotment of grazing-grounds, threshing-floors, burial-grounds, building sites, &c. &c.

3. CONJEVERAM.—This taluk together with Chingleput, the settlement of which has already been completed and accepted (G.O., No. 1,053, dated 11th July 1878), was originally classified by the Deputy Director Major Stuart, and his scheme for its settlement was sanctioned in G.O., No. 541, dated 6th February 1877. The work was conducted by two large parties; one at Conjeveram under Supervisor Ayavayengar with a staff selected from the Chingleput and Coimbatore Parties, and the other at Sriperumbudur under Uncovenanted Assistant Vencata Row with the bulk of the Chingleput Party. It was found necessary to entrust the close of the operations in the Conjeveram Division also to Vencata Row to ensure prompt completion.

4. The Conjeveram Division contains 164 villages, and that of Sriperumbudur 130. The physical and social characteristics of the taluk have been noticed by Major Stuart in his report and do not call for repetition.

5. Area.—The whole taluk contains 294 villages, comprising a surveyed area of 249,092 acres or 389 square miles. The increase by survey was 24,135 acres or 11 per cent. The following table gives full details:—

Items.	Total Area.	Deduct.			Balance.	Occupied.	Unoccupied.
		Unassessed Waste.	Inam.	Total.			
	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.
As per Revenue Accounts of Fasli 1298	224,957	80,745	9,866	90,611	134,346	102,642	31,704
As per Survey	249,092	89,948	10,958	100,906	148,186	114,204	33,982
Difference	+ 24,135	+ 9,203	+ 1,092	+ 10,295	+ 13,840	+ 11,562	2,278
Percentage	11	---	---	---	---	---	---

6. *Sources of Irrigation.*—The Palar river with its tributaries, the Vigayadi on the north bank and the Cheyaur on the south, supplies numerous channels which are cut through its sandy bed. These channels afford direct irrigation to a considerable area, but for the most part supply tanks which channel-fed and rain-fed together are the mainstay of the irrigation. The following table shows the number of villages under the different sources of irrigation:—

Names of Sources.	Number of Villages.	OCCUPIED.		UNOCCUPIED.		INAM.		Total.	
		Area.	Assessment.	Area.	Assessment.	Area.	Assessment.	Area.	Assessment.
1. River and spring channel ...	47	10,579	51,256	480	1,894	1,391	8,642	12,450	61,792
2. River-fed tanks ...	80	29,804	1,10,280	2,253	6,453	2,375	10,716	24,434	1,27,449
3. Rain-fed tanks.	163	33,733	1,11,565	4,377	11,341	3,008	11,755	41,118	1,34,668
Total ...	289	74,118	2,73,101	7,110	19,638	6,774	31,113	88,002	3,23,902

7. *Grouping.*—The changes made in the original grouping of villages was trifling; one village was reduced from the first to the second group, and three were raised from the third group to the second. As finally settled, there are 49 irrigated villages in the first group, 132 in the second, and 108 in the third. All the unirrigated villages are in the second group.

8. *Changes in the Irrigated Area.*—The following table shows the area brought newly under the head of "irrigated," and also the area transferred from "irrigated" to "unirrigated." The increase under the former item is due to the inclusion of a large area hitherto classed as "dry" but regularly irrigated and subject to the payment of water-rate:—

Particulars of Charges.	Occupied Survey Area.	Unoccupied Survey Area.	Inam Survey Area.	Total Survey Area.
Total wet ayacut as per Revenue Accounts of Falsi 1286 and charges of Falsi 1287 ...	66,792	7,245	6,730	80,767
Deduct transfer from wet to dry ...	1,412	853	74	2,339
Remainder Wet, ...	65,380	6,392	6,656	78,428
Add Transfers from Dry to Wet ...	8,738	718	118	9,574
Total ...	74,118	7,110	6,774	88,002

9. *Swatantram or Manorial Fees.*—A Swatantram fee of 2 annas per rupee of the assessment payable to the Village Mirassidars has been entered in the settlement registers against the land held in common or in shares by the Mirassidars, and against the unoccupied waste lands. No swatantram fee is entered against lands already obtained on durkhast and held under putta. The total area of waste land against which the Swatantram fee has been entered is 27,315 acres and the total of the fees amounts to Rs. 4,426 or an average of Rs. 15-0-10 per village. This is the maximum sum, and would be payable only if every acre of waste land were taken up for cultivation.

10. *Division of Samudayam or Common Lands.*—One hundred and eighty-two villages out of the total 294 contained Samudayam lands. In 177 of these, common lands, amounting to 4,396 acres, have been divided among the shareholders, who are 2,285 in number; 375 acres in the remaining five villages are still undivided owing to dissensions among the shareholders.

11. *Manavari Lands.*—These are lands which ordinarily grow a crop of rice by means of the rainfall alone, and which on account of the precarious nature of this supply received a remission of 20 per cent. on the irrigated land rates formerly imposed upon them. These lands have now been assessed at special rates varying from Rs. 2-8-0 to Rs. 1-4-0 per acre. The former remission will of course cease henceforth. The following table gives detailed information as to these lands:—

Rate per Acre.	AS PER SETTLEMENT.			AS PER REVENUE ACCOUNTS.				
	Survey Area.	Assessment.	Average.	Old Area.	Assessment.	Remissions.	Balance.	Average.
RS. A. P.	ACRES.	RS.	RS. A. P.	ACRES.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS. A. P.
2 8 0	204	511	...	177	666	132	534	...
2 0 0	132	267	...	106	305	60	245	...
1 8 0	203	304	...	179	367	73	294	...
1 4 0	84	105	...	68	79	16	63	...
Total ...	623	1,187	1 14 6	530	1,417	281	1,136	2 2 4

12. *Lands allotted for Public purposes.*—Acres 3,323 chiefly unoccupied waste have been set apart as common grazing-ground. Acres 426 have been assigned for village building-sites, threshing-floors, roads, burying-grounds, cattle-stands, &c. The assessment on the 312 acres of land voluntarily relinquished for these purposes was Rs. 565. The following table gives details as to the different items:—

Items.	OCCUPIED.		UNOCCUPIED.		TOTAL.	
	Dry.	Wet.	Dry.	Wet.	Dry.	Wet.
	ACS. CS.	ACS. CS.	ACS. CS.	ACS. CS.	ACS. CS.	ACS. CS.
Threshing-floor ...	6 55	1 39	36 97	8 81	43 52	10 20
Village-site ...	97 89	0 8	40 8	4 85	137 97	4 93
Pasturage ...	101 78	...	2,945 91	275 3	3,047 69	275 3
Cattle-stand ...	8 0	...	32 30	...	40 30	...
Road ...	70 12	28 16	32 9	2 9	102 21	23 25
Jungles for firewood ...	...	...	59 0	...	59 0	...
Total ...	284 84	27 63	3,146 35	290 78	3,430 69	318 41

13. *Classification of Soil.*—The following table shows the classification of the soil irrigated and unirrigated (exclusive of Inams) throughout the taluk:—

Description of Soils.		CLASSIFICATION.		Dry.	Wet.	Total.
		Class.	Sort.			
Black clay ...	Best ...	3	1	ACS. CS.	ACS. CS.	ACS. CS.
	Good ...		2	70 7	1,171 65	1,241 72
	Ordinary ...		3	369 22	1,099 17	1,468 39
	Inferior ...		4	132 50	1,072 37	1,204 87
	Worst ...		5	49 16	1,058 58	1,107 74
Black loam ...	Best ...	4	1	1,178 5	4,209 45	5,387 50
	Good ...		2	489 77	5,118 74	6,608 51
	Ordinary ...		3	999 13	6,812 84	7,811 97
	Inferior ...		4	1,544 60	5,683 91	7,133 51
	Worst ...		5	2,150 46	5,012 51	7,162 97
Black sand ...	Best ...	5	1	945 85	3,189 57	4,135 42
	Good ...		2	1,116 0	197 0	1,313 0
	Ordinary ...		3	3,352 24	392 88	3,745 12
	Inferior ...		4	2,587 53	361 39	2,948 92
	Worst ...		5	692 0	2,012 0	2,604 0
				8 0	113 0	126 0

Description of Soils.		CLASSIFICATION.		Dry.	Wet.	Total.
		Class.	Sort.			
Red clay	Best	6	1	ACS. CS.	ACS. CS.	ACS. CS.
	Good		2	143 66	67 91	211 57
	Ordinary		3	1,049 46	74 21	1,123 67
	Inferior		4	37 95	64 18	102 13
	Worst		5	...	...	...
Red loam	Best	7	1	929 72	4,091 52	5,021 24
	Good		2	3,302 37	5,089 48	8,391 85
	Ordinary		3	4,049 78	4,376 76	8,426 54
	Inferior		4	3,229 61	4,806 17	8,035 78
	Worst		5	3,914 73	9,743 5	13,657 78
Red sand	Best	8	1	3,435 74	1,330 56	4,766 30
	Good		2	12,637 3	2,431 9	15,118 12
	Ordinary		3	8,284 92	2,137 18	10,422 10
	Inferior		4	2,561 26	3,040 71	5,601 97
	Worst		5	7,747 30	6,534 74	14,282 4
Total ...		...	...	66,958 11	81,227 62	148,185 73

14. *Comparison of Assessment on Irrigated Area.*—The following comparative statement shows the result of settlement on lands irrigated by direct flow and by baling from tanks and channels:—

Items.	Rate per Acre.	AS PER SETTLEMENT.			AS PER REVENUE ACCOUNTS OF FASLI 1287.			INCREASE OR DECREASE BY SETTLEMENT.	
		Extent.	Assessment, single Crop.	Average.	Extent.	Assessment, single Crop.	Average.	Area.	Assessment.
Direct flow.	RS. A. P.	ACRES.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	ACRES.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	ACRES.	RS.
	7 8 0	1,343	10,109 1 0	..	1,259	9,388 15 0	..	..	..
	6 4 0	7,173	44,832 4 0	..	6,651	42,402 15 0	..	..	..
	5 0 0	10,666	53,333 3 0	..	9,697	51,953 2 0	..	..	..
	4 0 0	11,643	46,626 6 0	..	10,543	45,013 3 0	..	..	..
	3 8 0	9,426	33,032 4 0	..	8,619	30,066 3 0	..	..	..
	3 0 0	10,542	31,650 11 0	..	9,401	27,317 7 0	..	..	..
	2 8 0	10,510	26,276 7 0	..	9,241	21,652 8 0	..	..	..
Total ..		71,867	2,67,021 0 0	3 11 5	64,427	2,44,683 6 0	3 12 9	+ 7,440	+ 22,338
Baling	6 8 0	52	335 7 0	..	52	313 2 0	..	..	..
	5 4 0	172	905 1 0	..	160	833 14 0	..	..	..
	4 0 0	283	1,137 8 0	..	265	1,148 3 0	..	..	..
	3 0 0	500	1,502 3 0	..	448	1,433 5 0	..	..	..
	2 8 0	334	839 15 0	..	308	805 1 0	..	..	..
	2 0 0	315	630 11 0	..	285	682 13 0	..	..	..
	1 8 0	267	401 4 0	..	225	418 7 0	..	..	..
	1 0 0	328	328 12 0	..	278	397 13 0	..	..	..
Total ..		2,251	6,080 13 0	2 11 3	2,021	6,032 10 0	2 15 9	+ 230	+ 48
Grand Total..		74,118	2,73,101 13 0	3 10 11	66,448	2,50,716 0 0	3 12 4	+ 7,670	+ 22,386

15. *Comparison of Assessment on Unirrigated Area.*—The following comparative statement shows the result of the settlement on the unirrigated lands:—

Items.	Rate per Acre.	AS PER SETTLEMENT.			AS PER REVENUE ACCOUNTS OF FASLI 1287.			INCREASE OR DECREASE BY SETTLEMENT.	
		Extent.	Assessment.	Average.	Extent.	Assessment.	Average.	Area.	Assessment.
Dry	RS. A. P.	ACRES.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	ACRES.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	ACRES.	RS.
	2 8 0	469	1,176 6 0	..	430	1,296 11 0	..	..	..
	2 0 0	1,722	3,461 2 0	..	1,622	3,796 15 0	..	..	..
	1 8 0	7,977	11,979 7 0	..	7,464	12,130 11 0	..	..	..
	1 4 0	16,733	20,923 10 0	..	15,287	20,424 7 0	..	..	..
	0 12 0	8,169	6,143 10 0	..	7,068	7,898 11 0	..	..	..
	0 8 0	3,717	1,868 15 0	..	3,224	2,690 7 0	..	..	..
	0 6 0	1,299	490 3 0	..	1,099	909 3 0	..	..	..
Total ..		40,086	46,043 5 0	1 2 5	36,194	49,147 1 1	1 5 9	+ 3,892	- 3,104

16. *Unoccupied Waste Lands.*—The extent of irrigated land now lying waste and available for cultivation is 7,110 acres, assessed at Rs. 19,688. The unirrigated waste land available for cultivation is 26,872 acres, assessed at Rs. 21,774. The possible increase of land revenue in the taluk is thus known to be Rs. 41,462 without reckoning the water-rate chargeable on any unirrigated lands that may possibly receive a supply of water from a Government source.

17. *Inam Lands.*—The following brief statement shows the area, the nominal assessment on classification of both settled and unsettled Inams, and the quit-rent actually payable on the former. It will be seen that 6,107 acres of land nominally assessed at Rs. 19,541 are claimed and held as Inams without recognition by the Inam Commissioner:—

Items.	AS PER REVENUE ACCOUNTS.		AS PER SETTLEMENT.		DIFFERENCE.		Quit-rent.
	Extent.	Assessment.	Extent.	Assessment.	Extent.	Assessment.	
Settled ..	ACRES. 4,386	RS. 18,736	ACRES. 4,851	RS. 16,891	ACRES. + 465	RS. - 1,845	RS. 1,788
Unsettled ..	5,480	21,693	6,107	19,541	+ 627	- 2,152	..
Total ..	9,866	40,429	10,958	36,432	+ 1,092	- 3,997	1,788

18. *Results of the Settlement.*—The financial results of the settlement may be thus summarized.

Items.	Irrigated or Unirri- gated.	Group.	Occupied.						Difference.		Percentage.	
			As per Settlement.			As per Revenue Accounts.			Extent.	Assessment.	Extent.	Assessment.
			Extent.	Assessment.	Average.	Extent.	Assessment.	Average.				
Settlement proposals	Wet ..	1	ACRES. 19,400	RS. A. P. 93,379 0 0	RS. A. P. ..	ACRES. 17,475	RS. A. P. 87,248 0 0	RS. A. P. ..	ACRES. ..	RS. A. P. ..	ACRES. ..	RS. ..
		2	38,113	1,38,225 0 0	..	34,295	1,30,609 0 0	..	..	..	..	..
		3	15,618	43,976 0 0	..	13,832	40,914 0 0	..	..	..	..	..
	Total ..	..	73,131	2,75,580 0 0	3 12 4	65,602	2,68,771 0 0	3 15 1	+ 7,529	+ 16,809 0 0	11.6	6.5
Grand Total ..	Dry ..	2	40,202	46,944 0 0	1 2 8	30,232	48,718 0 0	1 5 6	+ 3,970	- 1,774 0 0	10.9	3.6
		..	113,333	3,22,524 0 0	2 13 6	101,834	3,07,487 0 0	3 0 4	+ 11,499	+ 15,035 0 0	11.3	4.9
		1	19,515	92,789 0 0	..	17,568	85,512 0 0	..	..	..	..	..
	Settlement Actuals ..	Wet ..	2	38,667	1,35,903 0 0	..	34,760	1,26,626 0 0	..	...	..	..
3			15,936	44,409 0 0	..	14,120	39,678 0 0	..	..	..	..	..
..			74,118	2,73,101 0 0	3 10 11	66,448	2,50,716 0 0	3 12 4	+ 7,670	+ 22,385 0 0	+ 11.5	+ 8.9
Total ..		..	40,086	46,043 0 0	1 2 5	36,194	49,147 0 0	1 5 9	+ 3,892	- 3,104 0 0	+ 10.8	- 6.3
Grand Total ..	..	..	114,204	3,19,144 0 0	3 12 9	102,642	2,99,863 0 0	2 14 9	+ 11,562	+ 19,281 0 0	+ 11.3	- 6.4

19. From this statement it at first sight appears that the increase in the assessment on irrigated land is by settlement 8.9 per cent. instead of 6.5 per cent. as proposed. The difference, however, arises from the fact that Major Stuart's proposals were based on the revenue demand of Fasli 1283, whereas the present comparison is with the demand of Fasli 1286, which fell off owing to the famine by Rs. 8,000. If the assessment as now settled be compared with the revenue demand of Fasli 1283, the percentage of increase is found to be less than under Major Stuart's proposal, viz., 5.5 per cent. actuals as against 6.5 per cent. proposed.

20. Part of the increase of assessment on the irrigated area, viz., Rs. 8,896, is due to the increased assessment on lands transferred from unirrigated to irrigated. The extent thus transferred was 9,055 acres, assessed in Fasli 1286 at Rs. 12,611, and now assessed at Rs. 21,507.

21. The decrease under the head of unirrigated is somewhat greater than that proposed. Rs. 2,716 of the reduction is due to the area 1,721 acres transferred from irrigated to unirrigated, assessed in Fasli 1286 at Rs. 5,018, and now assessed at Rs. 2,302.

22. *Averages.*—The average rate of assessment for the irrigated land as now settled is Rs. 3-10-11 as against Rs. 3-12-4 by the old accounts, and for the unirrigated Rs. 1-2-5 per acre as against Rs. 1-5-9. The average rates in the other settled taluks of Chingleput are—

		Wet.			Dry.		
		RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.
Ponneri	..	3	4	2	1	1	6
Saidapet	..	3	10	2	1	3	1
Chingleput.	..	3	4	2	0	15	7
Tiruvallur	..	3	6	1	1	0	8

23. *Second Crop.*—The second crop charge, amounting to Rs. 3,988, has been consolidated with the consent of the ryots on 2,441 acres out of 74,118. This will be a permanent charge and does not include the charge on other lands which are occasionally cultivated with a second crop. The total second crop assessment of Fasli 1286 was Rs. 7,193.

The rate of compounding was one-third and one-fourth of the single crop rate according to the group in which the village was placed. No remission should hereafter be allowed on lands thus assessed with the consolidated rate except in case of failure of both crops.

23-1. *Net Results.*—The net results may be as follows:—

	RS.
Increase on single crop assessment	22,386
Deduct loss on area compounded for second crop	2,684
	19,702
Deduct loss of assessment on unirrigated area	3,104
Net increase of assessment	16,598

24. *Puttas.*—The total number of puttas issued during the settlement was 13,587 against 12,948 by the old accounts: 2,425 puttas were transferred to the names of the rightful heirs or owners with the consent of all parties concerned.

25. *Durkhasts and Relinquishments.*—Acres 33 of irrigated land, assessed at Rs. 38, and 102 acres of unirrigated, assessed at Rs. 88, were relinquished and 10 acres of irrigated land, assessed at Rs. 26, and 35 acres of unirrigated, assessed at Rs. 23, were newly taken up during the settlement.

26. *Fixed Remissions.*—The following remissions allowed under the old accounts should henceforth cease:—

	RS.	A.	P.	
Teajgari	75	5	1	Remission to certain classes on their holdings in four villages.
Pymash commi	994	1	11	Remission for supposed deficiency of area of 11 villages.
Kani commi	32	11	0	Remission for supposed deficiency of area of 6 villages.

27. **MADHURANTAKAM.**—This taluk has been settled without special preliminary scheme on the same rates of assessment sanctioned for the rest of the district, which it closely resembles in physical features. A preliminary classification was carried out in this taluk during 1876 and part of 1877 by Mr. Pedroza, Assistant Manager, and Supervisor Ayavayengar, under Mr. Puckle's directions. This classification was revised during the settlement which has just been effected. Work was begun in the month of March and completed before the end of July. The taluk was divided for settlement purposes into two parts. The Uttramallur Division containing 170 villages was undertaken by Assistant Director T. Vencata Chari with the Party No. VI transferred from Tinnevely, and the Madhurantakam Division containing 177 villages was assigned to Uncovenanted Assistant C. Ranga Chari with the bulk of the Coimbatore Party.

28. **Physical features.**—The taluk of Madhurantakam forms the southernmost portion of the Chingleput District. It is bounded on the east by the Bay of Bengal, on the south by the South Arcot District, and on the west by the North Arcot District. It is for the most part a level plain diversified here and there by isolated rocky hills. It is largely dependant on rainfall for irrigation, but a large area is irrigated by channels from the Cheyaur and Palar rivers which forms its northern boundary.

29. **Area.**—The whole taluk contains 347 Ryotwari villages, comprising a surveyed area of Acres 305,347 or 477 square miles. The area by the old measurement was Acres 279,141 or 436 square miles. The increase by survey is thus 26,206 acres or 9.4 per cent. The following table gives full details:—

Particulars.	Total Area.	District.			Balance.	Occupied.	Unoccupied.
		Poramboke.	Inams.	Total.			
As per Revenue Accounts ..	ACS. 279,141	ACS. 107,651	ACS. 16,834	ACS. 124,485	ACS. 154,656	ACS. 110,130	ACS. 44,526
As per Settlement ..	305,347	113,695	18,452	132,147	173,200	122,601	50,599
Difference ..	+ 26,206	+ 6,044	+ 1,618	+ 7,662	+ 18,544	+ 12,471	+ 6,073
Percentage ..	9.4	..	..	..	..	..	..

30. **Sources of Irrigation.**—Channels for direct irrigation and for the supply of tanks are led off without masonry works from the sandy bed of the Palar and Cheyaur rivers and supply the bulk of the irrigated land. The following statement shows the area and assessment under the different sources of irrigation:—

Names of Sources.	Number of Villages.	OCCUPIED.		UNOCCUPIED.		INAM.		TOTAL.	
		Area.	Assessment.	Area.	Assessment.	Area.	Assessment.	Area.	Assessment.
1. River and spring channels ..	52	ACS. 3,362	RS. 13,759	ACS. 721	RS. 2,079	ACS. 602	RS. 3,002	ACS. 4,685	RS. 18,840
2. River-fed tanks ..	52	18,561	75,625	1,523	5,353	1,956	9,214	22,045	90,192
3. Rain-fed tanks ..	242	44,457	1,59,359	4,129	12,891	5,831	22,751	54,417	1,95,001
Total ..	..	66,380	2,48,748	6,378	20,323	8,389	34,967	81,147	3,04,033

31. **Grouping.**—Some changes from the grouping originally proposed by the classifiers was found advisable chiefly in the unirrigated tracts. The following table shows the grouping as originally proposed and as finally settled:—

Dry or Wet.		1st Group.	2nd Group.	3rd Group.	Total.
Dry.					
As originally fixed ..	..	16	325	6	347
As finally fixed ..	..	2	345	..	347

Dry or Wet.		1st Group.	2nd Group.	3rd Group.	Total.
Wet.					
As originally fixed ..	..	38	231	78	347
As finally fixed ..	..	41	237	69	347

32. **Changes in the Irrigated Area.**—The following table shows the area brought newly under the head of "irrigated," and also the area transferred from "irrigated" to "unirrigated." The increase under the former item is due to the inclusion of a large area hitherto classed as "dry," but regularly irrigated and subject to the payments of water-rate:—

Particulars of Changes.	Occupied Survey Area.	Unoccupied Survey Area.	Inam Survey Area.	Total Survey Area.
	AC.	AC.	AC.	AC.
Total wet ayacut as per Revenue accounts of Fasli 1286 and changes of Fasli 1287 ..	60,786	6,154	8,330	75,270
Deduct transfers from wet to dry ..	956	412	21	1,389
Remainder wet ..	59,830	5,742	8,309	73,881
Add transfers from dry to wet ..	6,550	635	80	7,265
Total revised wet ayacut ..	66,380	6,377	8,389	81,146

33. **Swatantram or Manorial Fees.**—A swatantram fee of two annas per rupee of the assessment payable to the Village Mirassidars has been entered in the settlement registers against the land held in common or in the shares by the Mirassidars, and against the unoccupied waste lands. No swatantram fee is entered against lands already obtained on durkhast and held under putta. The total area of waste land against which the swatantram fee has been entered is 49,281 acres in 333 villages, and the swatantram fee thereon is Rs. 8,549, or Rs. 25-10-9 per village.

34. **Division of Samudayam or Common Lands.**—5,597 acres of common lands have been divided among 2,262 Mirassidars in 232 villages. In 27 villages with 1,143 acres of common land no division could be effected owing to the dissensions among the Mirassidars. In the remaining 88 villages no samudayam land existed.

35. **Manavari Lands.**—These are lands which ordinarily grow a crop of rice by means of the rainfall alone, and which on account of the precarious supply received a remission of 20 per cent. of the wet land assessment formerly imposed on them. These lands have now been assessed under special rates varying from Rs. 3 to Rs. 0-12-0 per acre. The former remission will, of course, cease for the future. The following table gives detailed information:—

Rate per Acre.	Survey Area.	AS PER SETTLEMENT.			AS PER REVENUE ACCOUNTS.			Average.
		Assessment.	Average.	Area.	Assessment of Fasli 1286.	Remissions.	Balance.	
RS. A. P.	AC. C.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	AC. C.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.
3 0 0	1 71	5 2 0	..	1 76	5 0 0	1 0 0	4 0 0	2 0 0
2 8 0	184 30	459 6 0	..	169 64	516 5 11	102 14 0	413 7 11	2 7 7
2 0 0	561 97	1,121 1 0	..	499 17	1,551 11 4	310 11 10	1,240 15 6	2 7 9
1 8 0	184 16	277 5 0	..	157 20	345 13 6	69 2 8	276 10 10	1 12 3
1 4 0	37 89	47 10 0	..	33 20	63 13 1	12 5 10	51 7 3	1 9 3
0 12 0	4 81	3 10 0	..	4 81	7 0 6	1 6 6	5 10 0	1 3 2
..	974 84	1,917 2 0	1 15 5	865 78	2,489 12 4	497 8 10	1,992 3 6	2 4 9

36. *Lands allotted for public purposes.*—12,264 acres of land chiefly unoccupied waste were allotted among 124 villages for common grazing grounds; 1,109 acres were assigned for village building sites, threshing-floors, cattle-stands, roads, burial-grounds, and tank waterspread. The assessment on 384 acres of land voluntarily relinquished for these purposes was Rs. 497. The following table gives details as to the different items:—

Items.	OCCUPIED.		UNOCCUPIED.		Unassessed Waste.	Total.	Number of Villages for which allotted.
	Wet.	Dry.	Wet.	Dry.			
	Ac. C.	Ac. C.	Ac. C.	Ac. C.	Ac. C.	Ac. C.	
Threshing-floor	4 29	8 8	97 45	60 18	15 0	170 0	41
Village-site	8 54	178 60	..	181 69	..	383 83	112
Pasturage and firewood jungle ..	..	142 1	211 0	10,687 69	1,223 87	12,264 57	124
Cattle-stand	..	3 77	..	37 6	313 84	354 17	22
Road	0 72	10 26	..	13 66	..	24 64	14
Burial-ground	..	..	12 42	1 23	..	13 65	4
Waterspread	8 30	24 34	..	134 93	..	162 57	9
Total ..	16 85	367 6	320 87	11,116 44	1,552 21	13,373 43	..

37. *Classification.*—The following table shows the classification of the soil irrigated and unirrigated throughout the taluk:—

Description of Soil.		Dry.	Wet.	Total.
		Ac.	Ac.	Ac.
Black clay ...	Best ... 3-1	475	685	1,160
	Good ... 2	1,043	1,520	2,563
	Ordinary ... 3	647	1,990	2,637
	Inferior ... 4	1,789	2,529	4,318
	Worst ... 5	1,710	10,641	12,351
Black loam ...	Best ... 4-1	793	2,798	3,591
	Good ... 2	7,862	9,190	17,052
	Ordinary ... 3	5,058	9,927	14,985
	Inferior ... 4	4,450	10,834	15,284
	Worst ... 5	3,157	10,308	13,465
Black sand ...	Best ... 5-1	2,044	353	2,397
	Good ... 2	2,449	393	2,842
	Ordinary ... 3	2,025	351	2,376
	Inferior ... 4	819	458	1,277
	Worst ... 5	597	3,033	3,630
Red loam ...	Best ... 7-1	10,890	558	11,448
	Good ... 2	3,292	1,017	4,309
	Ordinary ... 3	4,078	1,897	5,975
	Inferior ... 4	2,809	1,268	4,077
	Worst ... 5	1,019	1,820	2,839
Red sand ...	Best ... 8-1	13,916	194	14,110
	Good ... 2	10,480	214	10,694
	Ordinary ... 3	14,531	375	14,906
	Inferior ... 4	3,590	230	3,820
	Worst ... 5	474	172	646
Arenaceous loam...	Good ... 12-2	81	3	84
	Ordinary ... 3	364	..	364
Total ...		100,442	72,758	173,200

38. *Comparison of Results, Irrigated Area.*—The following comparative statement shows the result of the settlement on lands irrigated by direct flow and by baling from tanks and channels:—

Irrigation.	Rate per Acre.	As per Settlement.			As per Accounts of Fasli 1287.			Difference.	
		Survey Area in Acres.	Assessment, Single Crop.	Average.	Area.	Assessment, Single Crop.	Average.	Extent.	Assessment.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Direct flow ...	Rs. A. P.	Ac.	Rs.	Rs. A. P.	Ac.	Rs.	Rs. A. P.	Ac.	Rs.
	7 8 0	528	8,959	...	500	3,308	...	...	...
	6 4 0	4,719	29,496	...	4,415	27,937	...	...	...
	5 0 0	9,909	49,554	...	9,163	48,307	...	...	...
	4 0 0	12,656	50,667	...	11,511	47,476	...	...	...
	3 8 0	11,593	40,618	...	10,554	36,500	...	...	...
	3 0 0	10,985	32,926	...	9,943	28,583	...	...	...
	2 8 0	9,764	24,407	...	8,883	21,253	...	...	...
	2 0 0	3,983	7,980	...	3,575	6,791	...	...	...
	...	64,117	2,39,607	3 11 10	58,544	2,20,654	3 12 4	+5,573	+ 19,953
Baling ...	6 8 0	13	80	...	12	56	...	...	...
	5 4 0	164	853	...	152	848	...	...	...
	4 0 0	241	961	...	217	937	...	...	...
	3 0 0	535	1,610	...	478	1,379	...	...	...
	2 8 0	721	1,808	...	645	1,475	...	...	...
	2 0 0	301	600	...	273	585	...	...	...
	1 8 0	205	307	...	180	351	...	...	...
	1 0 0	83	83	...	70	79	...	...	...
	...	2,263	6,299	2 12 6	2,026	5,710	2 13 1	+ 237	+ 589
	...	66,380	2,45,908	3 11 3	60,570	2,26,364	3 11 10	+5,810	+ 19,542

39. *Unirrigated.*—The following comparative statement shows the result of the settlement on the unirrigated lands:—

Rate per Acre.	As per Settlement.			As per Jamabandi.			Difference.	
	Extent.	Assessment.	Average.	Extent.	Assessment.	Average.	Extent.	Assessment.
Rs. A. P.	Ac.	Rs.	Rs. A. P.	Ac.	Rs.	Rs. A. P.	Ac.	Rs.
3 0 0	8	45	...	9	25	...	...	...
2 8 0	823	2,068	...	749	1,893	...	...	...
2 0 0	13,867	26,774	...	12,047	25,938	...	...	...
1 8 0	14,035	21,076	...	12,375	23,373	...	...	...
1 4 0	12,467	15,591	...	10,413	15,939	...	...	...
0 12 0	12,711	9,545	...	11,186	11,089	...	...	...
0 8 0	2,553	1,279	...	2,357	2,096	...	...	...
0 6 0	257	97	...	243	275	...	...	...
	56,221	76,450	1 5 9	49,279	79,613	1 9 10	+ 6,942	— 3,168

40. *Unoccupied Lands.*—The extent of irrigated land now lying waste and available for cultivation is 6,378 acres, assessed at Rs. 20,323. The unirrigated waste land available for cultivation is 44,221 acres, assessed at Rs. 52,738. The possible increase of land revenue in the taluk is thus shown to be Rs. 73,061 apart from any subsequent charge for water-rate on lands now irrigated.

41. *Inam Lands.*—The following brief statement shows the area, the nominal assessment on classification of both settled and unsettled inams, and the quit-rent actually payable on the former. It is worthy of note that 12,330 acres of land nominally assessed at Rs. 30,840 are claimed and held as Inams without recognition by the Inam Commissioner:—

Whether Settled or Unsettled.	Dry or Wet.	AS PER SETTLEMENT.		AS PER ACCOUNTS OF FASLI 1286.		Quit-rent.
		Extent by Survey.	Assessment.	Extent.	Assessment.	
Settled	Wet	AC. 3,915	RS. 13,652	AC. 2,782	RS. 13,962	RS. 1,401
	Dry	3,107	4,525	3,840	5,485	
	Total ...	6,122	18,177	5,622	19,447	
Unsettled	Wet	5,874	21,315	4,932	20,624	
	Dry	6,956	9,525	6,270	11,402	
	Total ...	12,830	30,840	11,202	32,026	

42. *Financial Results.*—The financial results of the settlement may be thus summarized:—

Item.	Irrigated or Unirrigated.	Group.	OCCUPIED.						DIFFERENCE.		PERCENTAGE.		
			As per Settlement.			As per Revenue Account.			Area.	Assessment.	Area.	Assessment.	
			Area.	Assessment.	Average.	Area.	Assessment.	Average.					
Settlement Proposals.	Wet	1	AC. 15,743	RS. 71,252	RS. A. P. 4 8 5	AC. 16,897	RS. 76,525	RS. A. P. 4 8 6	— 1,154	— 5,273	AC. 6·8	RS. 6·9	
		2	35,705	1,37,756	3 18 9	34,987	1,35,275	3 13 10	+ 718	+ 2,479	2·1	1·8	
		3	8,567	23,892	2 12 7	8,973	24,764	3 12 2	— 406	— 872	4·5	3·4	
	Total ...		60,015	2,32,900	3 14 1	60,857	2,36,564	3 14 2	— 842	— 3,664	1·4	10·5	
	Dry	1	2,884	5,487	1 14 5	2,749	5,718	2 1 3	+ 135	— 231	5·0	4·0	
		2	47,272	66,156	1 6 5	46,774	66,960	1 6 11	+ 498	— 804	1·0	1·2	
		3	123	138	1 1 11	146	96	0 10 6	— 23	+ 42	1·0	43·8	
Settlement Actuals.	Wet	1	18,412	78,528	4 4 3	17,029	73,678	4 5 3	+ 1,383	+ 4,850	8·1	6·6	
		2	39,410	1,44,664	3 10 8	35,802	1,32,344	3 11 2	+ 3,608	+ 12,320	10·1	9·3	
		3	8,558	22,714	2 10 6	7,739	20,342	2 10 1	+ 819	+ 2,372	10·6	11·6	
	Total ...		66,380	2,45,906	3 11 3	60,570	2,26,364	3 11 10	+ 5,810	+ 19,542	9·6	8·6	
	Dry	1	817	1,670	2 0 8	778	1,839	3 5 10	+ 39	— 169	5·0	9·2	
		2	55,404	74,780	1 5 7	48,501	77,779	1 9 8	+ 6,903	— 2,999	1·4	3·9	
	Total ...		56,221	76,450	1 5 9	49,279	79,618	1 9 10	+ 6,942	— 3,168	14·1	3·9	
	Grand Total.		1,22,601	3,22,356	...	109,849	3,05,982	...	+ 12,752	+ 16,374	11·6	5·4	

There is thus a net increase on the irrigated area of Rs. 19,542, or 8·6 per cent. on account of the first crop charge. It is to be observed that this does not correspond to the increase of area by survey which amounts to 9·6 per cent. Further, 6,550 acres of unirrigated land which in Fasli 1286 paid an assessment of Rs. 10,145 have now been transferred to "irrigated" and assessed at Rs. 20,051, giving an increase of Rs. 9,906. The irrigated lands appear to me to be assessed very moderately. The average rate per acre is only Rs. 3-11-3 as against Rs. 3-11-10 by the old account. In the taluks of Ottaipidaram, Satur, and Sankaranainarkoil of the Tinnevely District, where the rainfall is far less, the average rates are Rs. 4-3-9, Rs. 4-9-2, and Rs. 4-15-1 respectively. The corresponding averages for the taluks of Chingleput already settled are Tiruvallur Rs. 3-6-1, Ponneri Rs. 3-4-2, Saidapet Rs. 3-10-2, and Conjeveram Rs. 3-12-4.

43. There is a decrease in the assessment of unirrigated lands to the amount of Rs. 3,168, although the survey increase of area is 6,912 acres, or 14 per cent. There is no doubt that the former rates for unirrigated land were abnormally high, being on the average four annas per acre higher than in the adjacent taluk of Conjeveram. Of the total loss under this head, Rs. 1,347 is due to the reduction of assessment on 956 acres transferred from "irrigated" to "unirrigated." Major Stuart in his scheme for the settlement of Conjeveram and Chingleput Taluks (paragraph 51) says, "From the above statement it will be perceived that there is a decrease in dry in nearly every class and sort, and this is naturally to be expected in a tract of country deficient in fertility with soils of an inferior quality for the production of dry crops paying hitherto an assessment, disproportionate to its agricultural value." The following table shows that even with the reduction averaging four annas per acre now effected the "dry" rates in Madhurantakam are the highest in the district:—

	RS.	A.	P.
Madhurantakam	1	5	9
Ponneri	1	1	6
Saidapet	1	3	1
Tiruvallur	1	0	8
Chingleput	0	15	7
Conjeveram	1	2	5

44. *Compounded Rates for Double Crops.*—The second crop charge, amounting to Rs. 2,837, has been consolidated with the consent of the ryots on 2,271 acres out of 66,380 acres. On the same area the second crop assessment of Fasli 1286 was Rs. 4,630; the decrease is Rs. 1,793. Besides this there will, of course, be an occasional second crop charge on lands not thus assessed with the compounded rate. The object in imposing this consolidated rate is to encourage the ryots to utilize and economize the irrigation water to the utmost and to supplement it by digging wells of their own from which they may irrigate a second crop by baling. The rate of compounding was one-third and one-fourth of the single crop rate.

No remission should hereafter be allowed on lands thus assessed with the consolidated rate except in case of failure of both crops.

45. *Net Results.*—The net results may be shown as follows:—

	RS.
Increase on single crop assessment	19,542
Deduct loss on area compounded for second crop	1,793
	17,749
Deduct loss of assessment on unirrigated area	3,168
Net increase of assessment	14,581

46. *Puttas.*—The total number of puttas issued during the settlement was 12,046 against 10,781 by the old accounts. Of the total number issued, 2,249 were joint-puttas and the rest single; 3,246 puttas were transferred to the rightful heirs or holders with the consent of all parties concerned.

47. *Durkhasts and relinquishments* of lands were not accepted by the Settlement officers, but the cases reported by the Revenue authorities were brought to account; 505 acres of unirrigated and 12 acres of irrigated land were thus relinquished, while 3,245 acres of unirrigated and 635 acres of irrigated land were entered in the puttas.

48. *Fixed Remissions.*—The following remissions allowed under the old accounts should henceforth cease:—

- Teajakari, Rs. 84-3-0.*—Remissions to certain classes on their holdings. The area affected is 156 acres in ten villages.
- Kuvi Kammi, Rs. 113-12-9.*—Remissions for supposed deficiency of area four villages.
- Palmaish Kammi, Rs. 15-5-7.*—Remissions for supposed deficiency of area three villages.
- Taram Kammi, Rs. 0-9-0.*—Remissions for supposed deficiency of area one village.

49. The scrol maps, diglott registers, descriptive memoirs, and eye sketches have been completed as usual.

50. The Assistant Director T. Vencatacharri and the two Uncovenanted Assistants Venkata Row and Rungacharri worked without unflagging diligence to complete the work within the time assigned by Mr. Puckle. The work was practically finished in June, but the closing of the accounts brought as well into July. By the 1st August, however, the transfer of all three parties to Coimbatore had been effected, and work was immediately commenced in that district.

51. The delay in the submission of this report has arisen from the difficulty of obtaining complete information on various small matters after the transfer of the settlement parties to another district.

P.S.—The general report on the settlement of the whole district required by Government in G.O., No. 1,053, dated 11th July 1878, will shortly be despatched.

From A. T. ARUNDEL, Esq., Acting Deputy Director of Revenue Settlement, Party No. IV, to W. WILSON, Esq., Acting Director of Revenue Settlement, dated Coimbatore, 21st October 1878, No. 1,302-395.

I HAVE the honor to submit a report on the completed settlement of the district of Chingleput as required by Government in their Order, No. 1,053, dated 11th July 1878.

2. Two settlement schemes for the district have received the sanction of Government. The first scheme was prepared by the late Director Mr. Banbury for the taluks of Ponneri, Tiruvallur, and Saidapet, and was sanctioned in G.O., No. 295, dated 24th February 1875. The second scheme was prepared by the Deputy Director Major (now Lieutenant-Colonel) Stuart for the taluks of Conjeveram and Chingleput, and was sanctioned in G.O., No. 541, dated 6th February 1877. The sixth and last taluk of the district, Madhurantakam, was settled without special preliminary scheme on the data procured for the rest of the district.

3. The actual introduction of the settlement was effected in each taluk as follows:—

Name of Taluk.	No. of Villages settled.	Period of Settlement.	Name of Settling Officers.
Saidapet	69	8th March 1875 to 9th June 1875.	Mr. Puckle, Director of Revenue Settlement.
	140	August 1875 to July 1876.	Major C. J. Stuart, Ag. Deputy Director.
Ponneri	152	March 1876 to Jan. 1877.	Major C. J. Stuart, Ag. Deputy Director.
Chingleput	236	Dec. 1877 to Mar. 1878.	Runga Chari, Uncovenanted Assistant, Party No. II.
Tiruvallur	224	Do. do.	D. Venkata Row, Ag. Assistant Director, Chingleput Party.
Conjeveram	130	April 1878 to June 1878.	D. Vencata Row, Ag. Assistant Director, Chingleput Party.
	164	Jan. " to " "	Ayyavayyengar, Acting Uncovenanted Assistant.
Madhurantakam ...	177	Apr. " to " "	Runga Chariyar, Uncovenanted Assistant, Party No. II.
	170	Mar. " to " "	Assistant Director T. Venkata Chariar.

4. The area and population of the district are as follows:—

Taluks.	GOVERNMENT (RYOTWARI).		ZEMINDARI INAM, &c.		TOTAL.		POPULATION.		
	Villages.	Area in Square Miles.	Villages.	Area in Square Miles.	Villages.	Area in Square Miles.	Government (Ryotwari) Villages.	Zemindari Inam, &c.	Total.
1. Saidapet	209	255.47	75	86.89	284	342.36	142,165	44,073	186,238
2. Ponneri	152	238.31	100	108.73	252	347.03	68,127	35,296	103,423
3. Tiruvallur	224	333.71	77	113.86	301	507.57	110,063	40,677	150,740
4. Conjeveram	294	339.18	113	124.40	407	514.58	138,013	29,589	167,601
5. Chingleput	236	343.80	76	92.06	312	435.86	108,934	26,809	135,743
6. Madhurantakam ...	347	475.79	170	219.85	517	695.64	135,599	61,901	197,500
Total	1,462	2,996.26	611	745.78	2,073	2,542.04	702,902	237,815	940,717

5. *Physical features.*—Four out of the six taluks of Chingleput, viz., Ponneri, Saidapet, Chingleput, and Madhurantakam are washed by the Bay of Bengal. The City of Madras falls within the limits of the Saidapet Taluk which bounds Madras on all sides except the east. The districts conterminous with Chingleput are Nellore on the north, North Arcot on the north and west, and South Arcot on the south. The country on the whole is flat and uninteresting, with sandy wastes adjoining the sea. The northern part of the Tiruvallur Taluk and the immediate neighbourhood of Chingleput are however hilly, and isolated rocks and ridges rise abruptly from the plain in various other localities. The rainfall is fairly abundant. The average rainfall during the decade 1866—1875 over the whole district amounted to 41 inches per annum.

6. *Rivers.*—Beginning from the north, the *Aranyanadi* passes through the north of Tiruvallur and the centre of Ponneri, throwing off channels which supply twenty-three tanks. The *Cortelliar* or *Kusastala* river springs from the surplus of the great Kaveripakkam tank in the adjoining district of North Arcot. Before entering Chingleput, the river is tapped by the Kesaveram weir which supplies the Bangaru channel known further down its course as the Coom. In the Chingleput District the Cortelliar flows through Tiruvallur and the south of Ponneri. It is first dammed by the weir of Vellur Tambrapakkam which supplies the great reservoirs of Cholaveram in Ponneri and the Red Hills Lake in Saidapet. Further down its course another weir at Seivapuram irrigates the neighbouring villages.

The *Coom* derives its source mainly from the surplus of the Coom Tank and the Bangaru channel from the Cortelliar. By a channel from a masonry weir it fills the great Chembrambakkam Tank in Saidapet, and it supplies numerous other tanks by mud-dams thrown across its stream. The *Adayar* is a stream formed by the surplus water of the Chembrambakkam Tank. It affords no supply of water for direct irrigation. The *Palar* rises in Mysore, passes through North Arcot, and, after skirting the south of the taluks of Conjeveram and Chingleput, falls into the Bay of Bengal, a few miles south of the old Dutch Settlement of Sadras. This river irrigates many villages on each bank by means of channels cut through its sandy bed and re-excavated year by year by the ryots with much labor and expense. The principal of these channels is the Pambakkal, which runs a course of between 30 and 40 miles through the Conjeveram Taluk supplying a series of important tanks. It terminates in the large reservoir of Sriperumbudur, which alone irrigates 1,379 acres assessed at Rs. 6,620. The *Vegatati* river is a small tributary falling into the Palar on the left or northern bank. It affords an uncertain supply to a few channels drawn from its bed. The *Cheyaur* takes its rise in the hills of the Salem District. As far as its junction with the Palar, it forms the southern boundary of the Conjeveram Taluk. It supplies some small tanks on its northern bank in Conjeveram, and on the south the great reservoirs of Uttramerur (4,821 acres assessed at Rs. 18,764) and Madhurantakam (2,893 acres assessed at Rs. 11,764).

7. *Tanks.*—The district contains 3,000 tanks and channels irrigating a total area of 330,000 acres assessed at over 11½ lakhs of rupees per annum. There are 29 of these

tanks, each of which irrigates over 1,000 acres of land. The total area under these 29 tanks, is 73,000 acres and the assessment is nearly three lakhs of rupees.

The largest tank in the district is the Chembrambakkam, which irrigates 12,207 acres assessed at Rs. 62,863. The Cholavaram, another well-known tank, irrigates 2,472 acres assessed at Rs. 9,513.

The Red Hills Tank, which supplies Madras with fresh water, irrigates at present 3,324 acres assessed at Rs. 12,692.

8. *Communications—Railways.*—The district is traversed by three lines of Railway. The Madras Railway passes through the Saidapet and Tiruvallur Taluks; the Conjeveram Railway joins the large town of Conjeveram with the Madras Railway at Arkonam in North Arcot; the South Indian Railway connects the towns of Saidapet, Chingleput, and Madhurantakam with Madras on the north and the districts of South Arcot and Tanjore on the south.

Roads.—The district is on the whole well supplied with roads, though a few feeders will probably be required in the course of time for the smaller stations on the South Indian Railway.

Canals.—There is through communication by the Buckingham Canal recently completed under the auspices of His Grace the Governor from the south of the district beginning at the mouth of the Palar near Sadras through the district northward into Nellore via the Pulicat Lake, a distance of about 70 miles. The Buckingham Canal has been formed by uniting through the town of Madras the former waterways known as the East Coast Canal and Cochrane's Canal.

9. *Towns.*—The most important town in the district is Conjeveram, famous for its two shrines, sacred to Siva and to Vishnu, to which pilgrimages are made from all parts of India. Mahabalipuram or Seven Pagodas, 35 miles south of Madras, is visited on account of its singular rock temples now partially submerged by the sea. Sadras, 30 miles south of Madras, and Pulicat, 20 miles north of Madras, are known as old Dutch Settlements. Chingleput on the South Indian Railway, 30 miles south-west of Madras, is the residence of the Judge, the Sub-Collector, and other Civil authorities.

10. *Condition of the people.*—Mr. Banbury's remarks on this topic are applicable to the whole district. He says, "Considering the proximity to Madras and the consequent increase in civilization among these ryots, one would expect to see greater prosperity and better cultivation than elsewhere, but such is not the case. Poverty and poor cultivation are the general characteristics. This unsatisfactory state of affairs must be attributed to the three following causes:—

"1st.—The mirassi system. The so-called Mirassidars often cultivate only a small portion of their lands, leaving the rest to be tilled by Payakaries (tenants) whose tenancy is insecure, and who consequently do not lay out anything to speak of in manuring or good farming, but just manage to get on as they can. Again, many of the Mirassidars are in offices at Madras and know or care little about their possessions, saving when they use their influence to obtain remissions of assessment thereon.

"2nd.—The Mirassidars naturally enough were unwilling to see waste lands which they deemed their own property made over to others, and thus being anxious to keep out these new-comers, whom they regard as interlopers, the Mirassidars were wont to take up more waste lands than they had, either the means or inclination to cultivate, and thus embarrassments and impoverishment are the frequent consequence.

"3rd.—The proximity to Madras has doubtless something to answer for. Life at or near Madras means increased wants, and when the cultivation is neglected for the gratification of these wants, money is not forthcoming for the payment of Government dues.

"No doubt the soil is inferior as a rule, but if this tract of country could by magic be transported into Cuddapah, and be filled by the hard-working race of those

parts, matters would soon assume a more satisfactory appearance." To these reasons I would add a fourth, viz., that the constant demand for labor in a great city like Madras is a constant inducement to men in the condition of mere field laborers or tenants at a rack-rent to migrate thither in search of more profitable employment. This tendency receives a great stimulus from the fact that the Mirassi system has hitherto been a great barrier against the development of the under tenant into a landholder. The landholder himself is in too many cases an absentee, but clings tenaciously to his right and title in lands that he cannot cultivate himself. The tenant or new comer desirous to become a landholder could obtain no holding of his own without a struggle and preferred trying his fortune in Madras to becoming a tenant-at-will of the landholder on the hard terms of an equal division of the produce. Under such adverse conditions no wonder that good farming is a rarity, weeding and manuring neglected, and that most of the district wears a poverty-stricken aspect. Finally, custom, tyrannical throughout Hindoo Society, brings its mischievous influence to bear, and those who with a good example would be inspired to active exertion, become as supine as their neighbours. In a subsequent page of this report will be found the arrangements which under Mr. Puckle's supervision have been carried out with the view of removing the evil effects of these adverse conditions.

11. *Products.*—The agriculture of the district is devoted in the main to the production of food-grain. During the year ending July 1876, 413,000 acres of Ryotwari and Inam lands were cultivated with food-grains, of which 325,778 acres were rice. In the following year of famine the area under food-grain was 371,000 acres, of which 240,000 were rice. The extent under Indigo fell from 4,600 acres in the former year to 3,100 in the latter. The area under oil-seeds and nuts rose from 9,700 acres in 1876 to 21,300 in 1877. There are 2,200 acres planted with cocoanut groves and 21,700 acres under plantations of other trees including casuarinas, which are largely grown for firewood on the sandy tracts near the sea.

12. *History of the Revenue Administration.*—The pages of Mr. Banbury's original report show that the Chingleput District was for several generations little better than a *corpus vile* for imperfect experiments in administration. The following abridgment of the history may be of interest. The Chingleput District forms part of the Jaghire or ceded territory made over to the East India Company by the Nabob of the Carnatic in 1750 and 1763. Its subsequent history may be divided into three periods: 1st, from the date of the grant to the invasion of Hyder Ali in 1780; 2nd, from Hyder Ali's invasion to the introduction of the Ryotwari system in 1804; and, 3rd, from 1804 to the present time.

13. *First Period, 1760 to 1780.*—On the acquisition of the territory it was leased by the East India Company to the Nabob himself from year to year for the sum of Rs. 12,90,000, of which about Rs. 8,70,000 appear to have been revenue derived from the land. The Revenue Accounts for the years 1762 to 1766 gave the average income from every source as Rs. 9,63,800. Under this administration the outturn of the ryots' crop was taken at an exorbitantly high rate which made no allowance for vicissitudes of season and the amounts wrung from the ryots in corruption and extortion either reduced them to beggary or forced them to abscond with what possessions they could, leaving the nominal rent still outstanding. "The Nabob's administration destroyed the very vitals of the Jaghire, while its invasion with fire and sword by Hyder Ali in 1780 hardly left in many parts of the country any other traces of its having been inhabited by human beings, than the bones of bodies that had been massacred, or the naked walls of the houses, choultries, and temples which had been burnt. To the havoc of war succeeded the affliction of famine, and the emigrations arising from these successive calamities nearly depopulated the district."

14. *Second Period, 1780—1804.*—On the outburst of war in 1780, the district of Chingleput with the rest of the Jaghire passed from the Nabob's control to that of a "Committee for assigned Revenue." In 1783, the whole Jaghire was divided into fourteen farms which were rented out in nine years' leases to needy and ignorant adventurers at rents which rose progressively from a total of Rs. 1,68,700 to Rs. 13,33,500. In six years' time the annual revenue should have been ten lakhs, but so rapacious and incapable were the renters and so impoverished the people that the

average revenue at that time was less than four lakhs of rupees; most of the renters were in prison for default and their farms had been confiscated. In 1790, the Governor, Lord Hobart, found matters had reached a pernicious climax to the detriment both of the Government and the people, and he solved the difficulty by abolishing the nine years' lease altogether. The lands were then made over in small allotments on a three years' lease to the chief inhabitants of each locality. This step was followed by an increase of revenue, but no attempt was made to effect improvements in the country or to develop its resources.

15. In 1794 a brief gleam of prosperity fell upon the district. It was placed under the rule of Mr. Lionel Place as Collector. This gentleman proved an able Administrator. His tenure of office lasted less than five years, yet the revenue rose higher than it had ever been since the cession of the province to the East India Company. Mr. Place put himself into intimate communication with the people, and reverting to the original basis of the Hindu community, took the village as his administrative unit, restored the ancient village officers and made the chief shareholders in each village responsible for the payment of the village revenue. The Government share of the produce was estimated at 43 to 50 per cent. on irrigated land and 55 per cent. on unirrigated, and was commuted into a money payment. The new system, however, was condemned both by the Board of Revenue and by the Government and in 1799 Mr. Place resigned.

This talented officer was the first to devote himself to the material improvement of the district. The great Madhurantakam reservoir supported by a bank of gigantic dimensions terminating in a magnificent waste water wier was constructed entirely under his supervision. It irrigates 2,893 acres which yield an annual revenue of Rs. 11,764. It cost over a lakh of rupees, was three years in building, and the work was twice destroyed by floods before its successful completion.

16. The next administrative vicissitude of Chingleput was in 1801, when a permanent settlement was attempted. The country was divided into sixty-one feudal Zemindaries assessed at a total revenue of Rs. 12,85,000. The rents however proved too high; the Zemindars failed to meet their engagements, and a calamitous season in 1806 completed the collapse of the system. The permanent settlement came abruptly to an end, and the three years' lease of villages was resumed.

17. *Third Period, 1804 to the present time.*—On the downfall of the abortive permanent settlement, a brighter day began to dawn for the district with the introduction of the Ryotwari system.

In 1803-4, this system, involving the individual responsibility of each ryot to Government for the dues on his own holding, was brought into operation by Mr. Hepburn in parts of the present taluks of Tiruvallur, Conjevaram and Madhurantakam. It proved an immediate success. The ryots were satisfied and the revenue rose during the first year one-third higher than it had ever been before. The lands were surveyed and classified, first into irrigated, garden and dry, and then into sorts or grades with an assessment often fixed rather with reference to the nature of the crop than to the intrinsic fertility of the soil. The average outturn of produce for ten years was first estimated; 20 per cent. was then deducted for cultivation expenses, and half of the remainder was the Government share. This share was then commuted into a money payment at 31½ Madras measures (about 1¼ bushels) of unhusked rice per rupee. The resulting rates varied from Rs. 1-1-2 to Rs. 18-2-10 per acre for irrigated and from Annas 12-7 to Rs. 9-4-9 for unirrigated land.

Little seems to have been done for the next twelve years, but the system was fitfully extended to other parts of the district. During the twenty years from 1816, twelve or thirteen Collectors were engaged on the work. Their arrangements were seldom accepted by the Board of Revenue, but practically remained in force for want of anything better, subject to such modifications as emergencies required. In 1855 the charge for a second crop on unirrigated lands was struck off by the Board of Revenue. The last important act of Government prior to the present settlement was to reduce the assessment on irrigated land to a maximum of Rs. 8-5-1 per acre. This order was issued in 1859, but was not universally applied till 1866.

18. *The Mirassi System.*—A brief account of this remarkable institution will make clear the changes introduced during the settlement. The Mirassi system took its rise in the early times when tracts of country were apportioned to settlers by the ruling power. The descendants and representatives of the original settlers or grantees were eventually known by the name of Mirassidars and held their lands under what is called the Mirassi right.

19. The original form of tenure was a system of rotation of holdings by which each family or representative in turn held every portion of the arable land, passing from one holding to another after a regular interval. Traces of this primitive institution are still to be found in Tanjore and in Tinnevely, and it existed in one or two villages in the Chingleput District at the introduction of the present settlement. But this aboriginal system which was a prohibition on the investment of private capital in the land practically died out at a remote period.

20. In the next stage we find the shares (pangu) or holdings into which the arable area was divided apportioned permanently among the original grantees or their inheritors, now known as the "Mirassidars." Lands which were required for the public purposes of the small community, or which though arable were not of sufficient value to form part of the regular shares, remained the joint possession of all the Mirassidars and were known as "the Common land" or "Samudayam." Inferior both to the shares (pangu) and to the common land (Samudayam) were the outlying uncultivated wastes which, except for grazing and firewood, were originally of no value to any body.

21. Each little colony or community of Mirassidars with its body of laborers and petty artisans thus formed originally, as even now, a village unit, complete in itself, and strenuously endeavored to keep itself intact and to prevent the intrusion of strangers. The fact is that no strange settlers were permitted in the village except to become tenants under the Mirassidars, and the only new comers allowed to become possessors of land were artisans such as the Blacksmith, the Carpenter, and others who received a plot of land from the Mirassidars as a retainer for their services. This rooted antagonism to new comers is a striking feature in all parts of South India where the Mirassi system has prevailed. (The increase of population, however, and the consequent extension of cultivation, under British rule has acted with varying degrees in different places as a solvent of the original system.)

22. The introduction of the Ryotwari system under which the assessment is laid, not in the lump upon the whole village, but in detail upon every field, involved an important change.

All the waste lands that had been omitted from the original assignment of the arable area into private shares and a residue of common land now became chargeable with assessment as soon as they came under cultivation. The interests of the Mirassidars, however, were but little affected by this change so long as they were able to exclude strangers from independent possession of land. But under the Waste Land Rules issued by our Government in 1856 (Despatch Court of Directors, 17th December 1856,) all such cultivation, inasmuch as it added to the revenue and also to the wealth of the country and to the well-being of the people, was carefully fostered, and strangers were allowed and encouraged by Government to take up such land if the resident landholders declined it. The Mirassidars had no desire to take up more land, and in most cases no means to cultivate more. But the increasing and expanding population of tenants, laborers, traders, &c., throughout the country were both willing and anxious.

23. In these circumstances, the Mirassidars in their jealousy of, and aversion to, strangers had several ready methods of obstruction. They might themselves take up all the waste land that was applied for by outsiders, trusting to chicanery to escape paying the assessment; or they might bribe the would-be applicant to forego his intention; or they might agree to admit him as a resident land-owner on his paying them a fee in acknowledgment of their supremacy. Finally, after a struggle the Mirassidars might have to renounce their exclusiveness altogether. Practically, all these courses have been adopted in different districts.

24. Both in the Chingleput and the Tinnevely Districts, Mirassidars have again and again impoverished themselves and prevented an extension of cultivation by taking up waste lands for which they were unable to pay. In the Tinnevely District, men have been known to make a living by going from village to village on the pretence of applying for waste lands, and then agreeing for a consideration to forego their determination.

25. In Chingleput, the Mirassidars for years succeeded in getting large remissions of assessment for waste lands, which they took up in order to keep out others, but which they left uncultivated. In 1863, no less than 14 per cent. of the land revenue demand was remitted on this ground, while in the neighboring district of South Arcot, the amount so remitted was only one-fifth per cent. If, however, such land was put up to sale for arrears of revenue, the Mirassidars holding all the village offices contrived that there should be no bidders at the auction. The plot was thereupon knocked down to Government at a nominal price. One of the Mirassidars would then apply to the authorities for the same land, and the same process would eventually be repeated.

26. As these strongholds began to succumb before a stricter collection of the Government revenue dues, the Mirassidars of Chingleput defended with still greater vigor their last position, demanding fees from all strangers who occupied waste lands. This claim was as a matter of course stoutly resisted by the new comers, many of whom made good their tenure without concession. The Mirassidars, however, took the contest into the Civil Courts, where some fortunate decrees in their favor gave them material assistance. But the disputes continued unabated, fostering a mutual ill-will among the people, hindering the extension of cultivation, and effectually barring the progress of the district. The cause of the evil was but partially understood, and the remedies from time to time suggested and applied naturally failed of effect.

27. In 1874 the extraordinary amount of coercive processes issued for the collection of the revenue in Chingleput attracted the attention of Government who called for a special report in regard to the fact "that more than one-half of the whole revenue realized in 1871-72 by the sale of lands was recovered in the single district of Chingleput and amounted to no less than Rs. 1,08,358." The Secretary of State approved this requisition, and desired to be furnished with the result of the inquiry — G.O., No. 590, dated 13th April 1875. The result of the inquiries was that on the recommendation of the Board of Revenue, the Government took the decisive step of accepting a radical change proposed by the Collector Mr. Barlow and the Director of Revenue Settlement Mr. Puckle. By this new policy the claims of the Mirassidars were conceded. Their fees were for the first time formally recognized, were fixed in amount, and have now been registered as a payment to be made to the Mirassidars by all applicants for waste lands in future.

28. Mr. Barlow's interesting history of the Mirassi troubles and his and Mr. Puckle's proposals for remedying during settlement the evils complained of are given at length in G.O., No. 590, dated 13th April 1875.

29. The course adopted during the settlement has been as follows:—In the first place great efforts have been made to induce the Mirassidars of every village to divide among themselves all their common land (Samudayam) in proportion to the shares (pangu) they already possessed. The anomalous position of the tenants and other occupiers of this common land has been the cause of ceaseless disputes and quarrels in almost every village. It is needless to restate all the old troubles, suffice it to say that the success of his efforts in dividing similar lands in Tinnevely led Mr. Puckle to hope that a similar advantage might be gained for Chingleput. With the common lands once divided among the individual Mirassidars, the complications arising from joint proprietorship and separate tenancies are at once removed. The result has been in accordance with the anticipations. Common lands, amounting to 19,509 acres in 897 villages, have been divided in due proportion among the Mirassidars concerned (numbering 9,379 men) with their own concurrence, and the extent assigned to each has been entered in his lease or putta. Disputes among the Mirassidars themselves have prevented the complete division of all this common land, but it now exists in only 52 villages instead of 949 as heretofore. The extent undivided is

3,342 acres, and this remainder can no doubt be gradually apportioned by the Revenue authorities as opportunities occur.

30. The next step in the settlement was to remove the ground of one strong objection of the Mirassidars to the assignment of waste lands to outsiders. As much waste land as could reasonably be needed for pasturage and for firewood, besides smaller allotments for building sites, cattle-stands, roads, threshing-floors, and other similar purposes has been permanently and definitely allotted for these purposes. It is never to be brought under cultivation but stands entered as unassessed waste land (Poramboke) in the accounts. The total extent thus allotted is 44,280 acres; of this 41,675 acres are for pasturage and firewood, and the rest for miscellaneous public purposes.

31. The following statements give this information more in detail:—

For the whole District.

Object of Allotment.	OCCUPIED.		UNOCCUPIED.		Un-assessed Waste.	Total.
	Wet.	Dry.	Wet.	Dry.		
Pasturage	38	547	1,518	7,857	...	9,960
Firewood jungle	...	959	252	14,117	16,387	31,715
Village-site	65	470	30	442	26	1,033
Threshing-floor	19	35	178	230	1	463
Cattle-stand	1	34	25	171	318	549
Water-spread	3	25	...	135	...	163
Road	51	168	22	127	...	368
Temple	...	5	...	...	...	5
Burial-ground	...	3	12	9	...	24
Total ...	177	2,246	2,037	23,088	16,732	44,280

For each Taluk.

Name of Taluk.	OCCUPIED.		UNOCCUPIED.		Un-assessed Waste.	Total.
	Wet.	Dry.	Wet.	Dry.		
Saidapet	23	1,161	143	2,052	...	3,379
Ponneri	38	105	1,069	1,936	...	3,148
Chingleput	44	101	72	3,420	15,180	18,817
Tiruvallur	27	228	141	1,418	...	1,814
Conjeveram	28	284	291	3,146	...	3,749
Madhurantakam	17	367	321	11,116	1,552	13,373
Total ...	177	2,246	2,037	23,088	16,732	44,280

32. *Manorial Fees (Swatantram).*—The third and most important innovation has been the recognition by Government of the claim of the Mirassidars to levy what have been well called *Manorial fees* (Swatantram) from all persons newly taking up waste lands for cultivation. A proposal to this effect had been made without success in 1868 by a former Collector. It was now renewed by the Collector Mr. Barlow in 1875 and cordially supported by Mr. Puckle who entered into the question in the villages and among the fields with the people themselves worked out the details of the proposed scheme, and showed how it could be carried into actual practice. As Mr. Puckle observed there was "no escape from a present decision as to whether the Mirassidars' claim is to be put down by the strong hand or not." As a settlement

officer he proceeds — "I have invariably recognized what exists in the districts I have had to deal with, and as the Mirassi claim without doubt does exist in the Chingleput district, I would counsel the Board to accept it, especially if it can be shown that no loss will result from so doing; that conflicting interests will be reconciled, and the condition of the district will be greatly ameliorated."

33. The Manorial fee in accordance with the sanctioned proposals has accordingly been entered in the new village registers, not only against every field lying waste in each village, but also against all the lands now held by the Mirassidars themselves and entered in their puttass. The fees thus entered against land held by the Mirassidars will, of course, not be collected from anybody at present, but if any of these lands should hereafter be relinquished by a Mirassidar and subsequently taken up for cultivation by a stranger, then the entry of the fee will cease to be nominal, and will be an item payable by the new landholder in addition to the Government assessment. The only lands under village against which no fee has been entered are those which have already been obtained by strangers under the rules for granting waste lands, and which are held under lease or putta from Government. As Mr. Puckle says "what has been done of late years by the grant of puttass is final," and such lands must be regarded as "finally alienated from the Mirassi body."

34. The amount of the Manorial fee was arrived at without much difficulty and with no opposition on the part of the Mirassidars. It is needless to detail the somewhat intricate method of ascertaining and of calculating the proper amount of the fee. It will be enough to remark that Mr. Puckle found 2 annas on every rupee of the Government assessment to be a fair average rate, and this was accepted by the Board and the Government.

The fee thus fixed represents the average money value of the grain fee originally demanded by the Mirassidars. As the Board of Revenue observe "it was impossible to introduce the old varying rates and a uniform and simple rate, such as proposed, has undoubtedly great advantages." The Mirassidars everywhere have been glad to accept it without dispute. The enormous advantage of receiving from Government a distinct recognition of their claim to any fee at all would of itself lead them to drop minor contentions, and close at once with the proposal.

The large body of Mirassidars consulted by Mr. Puckle "seemed perfectly satisfied. They expressly asserted that they would not only not oppose the grant of waste land to outsiders, if assured of the receipt of their Manorial fees, but that they would gladly resign some lands they are now holding and paying for merely to exclude outsiders, and that such lands might be taken up by outside applicants without opposition in future."

35. The total amount of waste land in the Chingleput District against which the Manorial fee has been entered is 153,308 acres in 1,440 villages. The average amount of the fee at 2 annas per rupee of the assessment is Rs. 18-9-7 per village. The highest average was in the Madhurantakam Taluk where it amounted to Rs. 25-10-9 per village, and the lowest was in the Conjevaram Taluk where it amounted to Rs. 15-0-10. Mr. Puckle in his original proposals estimated that the average per village would not exceed Rs. 25 in the improbable event of every acre of waste land being taken up for cultivation, and the result shows that even this moderate estimate was too great. It is indeed astonishing that so trifling a matter as disputes over the annual payment of a sum that cannot possibly amount to Rs. 20 per village should have been the main barrier to the progress of a whole district for nearly a quarter of a century. The introduction of the settlement throughout the district has brought no new difficulty or obstacle to light; the fees have everywhere been recorded, and there seems valid ground to hope that the measures which have been so carefully devised and introduced may in the course of a few years bring about a greater degree of prosperity than the Chingleput District has experienced during a century of British rule.

36. It is easy to lay one's finger on the one weak link in the chain. There is no authority save the whole Mirassi body or corporation, entitled to demand and collect the Manorial fees now recognized, and no legal means exist save a civil suit by the whole Mirassi corporation by which a recalcitrant occupant can be compelled to pay

the fees. The Board of Revenue (Proceedings, No. 2,168, 4th August 1875,) feared "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 (Mirassidars) 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." I think that there is reason to hope that these forebodings will prove groundless. In the first place the fees payable by any new occupant are now clearly known, the amount is trifling, and there will no longer be an intricate and vexatious inquiry to ascertain which of a series of varying and vaguely known rates of payment in kind should be adopted. In the second place, there is to every native cultivator an all-important distinction between refusing to pay an uncertain fee which Government has never recognized and which high authorities have considered deserving of summary suppression "by the strong hand," and refusing to pay a definite fee, trifling in amount, recognized and fixed by Government, entered in the Government Register kept by every village Notary (Curnam) and demanded by a Mirassidar who will almost universally be the official to whom all the Government dues and taxes must be paid. The disastrous seasons of the last two years have discouraged applications for waste lands; only a few have been made and accepted, and in those cases the question of the payment of the fee had been so settled by the villagers among themselves that I could obtain no information about it. The probability seems to be that backed by the authority of Government and supported by every Revenue official, the payment of the fee will speedily become "customary," in which case no more trouble will be experienced.

37. I have now reported upon the most important of those peculiarities of condition and of tenure in the Chingleput District which have for so long attracted the attention of the Government, and will pass on to give a résumé of those changes and results by settlement which are common to almost every district.

38. The table of rates of assessment was fixed by Mr. Banbury, the former Director of the department, in the usual way. The yield of each kind of soil is determined by experiment, and after suitable deductions for cultivation expenses and vicissitudes of season, the net yield is commuted into a money value at a low average rate of market prices, and half of this amount represents the Government assessment. The scale of assessment thus fixed falls in eight gradations from Rs. 7-8-0 to Rs. 2 per acre for irrigated land, and from Rs. 3 to Annas 4 for unirrigated land. This scale has been applied throughout the district (*vide* paragraph 48).

39. The work undertaken during the settlement in addition to the division of common land, allotment of pasturage grounds, registration of Manorial fees, &c., already detailed was as follows:—

- (1.) The area under irrigation was revised and extended or curtailed as the state of the water-supply required.
- (2.) The classification of the soil was examined and fields of similar soil under similar conditions were similarly assessed and formed into blocks on the village map.
- (3.) Sub-divisions of holdings were measured up and entered in the register, and various miscellaneous accounts prepared.
- (4.) Leases or puttass wrongly entered in the names of deceased ryots, vendors, donors, &c., were transferred to the rightful holders with the consent of all parties concerned.

40. After the completion of these preliminaries, provisional drafts of the new leases or puttass, called "rough puttass," were prepared and sent to the villages for distribution among the ryots. A notice was affixed to each naming the time and place for the hearing of all objections to the new entries and rates, and a description of the method of assessment, together with a sketch map showing the different blocks of land, was furnished to the village authorities for the use of the villagers. "On the day named in the notice, those who had cause for complaint appeared with their village officers (before the settling officer), and their complaints as redressed or rejected were entered in the settlement diary."

"The accounts were then corrected, and the completed diglot registers of each village with all names entered both in English and Tamil were forwarded to the Director's Office to be printed."

41. This village register is the foundation on which the whole Revenue administration rests. It forms a complete Domesday Book, recording accurate information about every separate holding whether large or small. The area is given in acres and cents, or hundredths of acres, and the assessment thereon stands in parallel columns. A single field on the survey map may be actually divided among twenty ryots. In such a case there will be twenty sub-letters, and each ryot will have a separate line in the register giving full particulars of his holding, even though the extent of it (as sometimes happens) is no more than the one-hundredth part of an acre. From the register is prepared a ledger known as the chitta which gives each ryot's personal account with Government. Every field or fraction of a field held by the same ryot is picked out from the register and entered in this ledger under his own name with particulars of area, assessment, and other details. The total of the area shows the extent of his different holdings in the village, and the total of the assessment is the amount due thereon by him to Government. A copy of this, his personal account, is given to each ryot with a note as to the date on which each instalment falls due and is known as his "putta."

42. An English *Descriptive Memoir* of each village giving full details about the village and its settlement, together with a list of the Mirassidars and their proportional shares, and an account of all lands held tax free or on favorable tenures, is also forwarded to Madras for printing together with a sketch map of the village showing the tanks and channels and all similarly assessed fields laid out into blocks.

The Descriptive Memoirs of all the villages in each taluk consecutively numbered are bound into a single volume which thus supplies complete information about every village, and is of the greatest value for reference on all matters of Revenue Administration.

43. A great improvement in the book-keeping of numerous village accounts has been effected in Chingleput as in Tinnevely, Trichinopoly, and elsewhere by getting rid of the third column, i.e., for "Pies" in the cash entries. In calculating items of assessment, sums of 5 pies and less are struck out while sums of 6 pies and upwards are entered as one anna. Much of the labor required for calculating the innumerable items and summing up accounts is saved by this simple expedient.

44. *Revision of Irrigated Area.*—The following statement shows the changes that have been effected under this head:—

Name of Taluk.	Area by account of year ending June 1875.	Deduct transfers from Irrigated to Unirrigated.	Remainder.	Add transfer from Unirrigated to Irrigated.	Total.
	ACRES.	ACRES.	ACRES.	ACRES.	ACRES.
1. Ponneri...	35,853	4,545	31,308	6,519	37,827
2. Saidapet...	43,991	851	43,140	4,204	47,344
3. Chingleput...	44,601	973	43,628	3,749	47,377
4. Tiruvallur...	46,540	669	45,871	10,943	56,814
5. Conjevaram...	66,792	1,412	65,380	8,738	74,118
6. Madhurantakam...	60,786	956	59,830	6,550	66,380
Total for the District...	298,563	9,406	289,157	40,703	329,860

45. *Transfer of Puttas, &c.*—The total number of puttas issued during the settlement was 62,523 as against 59,474 by the former accounts. Twelve thousand puttas were transferred to the names of the rightful holders with the consent of all parties.

46. *Manavari Lands.*—One of the minor peculiarities of tenure in this district are the Manavari (literally sky water) lands. These are fields that raise a crop of rice entirely, or almost entirely, by the aid of the rainfall. Such lands, though without any artificial irrigation save from rivulets, surface drainage, and simple mud dams, were formerly assessed at excessively high rates, and as the area under this kind of cultivation was considerable, much hardship to the ryot was the result. The question gave rise to much inquiry and correspondence and has even been regarded as one of the causes of the backward condition of the Chingleput District. After various plans of

* G.O., No. 938, dated 24th June 1870. amelioration had been tried, the Government* in 1870 sanctioned a remission of 20 per cent. from the full assessment. These lands have now been assessed at special rates varying from Rs. 3 to Annas 12 per acre with the following result:—

Rate per Acre.	Extent.	Assessment.
RS. A. P.	ACRES.	RS.
0 0 0	166	496
8 0 0	2,633	6,585
0 0 0	4,844	9,688
1 8 0	7,372	11,058
1 4 0	3,795	4,746
0 12 0	1,067	801
Total ...	19,877	33,374

Comparative Statement of the Manavari lands for each Taluk.

Name of Taluk.	As PER SETTLEMENT.			Assessment as per Revenue Accounts after deducting 20 per cent. Remission.	Difference.
	Extent.	Assessment.	Average.		
	ACRES.	RS.	RS. A. P.	RS.	RS.
1. Saidapet ...	2,982	4,801	...	* Unknown.	...
2. Ponneri ...	2,013	3,291	...	3,700	— 409
3. Chingleput ...	8,828	13,899	...	14,695	— 796
4. Tiruvallur ...	688	1,135	...	1,249	— 114
5. Conjevaram ...	3,768	7,163	...	6,785	+ 378
6. Madhurantakam ...	623	1,187	...	1,136	+ 51
	975	1,917	...	1,992	— 75
Total ...	19,877	33,393	1 10 11	29,557	...

* Details not procurable.

47. *Settlement Assessment.*—The following table shows the survey area and assessment irrigated and unirrigated of each taluk as compared with the area and assessment by the old accounts:—

Wet or Dry.	Name of Taluk.	Fasli in which Taluk was settled.	AS PER SETTLEMENT.			AS PER REVENUE ACCOUNTS.			DIFFERENCE.		PERCENTAGE.	
			Extent.	Assessment.	Average.	Extent.	Assessment.	Average.	Extent.	Assessment.	Extent.	Assessment.
Wet.	Saidapet...	1285	ACRES. 47,344	RS. 1,72,201	RS. A. P. 3 10 2	ACRES. 42,254	RS. 1,63,103	RS. A. P. 3 13 9	ACRES. 5,090	RS. 9,098	ACRES. + 12	RS. + 6
	Ponneri ...	1285	37,827	1,23,350	3 4 2	34,086	1,22,274	3 9 5	3,741	1,076	+ 9	+ 5
	Chingleput ...	1286	47,377	1,54,435	3 4 2	43,533	1,46,995	3 6 0	3,844	7,440	+ 9	+ 5
	Tiruvallur ...	1286	56,814	1,91,921	3 6 1	50,565	1,77,738	3 8 3	6,249	14,183	+ 12	+ 8
	Conjeveram ...	1287	74,118	2,73,101	3 10 11	66,448	2,50,716	3 12 4	7,670	22,385	+ 11.5	+ 8.9
	Madhurantakam ...	1287	66,380	2,45,906	3 11 3	60,570	2,26,364	3 11 10	5,810	19,542	+ 9.6	+ 8.6
Dry.	Total ...	...	329,860	11,60,914	3 8 4	297,456	1,087,190	3 10 6	+ 32,404	+ 73,724	+ 10.9	+ 6.8
	Saidapet ...	...	28,112	33,555	1 3 1	25,195	40,161	1 9 6	2,917	6,606	+ 12	+ 16
	Ponneri ...	...	27,210	29,726	1 1 6	24,646	31,670	1 4 6	2,564	1,944	+ 10	+ 6
	Chingleput ...	...	20,624	20,051	0 15 7	18,595	24,193	1 4 10	2,029	4,142	+ 11	+ 17
	Tiruvallur ...	...	41,980	43,837	1 0 8	37,281	45,633	1 3 7	4,699	1,796	+ 13	+ 4
	Conjeveram ...	...	40,086	46,043	1 2 5	36,194	49,147	1 5 9	3,892	8,104	+ 10.8	+ 6.3
Total Wet and Dry.	Madhurantakam ...	...	56,221	76,450	1 5 9	49,279	79,618	1 9 10	6,942	3,168	+ 14.1	+ 3.9
	Total ...	...	214,233	2,49,662	1 2 8	191,190	2,70,422	1 6 8	+ 23,043	+ 20,760	+ 12	+ 7.7
			544,093	14,10,576	...	488,646	13,57,612	...	+ 55,447	+ 52,964	+ 11.3	+ 3.9

48. The following statement gives the area and assessment under each rate :—

IRRIGATED.			UNIRRIGATED.		
Rate per Acre.	Extent.	Assessment minus Deduction on account of Baling.	Rate per Acre.	Extent.	Assessment.
RS. A. P.	ACRES.	RS.	RS. A. P.	ACRES.	RS.
7 8 0	3,328	24,879	3 0 0	†295	†886
6 4 0	22,945	1,42,704	2 8 0	4,117	10,312
5 0 0	44,353	2,19,676	2 0 0	23,010	46,096
4 0 0	55,787	2,19,897	1 8 0	42,836	64,329
3 8 0	49,796	1,70,730	1 4 0	58,374	72,991
3 0 0	56,380	1,66,453	0 12 0	52,950	39,784
2 8 0	56,840	1,37,012	0 8 0	24,294	12,190
2 0 0	38,790	76,236	0 6 0	7,735	2,917
			0 4 0	622	157
Total ...	*328,219	*11,57,497			
Baling in the Saidapet Taluk.	*1,641	*3,417			
	329,860	11,60,914	Total ...	214,233	2,49,662

49. *Second Crop.*—Nine thousand one hundred and twenty-two acres of irrigated land have been permanently assessed with a compounded rate for the growth of a second crop. The rate for compounding is half, one-third, or one-fourth additional to the single crop rate according to circumstances. The additional assessment on this area is Rs. 17,029. The former second crop assessment on the same area is not shown in the accounts, but as there is a large additional extent fluctuating with the character of the season, which is cultivated with occasional second crop, it is better to omit the second crop charge altogether in a comparison of the former land-revenue of the district with that fixed by the settlement.

50. *Results.*—The result of the settlement in the Chingleput District has been an increase of Rs. 73,724, or 6.8 per cent. on the assessment of the irrigated area, and a decrease of Rs. 20,760, or 7.7 per cent. on the assessment of the unirrigated area. There is a net increase of Rs. 52,964, or 3.9 per cent. on the whole, and the land-revenue of the district now stands at Rs. 14,10,576, exclusive of the uncertain increments caused by second crop charges and the water-rate that may hereafter be charged on lands classed as unirrigated. The average rate of assessment is Rs. 3-8-4 for irrigated land and Rs. 1-2-8 for unirrigated. The increase of assessment on the former is moderate, and considerably less in proportion than the increase of area by the survey. The unirrigated lands, which were overassessed before, have now been fairly relieved, and a large extension of cultivation may in consequence be expected. The total area of waste land available for tillage amounts to 35,502 acres irrigated, assessed at Rs. 1,00,277, and 145,450 acres unirrigated, assessed at Rs. 1,33,530, or in all 180,952 acres of land, assessed at Rs. 2,33,807. Two and a third lakhs of rupees is therefore the maximum of the possible increase of revenue from extension of cultivation apart from additional charges for water-rate on lands classed as unirrigated.

No. 352A-10A.

MR. ARUNDEL'S reports on the introduction of the revised settlement in the taluks of Conjeveram and Madhurantakam and on the completion of the settlement of the district of Chingleput are submitted through the Board of Revenue for the information of

* Lands irrigated by baling were assessed at Rupee 1 per acre less than the full rate.
† These figures are the totals of the several taluk reports, and are approximately correct.

Government. In the former of these reports there have been embodied in this office certain further information and corrections submitted with a letter from Mr. Arundel, No. 44-12, dated 17th January 1879.

The result of the settlement in the two taluks is briefly as follows:—

1. **CONJEVERAM.**—There is on the whole an increase in area of acres 11,562, or 11·3 per cent., and in assessment of Rs. 19,281, or 6·4 per cent., as compared with the revenue figures for Fasli 1287, the year immediately preceding the introduction. Wet shows an increase in area of acres 7,670, or 11·5 per cent., and in assessment of Rs. 22,385, or 8·9 per cent.; in dry, with an increase in area of acres 3,892, or 10·8 per cent., the assessment is decreased by Rs. 3,104, or 6·3 per cent.; in the proposals-report the total increase on the revenue figures for Fasli 1283 was acres 11,499, or 11·3 per cent. in area, and Rs. 15,035, or 4·9 in assessment; in dry, with an increase of 10·9 per cent. in area, there was a decrease of 3·6 per cent. in assessment.

Soils.—From the statement given in paragraph 13 it will be seen that acres 52,999·64, or rather less than a third of the classified area, fall under the black series of soils; the remainder belong to the red.

Irrigation.—From paragraph 6 it appears that acres 40,385, or more than half the occupied wet area, are irrigated from river and spring channels and river-fed tanks; the remainder is under rain-fed tanks.

Incidence of Assessment.—The wet rates vary from Rs. 7-8-0 to Rs. 2, subject to a deduction, where baling is necessary, of Rupee 1 an acre. Of the total irrigated area, acres 74,118, only acres 19,694, or 26·6 per cent., are assessed at Rs. 5 and upwards; only acres 31,837, or 43 per cent., at Rs. 4 and upwards; acres 32,521, or 43·8 per cent., are assessed at rates varying from Rs. 2 to Rs. 3. In dry the rates range from Annas 6 to Rs. 2-8-0 an acre. Only acres 2,191, or 5·5 per cent., of the total dry area, acres 40,086, are assessed at Rs. 2 and upwards; acres 16,733, or 41·7 per cent., are assessed at Rs. 1-4-0; and acres 13,185, or 32·9 per cent., are assessed at rates varying from Annas 6 to Annas 12; there is no one rupee rate. The average wet rate is a trifle higher, the average dry a trifle lower, than in the highest of the already settled taluks of the district.

Waste.—There are acres 33,982 of classified waste, of which acres 7,110, assessed at Rs. 19,688, are wet, and acres 26,872, assessed at Rs. 21,774, are dry.

2. **MADHURANTAKAM.**—There is on the whole an increase in area of acres 12,752, or 11·6 per cent., and in assessment of Rs. 16,374, or 5·4 per cent., as compared with the revenue figures for Fasli 1287; in wet the area is increased by acres 5,810, or 9·6 per cent., and the assessment by Rs. 19,542, or 8·6 per cent.; in dry, with an increase in area of acres 6,942, or 14 per cent., there is a decrease in assessment of Rs. 3,168, or 3·9 per cent.; in the proposals-report there was compared with the revenue figures for Fasli 1285 a decrease in area of acres 232, or 0·2 per cent., and in assessment of Rs. 4,657, or 1·4 per cent.

Soils.—Acres 99,928, or 57·7 per cent., fall under the black series, and acres 73,273, or 42·3 per cent., under the red.

Irrigation.—Acres 21,923, or 33 per cent., of the occupied wet area are irrigated from river and spring channels, the remainder, acres 44,457, from rain-fed tanks.

Incidence of Assessment.—The scale of wet rates is the same as in Conjeveram, but in dry the highest rate is Rs. 3; in Conjeveram the highest was Rs. 2-8-0.

The registered area under the Rs. 3 rate is only 8 acres. In wet only acres 15,574, or 23·5 per cent., of the total wet area, acres 66,380, are assessed at Rs. 5 and upwards; acres 25,301, or 38·1 per cent., are assessed at rates between Rs. 2 and Rs. 3. In dry there are only acres 831, or 1·5 per cent., of the total dry area, acres 56,221, assessed at more than Rs. 2 an acre; acres 39,213, or 69·7 per cent., are assessed at rates varying from Annas 12 to Rs. 1-8-0. The average wet rate is Rs. 3-11-3, a trifle higher than the Rs. 3-10-11 of Conjeveram; the average dry rate is Rs. 1-5-9, which is higher than the average of any of the other settled taluks of the district.

Waste.—There are acres 50,599 of classified waste; of this acres 6,378, assessed at Rs. 20,323, are wet, and acres 44,221, assessed at Rs. 52,738, dry.

Inams.—The Inams referred to in paragraphs 17 and 41 of Mr. Arundel's report are attached to village services, public and quasi-public.

Completion of the Chingleput District.—With the introduction of the new rates in these two taluks the revision of the assessment of the Chingleput District is completed; it was begun in 1870 and has thus taken eight years. The result of the settlement is an increase in area of acres 55,447, or 11·3 per cent., and in assessment of Rs. 52,964, or 3·9 per cent.; in wet the area shows an increase of acres 32,404, or 10·9 per cent., the assessment of Rs. 73,724, or 6·8 per cent.; in dry the area is increased by acres 23,043, or 12 per cent., but its assessment is reduced by Rs. 20,760, or 7·7 per cent.

Name of Taluk.	Total in which Taluk was settled.	AS PER SETTLEMENT.			AS PER REVENUE ACCOUNTS.			DIFFERENCE.		PERCENTAGE.	
		Extent.	Assessment.	Average.	Extent.	Assessment.	Average.	Extent.	Assessment.	Extent.	Assessment.
Saidapet ...	1285	47,844	1,72,201	8 10 2	42,254	1,63,103	8 13 9	5,090	9,098	+ 12	+ 6
Ponneri ...	1285	37,827	1,23,350	3 4 2	34,086	1,22,274	3 9 5	3,741	1,079	+ 11	+ 9
Chingleput ...	1286	47,377	1,64,485	3 4 2	43,533	1,46,995	3 6 0	3,844	7,440	+ 9	+ 5
Tiruvallur ...	1286	56,814	1,91,921	3 6 1	50,565	1,77,738	3 8 3	6,249	14,183	+ 13	+ 8
Conjeveram ...	1287	74,118	2,73,101	3 10 11	60,443	2,50,716	3 12 4	7,670	22,385	+ 11.5	+ 8.9
Madhuranatakam ...	1287	66,880	2,45,906	3 11 3	60,570	2,36,364	3 11 10	5,810	19,542	+ 9.6	+ 8.6
Total ...	...	329,860	11,60,914	3 8 4	297,456	10,87,190	3 10 6	32,404	73,724	+ 10.9	+ 6.8
Saidapet ...	...	28,112	33,555	1 3 1	25,195	40,161	1 9 6	2,917	6,806	+ 12	+ 16
Ponneri ...	...	27,310	29,726	1 1 6	24,646	31,670	1 4 6	2,564	1,944	+ 10	+ 6
Chingleput ...	...	20,624	20,051	0 15 7	18,595	24,198	1 4 10	2,029	4,142	+ 11	+ 17
Tiruvallur ...	...	41,980	43,337	1 0 8	37,281	45,033	1 3 7	4,699	1,796	+ 13	+ 4
Conjeveram ...	...	40,086	46,043	1 2 5	36,194	49,147	1 5 9	3,892	3,104	+ 10.8	+ 6.3
Madhuranatakam ...	...	56,231	76,450	1 5 9	49,279	79,618	1 9 10	6,942	3,163	+ 14.1	+ 3.9
Total ...	...	214,233	2,49,662	1 3 8	191,190	2,70,422	1 6 8	23,043	20,760	+ 13	+ 7.7
Total Wet and Dry ...	...	544,093	14,10,576	...	488,646	13,57,613	...	55,447	62,963	+ 11.3	+ 3.9

Allotments for Pasture, &c.—Acres 44,280 have been assigned for the common

and public use of the various villages as pasture, firewood jungle, &c. These lands have been "permanently and definitely allotted for these purposes; they are never to be brought under cultivation, but stand entered as unassessed waste land (poramboke) in the accounts." This procedure is in accordance with the policy that has been adopted by this department in recent years, but it seems very questionable whether a policy that seeks to determine not merely for the term of a settlement, but for all time the purposes to which certain lands are to be devoted is sound. The want of common is certainly no hindrance to agricultural enterprise or improvement in the breed of cattle. An allotment for pasture discourages the thought of growing crops for feeding cattle. An allotment for firewood encourages the idea that it is the duty of Government to light the ryots' kitchen fire; firewood is easily grown, and when it pays to grow it it *will* be grown; threshing floors and cattle-stands should be provided not by Government, but by the ryot in his fields and at his homestead.

A sounder policy is that which allows the ryot to graze his cattle and cut his firewood on the waste and jungles of his village without hindrance so long as they are not required for other purposes.

MR. PUCKLE'S SETTLEMENT OF THE MIRASSI QUESTION.—Mr. Arundel discusses at some length the long-vexed question of Mirassi right and Mr. Puckle's solution of the difficulties attending it, and remarks that "it is indeed astonishing that so trifling a matter as disputes over the annual payment of a sum that cannot possibly amount to Rs. 20 per village should have been the main barrier to the progress of a whole district for nearly a quarter of a century." Mr. Puckle's solution of this difficult question is a marvel of simplicity; it is in brief this: the claims of the Mirassidars were ascertained, valued, and entered in the settlement register, and so far the claims of the Mirassidars are recognized by Government. But Government will go no further; they will not permit the claim to be entered in the putta, nor will they collect it for the Mirassidar. Nor does this valuation and entry in any way bind the Mirassidars; their promise to accept this valuation of their claims is of no legal value; it is made to a party that cannot enforce it, that gives nothing in return for it; they may set their promise aside whenever they please. Nor does this "settlement" of the question bind the future occupant of lands subject to the claim; he was no party to the arrangement, and may decline to pay anything beyond the assessment he owes to Government from which he holds the land, and which will not concede any such co-ordinate right of ownership to the Mirassidar who claims the fee as his share of the rent, as would act in bar of its right to dispose of waste (notwithstanding the claims of the Mirassidar) in such manner as may most conduce to the advantage of the public revenue;—in case of dispute, therefore, the question is a "still-vexed" question. To settle the question Government, when acknowledging the claim, should have gone a step further and have extinguished it for ever by redeeming it; claims never conceded without dispute, and often successfully resisted, could not have been worth many years' purchase.

MADRAS,
12th February 1879.

(Signed) W. WILSON,
Director of Revenue Settlement.

From W. WILSON, Esq., Director of Revenue Settlement, to C. A. GALTON, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Madras, 8th May 1879, No. 1,268-26.

With reference to G.O., No. 469, dated 24th February 1879, and in continuation of this office No. 352 A-10 A, dated 12th February 1879, I have the honor to annex a statement of the cost of the survey and settlement of the Chingleput District:—

	RS.	RS.
1. Revenue Survey—Demarcation ...	3,95,059	8,34,065
Survey ...	4,39,006	
2. Revenue Settlement ...	4,19,176	
Total ...	12,53,241	

4-1-91
1-7-91
4-11-08

Further (N 7710/79)

Case of (1870) 2330/1870

REVENUE.

THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

Ac, Ac, Ac.

Dated August 18th.

Printed September 2nd.

G.O., 13th August 1879, No. 1713.

AUGUST.

NO. 305-306.

In view of the Settlement of Chingleput - According to observations on Proceedings of the Board of Revenue submitted by Mr. Annas's report on the completion of the same.

No. 3,405.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 18th December 1878.

Read the following letter from J. F. PRICE, Esq., Collector of the Chingleput District, to C. A. GALTON, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Saidapet, 13th November 1878, No. 373:—

I HAVE the honor to request the favor of instructions of the Board of Revenue as to what is to be done in regard to the Swatantaram fees which have, under Mr. Puckle's recent settlement, been fixed at 2 Annas in the rupee and entered in the ryots' puttass.

2. A Tahsildar has asked how these are to be collected and to what head they are to be credited, and I have to add the further question as to how they are to be paid to the Mirassidars.

3. The Swatantaram fee cannot, as I read Act II of 1864, be collected as "Revenue." It is not a due to the Government, but a fee claimable under a peculiar tenure by certain privileged individuals. This fee, as far as I can understand the very difficult question of Mirassi right, is one the payment of which can only be enforced by a Civil Suit. It does not, in my opinion, come under Act VIII of 1865, for a Mirassidar is not as such a "landholder," and Swatantaram fees do not appear to be "rent." I, under correction, consider therefore that the officers of Government have no legal right to collect these fees.

4. Supposing, however, that the fees are paid without question or opposition, which is not likely to occur, the next point is the head under which such collections are to be credited. I can think of none. They cannot well be credited to "Land Revenue" either "Ryotwar" or "Miscellaneous," as Government in collecting them would be acting merely as the agents for the Mirassidars, and none of the money would go towards the revenue of the State.

5. But admitting that the collections can be effected and that there is a head to which they can be credited, or that a fresh one is opened, a most serious difficulty as regards the payment of them arises. The Board are aware how Mirassi shares, not worth more than a few rupees, are cut up and how bitter the battles in the Civil Courts over these are. It is all very well and good to say that the Settlement Registers exhibit the names of the Mirassidars, but the Settlement Registers are not the law, and they only contain the result of the statements of the Village Officers and such Mirassidars or "Jai disant" Mirassidars as may have been present at the enquiries made by the Settlement Officers. The sharers in this right are scattered all over the country and their name is legion. How is any Revenue Officer to decide who is entitled to payment and what his share is? Every penny paid away will be disbursed with the chance of a civil suit, from some other claimant, hanging over the paying officer's head, and the result will be eternal litigation and trouble.

6. The only way to ensure peace is, it appears to me, to leave the Mirassidars, as heretofore, to extract their dues from the ryots as best they can, and in this case the Swatantaram fees must be struck out of the puttass, as if they are not they must be included in the demand, unless an order to specially except them is passed. The putta would then exhibit what the fees are, but this, I think, would have no legal force as I hear that several Mirassidars have stated that they did not agree to the arrangement made by Mr. Puckle.

7. I trust that I may receive orders before any complications other than those which I have mentioned arise. I am unable to see my way out of the difficulties which surround the matter in its present aspect.

In the letter above recorded Mr. Price referring to the Swatantaram fees recently recorded in the Settlement Register of the district asks to be informed —

- (1.) How the fees are to be collected?
- (2.) To what head they are to be credited?
- (3.) How they are to be paid to the Mirassidars?

2. G.O., dated 15th February 1876, No. 221, and the papers printed therewith have apparently escaped the Collector's notice. A reference thereto shows that the matter received the careful attention of the Board and Government when Mr. Puckle's proposals for the settlement of sixty-nine villages in the Saidapet Taluk came up for consideration. The points now raised by Mr. Price were fully discussed and the Government decided that the fees were to be collected by the Mirassidars themselves, the object of taking an agreement from the puttadars to pay them and of registering the amount in the puttass being merely to place the Mirassidars on a vantage ground if they had to sue recusants. The Government go on to say that "The Mirassidars as respects the Swatantrams 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 landlords' rents than to State revenue."

3. The Collector will take the necessary measures to make generally known the object and intentions of Government in regard to the subject under notice. The Swatantarams should not be entered in the puttass.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed)

J. STURROCK,
for Acting Secretary.

To the Collector of the Chingleput District.

Copy to the Director of Revenue Settlement.

Exd. A. Grubert.

Swatantaram fees—recently recorded in the Settlement Register of Chingleput District.—
Passing orders on letter from Collector requesting instructions as to what is to be done in regard to the —

DECEMBER.
No. 3,405.

PROCEEDINGS, 15TH DECEMBER 1878, No. 3,405.

Received

Printed 21st.

Dated December 18th.

THE COLLECTOR OF THE
CHINGLEPUT DISTRICT

BOARD OF REVENUE,
MADRAS.

1878.

Dec 17 19.

No. 1,162.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 2nd May 1879.

Read the following letters:—

From A. T. ARUNDEL, Esq., Acting Deputy Director of Revenue Settlement, Party No. IV., to W. WILSON, Esq., Acting Director of Revenue Settlement, dated Bhavani, 27th September 1878, No. 192.

I HAVE the honor to report on the settlement of the Conjeveram and the Madhurantakam Taluks of the Chingleput District with which the settlement of the whole of that district is brought to a close. Both taluks have been settled under the table of rates of assessment sanctioned for the rest of the district.

2. The work accomplished has been much the same in both taluks and consisted of—

- (1.) Revision of the irrigated area.
- (2.) Examination of the original classification and formation of blocks for assessment.
- (3.) Checking the entries of all holdings and preparing new village registers.
- (4.) Miscellaneous accounts and corrections in each village, with comparative statements of the assessment in Fasli 1287.
- (5.) Transfer of puttass.
- (6.) Division of Samudayam or common lands.
- (7.) Registry of Mirassi lands and entry of Swatantram or Manorial fee.
- (8.) Allotment of grazing-grounds, threshing-floors, burial-grounds, building sites, &c. &c.

3. CONJEVERAM.—This taluk together with Chingleput, the settlement of which has already been completed and accepted (G.O., No. 1,053, dated 11th July 1878), was originally classified by the Deputy Director Major Stuart, and his scheme for its settlement was sanctioned in G.O., No. 541, dated 6th February 1877. The work was conducted by two large parties; one at Conjeveram under Supervisor Ayavayengar with a staff selected from the Chingleput and Coimbatore Parties, and the other at Sriperumbudur under Uncovenanted Assistant Vencata Row with the bulk of the Chingleput Party. It was found necessary to entrust the close of the operations in the Conjeveram Division also to Vencata Row to ensure prompt completion.

4. The Conjeveram Division contains 164 villages, and that of Sriperumbudur 130. The physical and social characteristics of the taluk have been noticed by Major Stuart in his report and do not call for repetition.

5. Area.—The whole taluk contains 294 villages, comprising a surveyed area of 249,092 acres or 389 square miles. The increase by survey was 24,135 acres or 11 per cent. The following table gives full details:—

Items.	Total Area.	Deduct.			Balance.	Occupied.	Uncultivated.
		Unassessed Waste.	Inam.	Total.			
	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.
As per Revenue Accounts of Fasli 1286 ...	224,957	80,745	9,866	90,611	134,346	102,642	31,704
As per Survey ...	249,092	89,948	10,958	100,906	148,186	114,204	33,982
Difference ...	+ 24,135	+ 9,203	+ 1,092	+ 10,295	+ 13,840	+ 11,562	2,278
Percentage ...	11	...	...	...	...	...	...

6. *Sources of Irrigation.*—The Palar river with its tributaries, the Vigavadi on the north bank and the Cheyaur on the south, supplies numerous channels which are cut through its sandy bed. These channels afford direct irrigation to a considerable area, but for the most part supply tanks which channel-fed and rain-fed together are the mainstay of the irrigation. The following table shows the number of villages under the different sources of irrigation:—

Names of Sources.	Number of Villages.	OCCUPIED.		UNOCCUPIED.		INAM.		TOTAL.	
		Area.	Assessment.	Area.	Assessment.	Area.	Assessment.	Area.	Assessment.
1. River and spring channel ...	47	ACS.	RS.	ACS.	RS.	ACS.	RS.	ACS.	RS.
2. River-fed tanks ...	80	29,806	1,10,280	2,253	6,453	2,375	10,716	34,434	1,27,449
3. Rain-fed tanks ...	162	83,733	1,11,565	4,377	11,341	3,008	11,755	41,118	1,34,661
Total ...	289	74,118	2,73,101	7,110	19,688	6,774	31,113	88,002	3,23,902

7. *Grouping.*—The changes made in the original grouping of villages was trifling; one village was reduced from the first to the second group, and three were raised from the third group to the second. As finally settled, there are 49 irrigated villages in the first group, 132 in the second, and 108 in the third. All the unirrigated villages are in the second group.

8. *Changes in the Irrigated Area.*—The following table shows the area brought newly under the head of "irrigated," and also the area transferred from "irrigated" to "unirrigated." The increase under the former item is due to the inclusion of a large area hitherto classed as "dry" but regularly irrigated and subject to the payment of water-rate:—

Particulars of Charges.	Occupied Survey Area.	Unoccupied Survey Area.	Inam Survey Area.	Total Survey Area.
Total wet ayacut as per Revenue Accounts of Fasli 1286 and charges of Fasli 1287 ...	66,792	7,245	6,730	80,767
Deduct transfer from wet to dry ...	1,412	853	74	2,339
Remainder Wet ...	65,380	6,392	6,656	78,428
Add Transfers from Dry to Wet ...	8,738	718	118	9,574
Total ...	74,118	7,110	6,774	88,002

9. *Swatantram or Manorial Fees.*—A Swatantram fee of 2 annas per rupee of the assessment payable to the Village Mirassidars has been entered in the settlement registers against the land held in common or in shares by the Mirassidars, and against the unoccupied waste lands. No swatantram fee is entered against lands already obtained on durkhast and held under putta. The total area of waste land against which the Swatantram fee has been entered is 27,315 acres and the total of the fees amounts to Rs. 4,426 or an average of Rs. 15-0-10 per village. This is the maximum sum, and would be payable only if every acre of waste land were taken up for cultivation.

10. *Division of Samudayam or Common Lands.*—One hundred and eighty-two villages out of the total 294 contained Samudayam lands. In 177 of these, common lands, amounting to 4,396 acres, have been divided among the shareholders, who are 2,285 in number; 375 acres in the remaining five villages are still undivided owing to dissensions among the shareholders.

11. *Manavari Lands.*—These are lands which ordinarily grow a crop of rice by means of the rainfall alone, and which on account of the precarious nature of this supply received a remission of 20 per cent. on the irrigated land rates formerly imposed upon them. These lands have now been assessed at special rates varying from Rs. 2-8-0 to Rs. 1-4-0 per acre. The former remission will of course cease henceforth. The following table gives detailed information as to these lands:—

Rate per Acre.	AS PER SETTLEMENT.			AS PER REVENUE ACCOUNTS.				
	Survey Area.	Assessment.	Average.	Old Area.	Assessment.	Remissions.	Balance.	Average.
RS. A. P.	ACRES.	RS.	RS. A. P.	ACRES.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS. A. P.
2 8 0	204	511	...	177	666	132	534	...
2 0 0	132	267	...	106	305	60	245	...
1 8 0	203	304	...	179	367	73	294	...
1 4 0	84	105	...	68	79	16	63	...
Total ...	623	1,187	1 14 6	530	1,417	281	1,136	2 2 4

12. *Lands allotted for Public purposes.*—Acres 3,323 chiefly unoccupied waste have been set apart as common grazing-ground. Acres 426 have been assigned for village building-sites, threshing-floors, roads, burying-grounds, cattle-stands, &c. The assessment on the 312 acres of land voluntarily relinquished for these purposes was Rs. 565. The following table gives details as to the different items:—

Items.	OCCUPIED.		UNOCCUPIED.		TOTAL.	
	Dry.	Wet.	Dry.	Wet.	Dry.	Wet.
	ACS.	CS.	ACS.	CS.	ACS.	CS.
Threshing-floor ...	6 55	1 39	36 97	8 81	43 52	10 20
Village-site ...	97 89	0 8	40 8	4 85	137 97	4 93
Pasturage ...	111 78	...	2,95 91	275 3	3,047 69	275 3
Cattle-stand ...	8 0	...	32 30	...	40 30	...
Road ...	70 12	26 16	13 9	2 9	103 21	23 25
Jungles for firewood ...	...	...	59 0	...	59 0	...
Total ...	234 84	27 63	3,146 35	290 78	3,430 69	318 41

13. *Classification of Soil.*—The following table shows the classification of the soil irrigated and unirrigated (exclusive of Inams) throughout the taluk:—

Description of Soils.	CLASSIFICATION.		Dry.	Wet.	Total.
	Class.	Sort.			
Black clay ...	3	1	ACS. CS.	ACS. CS.	ACS. CS.
		2	70 7	1,171 65	1,241 72
		3	369 22	1,099 17	1,468 39
		4	132 50	1,072 37	1,204 87
		5	49 16	1,058 58	1,107 74
Black loam ...	4	1	1,173 5	4,209 45	5,382 50
		2	489 77	5,118 74	5,608 51
		3	999 13	6,812 84	7,811 97
		4	1,644 60	5,588 91	7,133 51
		5	2,150 46	5,012 51	7,162 97
Black sand ...	5	1	945 85	3,189 57	4,135 42
		2	1,116 0	197 0	1,313 0
		3	3,352 24	392 88	3,745 12
		4	2,587 53	361 39	2,948 92
		5	592 0	2,012 0	2,604 0
		6	8 0	118 0	126 0

Description of Soils.		CLASSIFICATION.		Dry.	Wet.	Total.
		Class.	Sort.			
Red clay	Best	6	1	ACS. CR.	ACS. CR.	ACS. CR.
	Good		2	143 66	67 91	211 57
	Ordinary		3	1,049 48	74 21	1,123 67
	Inferior		4	37 95	64 18	102 13
	Worst		5	...	...	...
Red loam	Best	7	1	929 72	4,091 52	5,021 24
	Good		2	3,302 37	5,069 48	8,391 85
	Ordinary		3	4,049 78	4,376 76	8,426 54
	Inferior		4	3,229 61	4,806 17	8,035 78
	Worst		5	3,914 73	9,743 5	13,657 78
Red sand	Best	8	1	3,435 74	1,330 56	4,766 30
	Good		2	12,687 3	2,431 9	15,118 12
	Ordinary		3	8,284 92	2,137 18	10,422 10
	Inferior		4	2,561 26	3,040 71	5,601 97
	Worst		5	7,747 30	6,534 74	14,282 4
Total ...		...	...	66,953 11	81,227 62	148,185 73

14. *Comparison of Assessment on Irrigated Area.*—The following comparative statement shows the result of settlement on lands irrigated by direct flow and by baling from tanks and channels:—

Items.	Rate per Acre.	AS PER SETTLEMENT.			AS PER REVENUE ACCOUNTS OF FASLI 1287.			INCREASE OR DECREASE BY SETTLEMENT.	
		Extent.	Assessment, single Crop.	Average.	Extent.	Assessment, single Crop.	Average.	Area.	Assessment.
Direct flow.	RS. A. P.	ACRES.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	ACRES.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	ACRES.	RS.
	7 8 0	1,348	10,109 1 0	..	1,259	9,388 15 0	..	..	..
	6 4 0	7,173	44,832 4 0	..	6,651	42,402 15 0	..	..	..
	5 0 0	10,666	54,333 3 0	..	9,697	51,953 2 0	..	..	..
	4 0 0	11,643	46,626 6 0	..	10,543	45,013 3 0	..	..	..
	3 8 0	9,428	33,032 4 0	..	8,519	30,066 3 0	..	..	..
	3 0 0	10,542	31,650 11 0	..	9,401	27,317 7 0	..	..	..
	2 8 0	10,510	26,276 7 0	..	9,241	21,652 8 0	..	..	..
Total ..	..	71,867	2,67,021 0 0	3 11 5	64,427	2,44,683 6 0	3 12 9	+ 7,440	+ 22,338
Baling	6 8 0	52	335 7 0	..	52	313 2 0	..	..	..
	5 4 0	172	905 1 0	..	160	833 14 0	..	..	..
	4 0 0	283	1,137 8 0	..	265	1,148 3 0	..	..	..
	3 0 0	500	1,502 3 0	..	448	1,433 5 0	..	..	..
	2 8 0	334	839 15 0	..	308	805 1 0	..	..	..
	2 0 0	315	630 11 0	..	285	682 13 0	..	..	..
	1 8 0	267	401 4 0	..	225	418 7 0	..	..	..
	1 0 0	328	328 12 0	..	278	397 13 0	..	..	..
Total ..	..	2,251	6,080 13 0	2 11 3	2,021	6,032 10 0	2 15 9	+ 230	+ 48
Grand Total..	..	74,118	2,73,101 13 0	3 10 11	66,448	2,50,716 0 0	3 12 4	+ 7,670	+ 22,386

15. *Comparison of Assessment on Unirrigated Area.*—The following comparative statement shows the result of the settlement on the unirrigated lands:—

Items.	Rate per Acre.	AS PER SETTLEMENT.			AS PER REVENUE ACCOUNTS OF FASLI 1287.			INCREASE OR DECREASE BY SETTLEMENT.	
		Extent.	Assessment.	Average.	Extent.	Assessment.	Average.	Area.	Assessment.
Dry	RS. A. P.	ACRES.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	ACRES.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	ACRES.	RS.
	2 8 0	469	1,176 6 0	..	430	1,296 11 0	..	..	..
	2 0 0	1,722	3,461 2 0	..	1,622	3,796 15 0	..	..	..
	1 8 0	7,977	11,979 7 0	..	7,464	12,130 11 0	..	..	..
	1 4 0	16,733	20,923 10 0	..	15,287	20,424 7 0	..	..	..
	0 12 0	8,169	6,143 10 0	..	7,068	7,898 11 0	..	..	..
	0 8 0	3,717	1,868 15 0	..	3,224	2,690 7 0	..	..	..
	0 6 0	1,299	490 3 0	..	1,099	909 3 0	..	..	..
Total ..	..	40,086	45,043 5 0	1 2 5	36,194	49,447 1 1	1 5 9	+ 3,892	- 3,104

16. *Unoccupied Waste Lands.*—The extent of irrigated land now lying waste and available for cultivation is 7,110 acres, assessed at Rs. 19,688. The unirrigated waste land available for cultivation is 26,872 acres, assessed at Rs. 21,774. The possible increase of land revenue in the taluk is thus known to be Rs. 41,462 without reckoning the water-rate chargeable on any unirrigated lands that may possibly receive a supply of water from a Government source.

17. *Inam Lands.*—The following brief statement shows the area, the nominal assessment on classification of both settled and unsettled Inams, and the quit-rent actually payable on the former. It will be seen that 6,107 acres of land nominally assessed at Rs. 19,541 are claimed and held as Inams without recognition by the Inam Commissioner:—

Items.	AS PER REVENUE ACCOUNTS.		AS PER SETTLEMENT.		DIFFERENCE.		Quit-rent.
	Extent.	Assessment.	Extent.	Assessment.	Extent.	Assessment.	
Settled ..	ACRES.	RS.	ACRES.	RS.	ACRES.	RS.	RS.
Unsettled ..	4,356	13,736	4,861	16,891	+ 465	- 1,845	1,798
	6,480	21,693	6,107	19,541	+ 627	- 2,152	..
Total ..	9,866	40,429	10,958	36,432	+ 1,092	- 3,997	1,788

18. *Results of the Settlement.*—The financial results of the settlement may be thus summarized.

Items.	Irrigated or Unirrigated.	Group.	Occupied.						Difference.			Percentage.	
			As per Settlement.			As per Revenue Accounts.			Extent.	Assessment.	Extent.	Assessment.	Assessment.
			Extent.	Assessment.	Average.	Extent.	Assessment.	Average.					
Settlement proposals	Wet	1	ACRES.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	ACRES.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	ACRES.	RS. A. P.	ACRES.	RS. A. P.	RS.
		2	19,400	93,379 0 0	..	17,475	87,248 0 0	..	..	..	..	..	..
		3	38,113	1,38,225 0 0	..	34,295	1,30,609 0 0	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total	..	..	15,618	43,976 0 0	..	13,832	40,914 0 0	..	..	..	..	..	..
		..	73,131	2,75,580 0 0	3 12 4	65,602	2,58,771 0 0	3 15 1	+	7,629	+	16,809 0 0	6 5
		2	40,202	46,944 0 0	1 2 8	36,232	48,718 0 0	1 5 6	+	3,970	+	1,774 0 0	3 6
Grand Total	..	..	113,333	3,22,524 0 0	2 13 6	101,834	3,07,487 0 0	3 0 4	+	11,499	+	15,035 0 0	4 9
	Wet	1	19,515	92,789 0 0	..	17,503	85,512 0 0	..	..	..	..	..	..
		2	38,667	1,35,903 0 0	..	34,760	1,25,626 0 0	..	..	..	..	..	..
Settlement Actuals	..	3	15,936	44,409 0 0	..	14,120	39,578 0 0	..	..	..	..	..	..
		..	74,118	2,73,101 0 0	3 10 11	66,448	2,60,716 0 0	3 12 4	+	7,670	+	22,385 0 0	8 9
		2	40,086	46,043 0 0	1 2 5	36,194	49,147 0 0	1 5 9	+	3,892	+	3,104 0 0	6 3
Grand Total	..	..	114,204	3,19,144 0 0	2 12 9	102,642	2,90,863 0 0	2 14 9	+	11,562	+	19,281 0 0	6 4

19. From this statement it at first sight appears that the increase in the assessment on irrigated land is by settlement 8.9 per cent. instead of 6.5 per cent. as proposed. The difference, however, arises from the fact that Major Stuart's proposals were based on the revenue demand of Fasli 1283, whereas the present comparison is with the demand of Fasli 1286, which fell off owing to the famine by Rs. 8,000. If the assessment as now settled be compared with the revenue demand of Fasli 1283, the percentage of increase is found to be less than under Major Stuart's proposal, viz., 5.5 per cent. actuals as against 6.5 per cent. proposed.

20. Part of the increase of assessment on the irrigated area, viz., Rs. 8,896, is due to the increased assessment on lands transferred from unirrigated to irrigated. The extent thus transferred was 9,055 acres, assessed in Fasli 1286 at Rs. 12,611, and now assessed at Rs. 21,507.

21. The decrease under the head of unirrigated is somewhat greater than that proposed. Rs. 2,716 of the reduction is due to the area 1,721 acres transferred from irrigated to unirrigated, assessed in Fasli 1286 at Rs. 5,018, and now assessed at Rs. 2,302.

22. *Averages.*—The average rate of assessment for the irrigated land as now settled is Rs. 3-10-11 as against Rs. 3-12-4 by the old accounts, and for the unirrigated Rs. 1-2-5 per acre as against Rs. 1-5-9. The average rates in the other settled taluks of Chingleput are—

	Wet.			Dry.		
	RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.
Ponneri	3	4	2	1	1	6
Saidapet	3	10	2	1	3	1
Chingleput.	3	4	2	0	15	7
Tiruvallur	3	6	1	1	0	8

23. *Second Crop.*—The second crop charge, amounting to Rs. 3,988, has been consolidated with the consent of the ryots on 2,411 acres out of 74,118. This will be a permanent charge and does not include the charge on other lands which are occasionally cultivated with a second crop. The total second crop assessment of Fasli 1286 was Rs. 7,193.

The rate of compounding was one-third and one-fourth of the single crop rate according to the group in which the village was placed. No remission should hereafter be allowed on lands thus assessed with the consolidated rate except in case of failure of both crops.

23-1. *Net Results.*—The net results may be as follows:—

	RS.
Increase on single crop assessment	22,386
Deduct loss on area compounded for second crop	2,684
	19,702
Deduct loss of assessment on unirrigated area	3,104
Net increase of assessment	16,598

24. *Puttas.*—The total number of puttas issued during the settlement was 13,587 against 12,948 by the old accounts: 2,425 puttas were transferred to the names of the rightful heirs or owners with the consent of all parties concerned.

25. *Durkhasts and Relinquishments.*—Acres 33 of irrigated land, assessed at Rs. 38, and 102 acres of unirrigated, assessed at Rs. 88, were relinquished and 10 acres of irrigated land, assessed at Rs. 26, and 35 acres of unirrigated, assessed at Rs. 23, were newly taken up during the settlement.

26. *Fixed Remissions.*—The following remissions allowed under the old accounts should henceforth cease:—

	RS.	A.	P.	
Teajgari	75	5	1	Remission to certain classes on their holdings in four villages.
Pymash commi	994	1	11	Remission for supposed deficiency of area of 11 villages.
Kani commi	32	11	0	Remission for supposed deficiency of area of 6 villages.

27. **MADHURANTAKAM.**—This taluk has been settled without special preliminary scheme on the same rates of assessment sanctioned for the rest of the district, which it closely resembles in physical features. A preliminary classification was carried out in this taluk during 1876 and part of 1877 by Mr. Pedroza, Assistant Manager, and Supervisor Ayavayengar, under Mr. Puckle's directions. This classification was revised during the settlement which has just been effected. Work was begun in the month of March and completed before the end of July. The taluk was divided for settlement purposes into two parts. The Uttramallur Division containing 170 villages was undertaken by Assistant Director T. Vencata Chari with the Party No. VI transferred from Tinnevely, and the Madhurantakam Division containing 177 villages was assigned to Uncovenanted Assistant C. Ranga Chari with the bulk of the Coimbatore Party.

28. **Physical features.**—The taluk of Madhurantakam forms the southernmost portion of the Chingleput District. It is bounded on the east by the Bay of Bengal, on the south by the South Arcot District, and on the west by the North Arcot District. It is for the most part a level plain diversified here and there by isolated rocky hills. It is largely dependant on rainfall for irrigation, but a large area is irrigated by channels from the Cheyaur and Palar rivers which forms its northern boundary.

29. **Area.**—The whole taluk contains 347 Ryotwari villages, comprising a surveyed area of Acres 305,347 or 477 square miles. The area by the old measurement was Acres 279,141 or 436 square miles. The increase by survey is thus 26,206 acres or 9.4 per cent. The following table gives full details:—

Particulars.	Total Area.	Deduct.			Balance.	Occupied.	Unoccupied.
		Poramboke.	Inams.	Total.			
As per Revenue Accounts..	ACS. 279,141	ACS. 107,651	ACS. 16,834	ACS. 124,485	ACS. 154,656	ACS. 110,130	ACS. 44,526
As per Settlement	305,347	113,695	18,452	132,147	173,200	122,601	50,599
Difference ..	+ 26,206	+ 6,044	+ 1,618	+ 7,662	+ 18,544	+ 12,471	+ 6,073
Percentage ..	9.4	..	..	..	..	..	..

30. **Sources of Irrigation.**—Channels for direct irrigation and for the supply of tanks are led off without masonry works from the sandy bed of the Palar and Cheyaur rivers and supply the bulk of the irrigated land. The following statement shows the area and assessment under the different sources of irrigation:—

Names of Sources.	Number of Villages.	OCCUPIED.		UNOCCUPIED.		INAM.		TOTAL.	
		Area.	Assessment.	Area.	Assessment.	Area.	Assessment.	Area.	Assessment.
		ACS.	RS.	ACS.	RS.	ACS.	RS.	ACS.	RS.
1. River and spring channels ..	52	3,362	13,759	721	2,079	602	3,002	4,685	18,840
2. River-fed tanks ..	52	18,561	75,625	1,528	5,353	1,956	9,214	22,045	90,192
3. Rain-fed tanks ..	242	44,457	1,59,359	4,129	12,891	5,831	22,751	54,417	1,95,001
Total ..	..	66,380	2,48,743	6,378	20,323	8,389	34,967	81,147	3,04,033

31. **Grouping.**—Some changes from the grouping originally proposed by the classifiers was found advisable chiefly in the unirrigated tracts. The following table shows the grouping as originally proposed and as finally settled:—

Dry or Wet.	1st Group.	2nd Group.	3rd Group.	Total.
<i>Dry.</i>				
As originally fixed	16	325	6	347
As finally fixed	2	345	..	347

Dry or Wet.	1st Group.	2nd Group.	3rd Group.	Total.
<i>Wet.</i>				
As originally fixed	38	231	78	347
As finally fixed	41	237	69	347

32. **Changes in the Irrigated Area.**—The following table shows the area brought newly under the head of "irrigated," and also the area transferred from "irrigated" to "unirrigated." The increase under the former item is due to the inclusion of a large area hitherto classed as "dry," but regularly irrigated and subject to the payments of water-rate:—

Particulars of Changes.	Occupied Survey Area.	Unoccupied Survey Area.	Inam Survey Area.	Total Survey Area.
	AC.	AC.	AC.	AC.
Total wet ayacut as per Revenue accounts of Fasli 1286 and changes of Fasli 1287 ..	60,786	6,154	8,330	75,270
Deduct transfers from wet to dry	956	412	21	1,389
Remainder wet ..	59,830	5,742	8,309	73,881
Add transfers from dry to wet	6,550	635	80	7,265
Total revised wet ayacut ..	66,380	6,377	8,389	81,146

33. **Swatantaram or Manorial Fees.**—A swatantaram fee of two annas per rupee of the assessment payable to the Village Mirassidars has been entered in the settlement registers against the land held in common or in the shares by the Mirassidars, and against the unoccupied waste lands. No swatantaram fee is entered against lands already obtained on durkhast and held under putta. The total area of waste land against which the swatantaram fee has been entered is 49,291 acres in 333 villages, and the swatantaram fee thereon is Rs. 8,549, or Rs. 25-10-9 per village.

34. **Division of Samudayam or Common Lands.**—5,597 acres of common lands have been divided among 2,262 Mirassidars in 232 villages. In 27 villages with 1,143 acres of common land no division could be effected owing to the dissensions among the Mirassidars. In the remaining 88 villages no samadaya land existed.

35. **Manavari Lands.**—These are lands which ordinarily grow a crop of rice by means of the rainfall alone, and which on account of the precarious supply received a remission of 20 per cent. of the wet land assessment formerly imposed on them. These lands have now been assessed under special rates varying from Rs. 3 to Rs. 0-12-0 per acre. The former remission will, of course, cease for the future. The following table gives detailed information:—

Rate per Acre.	Survey Area.	AS PER SETTLEMENT.			AS PER REVENUE ACCOUNTS.			Average.
		Assessment.	Average.	Area.	Assessment of Fasli 1286.	Remissions.	Balance.	
RS. A. P.	AC. C.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	AC. C.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.
3 0 0	1 71	5 2 0	..	1 76	5 0 0	1 0 0	4 0 0	2 0 0
2 8 0	181 30	459 6 0	..	169 64	516 5 11	102 14 0	413 7 11	2 7 7
2 0 0	561 97	1,121 1 0	..	499 17	1,551 11 4	310 11 10	1,240 15 6	2 7 9
1 8 0	184 16	277 5 0	..	157 20	345 13 6	69 2 8	276 10 10	1 12 3
1 4 0	37 89	47 10 0	..	33 20	63 13 1	12 5 10	51 7 3	1 9 3
0 12 0	4 81	3 10 0	..	4 81	7 0 6	1 6 6	5 10 0	1 3 2
..	974 84	1,917 2 0	1 15 5	865 78	2,489 12 4	497 8 10	1,992 3 6	2 4 9

36. *Lands allotted for public purposes.*—12,264 acres of land chiefly unoccupied waste were allotted among 124 villages for common grazing grounds; 1,109 acres were assigned for village building sites, threshing-floors, cattle-stands, roads, burial-grounds, and tank waterspread. The assessment on 334 acres of land voluntarily relinquished for these purposes was Rs. 497. The following table gives details as to the different items :—

Items.	OCCUPIED.		UNOCCUPIED.		Unassessed Waste.	Total.	Number of Villages for which allotted.
	Wet.	Dry.	Wet.	Dry.			
Threshing-floor	Ac. C.	Ac. C.	Ac. C.	Ac. C.	Ac. C.	Ac. C.	
Village-site	4 29	8 8	97 45	60 13	170 0	170 0	41
Pasture and firewood jungle	8 54	178 60	..	181 89	15 0	383 83	112
Cattle-stand	..	142 1	211 0	10,687 69	1,223 87	12,264 67	124
Road	..	3 77	..	37 6	313 34	354 17	22
Burial-ground	0 72	10 26	..	13 66	..	24 64	14
Waterspread	..	..	12 42	1 23	..	13 65	4
.. .. .	..	..	..	134 93	..	162 67	9
Total ..	16 85	367 6	320 87	11,116 44	1,552 21	13,373 43	..

37. *Classification.*—The following table shows the classification of the soil irrigated and unirrigated throughout the taluk :—

Description of Soil.		Dry.	Wet.	Total.
Black clay ...	Best ...	3—1	Ac. 475	Ac. 685
	Good ...	2	1,043	1,520
	Ordinary ...	3	647	1,990
	Inferior ...	4	1,789	2,529
	Worst ...	5	1,710	10,641
Black loam ...	Best ...	4—1	793	2,798
	Good ...	2	7,862	9,190
	Ordinary ...	3	5,058	9,927
	Inferior ...	4	4,450	10,834
	Worst ...	5	3,157	10,308
Black sand ...	Best ...	5—1	2,044	353
	Good ...	2	2,449	393
	Ordinary ...	3	2,025	351
	Inferior ...	4	819	458
	Worst ...	5	597	3,033
Red loam ...	Best ...	7—1	10,890	558
	Good ...	2	3,292	1,017
	Ordinary ...	3	4,078	1,897
	Inferior ...	4	2,809	1,268
	Worst ...	5	1,019	1,820
Red sand ...	Best ...	8—1	13,916	194
	Good ...	2	10,480	214
	Ordinary ...	3	14,531	375
	Inferior ...	4	3,590	230
	Worst ...	5	474	172
Arenaceous loam...	Good...	12—2	81	3
	Ordinary ...	3	364	..
Total ...			100,442	72,758
				173,200

38. *Comparison of Results, Irrigated Area.*—The following comparative statement shows the result of the settlement on lands irrigated by direct flow and by baling from tanks and channels :—

Irrigation.	Rate per Acre.	AS PER SETTLEMENT.			AS PER ACCOUNTS OF FARIS 1287.			DIFFERENCE.	
		Survey Area in Acres.	Assessment, Single Crop.	Average.	Area.	Assessment, Single Crop.	Average.	Extent.	Assessment.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Direct flow ...	Rs. A. P.	Ac.	Rs.	Rs. A. P.	Ac.	Rs.	Rs. A. P.	Ac.	Rs.
	7 8 0	523	3,959	...	500	3,808	...	...	...
	6 4 0	4,719	29,496	...	4,415	27,937	...	...	...
	5 0 0	9,909	49,554	...	9,163	48,307	...	...	...
	4 0 0	12,656	60,667	...	11,511	47,476	...	...	...
	3 8 0	11,593	40,613	...	10,554	26,500	...	...	...
	3 0 0	10,965	32,926	...	9,943	28,582	...	...	...
	2 8 0	9,764	24,407	...	8,883	21,253	...	...	...
Total ...		64,117	2,39,607	3 11 10	58,544	2,20,654	3 12 4	+ 5,573	+ 19,953
Baling ...	6 8 0	13	89	...	12	56	...	...	...
	5 4 0	164	852	...	152	848	...	...	...
	4 0 0	241	961	...	217	927	...	...	...
	3 0 0	535	1,610	...	478	1,379	...	...	...
	2 8 0	721	1,806	...	645	1,475	...	...	...
	2 0 0	301	600	...	272	585	...	...	...
	1 8 0	265	307	...	180	331	...	...	...
	1 0 0	83	83	...	70	79	...	...	...
Total ...		2,263	6,299	2 12 6	2,026	5,710	2 13 1	+ 237	+ 589
Grand Total ...		66,380	2,15,906	3 11 3	60,570	2,26,364	3 11 10	+ 5,810	+ 19,542

39. *Unirrigated.*—The following comparative statement shows the result of the settlement on the unirrigated lands :—

Rate per Acre.	AS PER SETTLEMENT.			AS PER JAMABANDI.			DIFFERENCE.	
	Extent.	Assessment.	Average.	Extent.	Assessment.	Average.	Extent.	Assessment.
Rs. A. P.	Ac.	Rs.	Rs. A. P.	Ac.	Rs.	Rs. A. P.	Ac.	Rs.
3 0 0	8	25	...	9	25	...	...	...
2 8 0	823	2,063	...	749	1,833	...	...	...
2 0 0	13,367	26,774	...	12,047	25,938	...	...	...
1 8 0	24,035	21,076	...	12,375	22,373	...	...	...
1 4 0	12,467	15,591	...	10,413	15,939	...	...	...
0 12 0	12,711	9,545	...	11,186	11,089	...	...	...
0 8 0	2,553	1,279	...	2,257	2,096	...	...	...
0 6 0	257	97	...	243	275	...	...	...
56,221		76,450	1 5 9	49,279	79,618	1 9 10	+ 6,942	— 3,168

40. *Unoccupied Lands.*—The extent of irrigated land now lying waste and available for cultivation is 6,378 acres, assessed at Rs. 20,323. The unirrigated waste land available for cultivation is 44,221 acres, assessed at Rs. 52,738. The possible increase of land revenue in the taluk is thus shown to be Rs. 73,061 apart from any subsequent charge for water-rate on lands now irrigated.

41. *Inam Lands.*—The following brief statement shows the area, the nominal assessment on classification of both settled and unsettled inams, and the quit-rent actually payable on the former. It is worthy of note that 12,330 acres of land nominally assessed at Rs. 30,840 are claimed and held as Inams without recognition by the Inam Commissioner :—

Whether Settled or Unsettled.	Dry or Wet.	As per Settlement.		As per Accounts of Fasli 1286.		Quit-rent.
		Extent by Survey.	Assessment.	Extent.	Assessment.	
Settled	Wet	Ac. 3,015	Rs. 13,853	Ac. 2,783	Rs. 13,962	Rs. 1,461
	Dry	3,107	4,525	2,840	5,485	
	Total ...	6,122	18,377	5,622	19,447	
Unsettled	Wet	5,374	21,315	4,932	20,624	
	Dry	6,956	9,525	6,270	11,492	
	Total ...	12,330	30,840	11,202	32,116	

42. *Financial Results*—The financial results of the settlement may be thus summarized:—

Item	Irrigated or Unirrigated.	Group.	OCCUPIED.						DIFFERENCE.		PERCENTAGE.	
			As per Settlement.			As per Revenue Account.						
			Area.	Assessment.	Average.	Area.	Assessment.	Average	Area.	Assessment.	Area.	Assessment.
Settlement Proposals.	Wet	1	AC.	RS.	RS. A. P.	AC.	RS.	RS. A. P.	AC	RS.	AC.	RS.
		2	15,743	71,252	4 8 5	16,897	76,525	4 8 6	- 1,154	- 5,273	6.8	6.9
		3	35,705	1,37,756	3 13 9	34,937	1,35,275	3 13 10	+ 768	+ 2,479	2.1	1.8
	Total ...		8,567	23,892	2 12 7	8,973	24,764	2 12 3	- 406	- 872	4.5	3.4
			60,015	2,32,900	3 14 1	60,857	2,36,564	3 14 2	- 842	- 3,664	1.4	10.5
			2,834	5,487	1 14 5	2,749	5,718	2 1 8	+ 135	- 231	5.0	4.0
Dry	2	47,272	66,156	1 6 5	46,774	66,960	1 6 11	+ 498	- 804	1.0	1.2	
	3	123	138	1 1 11	146	96	0 10 6	- 23	+ 42	1.6	43.8	
	Total ...		50,279	71,781	1 6 10	49,669	72,774	1 7 5	+ 610	- 993	1.2	1.4
Grand Total.		110,294	3,04,681	...	1,10,526	3,09,338	...	- 232	- 4,657	0.2	1.4	
Settlement Actuals.	Wet	1	18,412	78,528	4 4 3	17,029	73,678	4 5 3	+ 1,383	+ 4,850	8.1	6.6
		2	39,410	1,44,664	3 10 8	35,802	1,32,344	3 11 2	+ 3,608	+ 12,320	10.1	9.3
		3	8,558	22,714	2 10 6	7,739	20,342	2 10 1	+ 819	+ 2,372	10.6	11.6
	Total...		66,380	2,45,906	3 11 3	60,570	2,26,364	3 11 10	+ 5,810	+ 19,542	9.6	8.6
			817	1,670	3 4 8	773	1,339	2 5 10	+ 39	- 169	5.0	9.2
	Dry	2	55,404	74,780	1 6 7	48,501	77,779	1 9 8	+ 6,903	- 2,999	1.4	3.9
Total ...		56,221	76,450	1 6 9	49,279	79,618	1 9 10	+ 6,942	- 3,168	14.1	3.9	
Grand Total.		1,22,601	3,22,356	...	1,09,849	3,05,982	...	+ 12,752	+ 16,374	11.6	5.4	

There is thus a net increase on the irrigated area of Rs. 19,542, or 8.6 per cent. on account of the first crop charge. It is to be observed that this does not correspond to the increase of area by survey which amounts to 9.6 per cent. Further, 6,550 acres of unirrigated land which in Fasli 1286 paid an assessment of Rs. 10,145 have now been transferred to "irrigated" and assessed at Rs. 20,051, giving an increase of Rs. 9,906. The irrigated lands appear to me to be assessed very moderately. The average rate per acre is only Rs. 3-11-3 as against Rs. 3-11-10 by the old account. In the taluks of Ottaipidaram, Satur, and Sankaranainarkoil of the Tinnevely District, where the rainfall is far less, the average rates are Rs. 4-3-9, Rs. 4-9-2, and Rs. 4-15-1 respectively. The corresponding averages for the taluks of Chingleput already settled are Tiruvallur Rs. 3-6-1, Ponneri Rs. 3-4-2, Saidapet Rs. 3-10-2, and Conjeveram Rs. 3-12-4.

43. There is a decrease in the assessment of unirrigated lands to the amount of Rs. 3,168, although the survey increase of area is 6,942 acres, or 14 per cent. There is no doubt that the former rates for unirrigated land were abnormally high, being on the average four annas per acre higher than in the adjacent taluk of Conjeveram. Of the total loss under this head, Rs. 1,347 is due to the reduction of assessment on 956 acres transferred from "irrigated" to "unirrigated." Major Stuart in his scheme for the settlement of Conjeveram and Chingleput Taluks (paragraph 51) says, "From the above statement it will be perceived that there is a decrease in dry in nearly every class and sort, and this is naturally to be expected in a tract of country deficient in fertility with soils of an inferior quality for the production of dry crops paying hitherto an assessment, disproportionate to its agricultural value." The following table shows that even with the reduction averaging four annas per acre now effected the "dry" rates in Madhurantakam are the highest in the district:—

	RS.	A.	P.
Madhurantakam	1	5	9
Ponneri	1	1	6
Saidapet	1	3	1
Tiruvallur	1	0	8
Chingleput	0	15	7
Conjeveram	1	2	5

44. *Compounded Rates for Double Crops*.—The second crop charge, amounting to Rs. 2,837, has been consolidated with the consent of the ryots on 2,271 acres out of 66,380 acres. On the same area the second crop assessment of Fasli 1286 was Rs. 4,630; the decrease is Rs. 1,793. Besides this there will, of course, be an occasional second crop charge on lands not thus assessed with the compounded rate. The object in imposing this consolidated rate is to encourage the ryots to utilize and economize the irrigation water to the utmost and to supplement it by digging wells of their own from which they may irrigate a second crop by baling. The rate of compounding was one-third and one-fourth of the single crop rate.

No remission should hereafter be allowed on lands thus assessed with the consolidated rate except in case of failure of both crops.

45. *Net Results*.—The net results may be shown as follows:—

	RS.
Increase on single crop assessment	19,542
Deduct loss on area compounded for second crop	1,793
	17,749
Deduct loss of assessment on unirrigated area	3,168
Net increase of assessment	14,581

46. *Puttas*.—The total number of puttas issued during the settlement was 12,046 against 10,781 by the old accounts. Of the total number issued, 2,249 were joint-puttas and the rest single; 3,246 puttas were transferred to the rightful heirs or holders with the consent of all parties concerned.

47. *Durkhasts and relinquishments* of lands were not accepted by the Settlement officers, but the cases reported by the Revenue authorities were brought to account; 505 acres of unirrigated and 12 acres of irrigated land were thus relinquished, while 3,245 acres of unirrigated and 635 acres of irrigated land were entered in the puttas.

48. *Fixed Remissions*.—The following remissions allowed under the old accounts should henceforth cease:—

Teajakari, Rs. 84-3-0.—Remissions to certain classes on their holdings. The area affected is 156 acres in ten villages.

Kavi Kammi, Rs. 113-12-9.—Remissions for supposed deficiency of area four villages.

Paimaish Kammi, Rs. 15-5-7.—Remissions for supposed deficiency of area three villages.

Taram Kammi, Rs. 0-9-0.—Remissions for supposed deficiency of area one village.

49. The scrol maps, diglott registers, descriptive memoirs, and eye sketches have been completed as usual.

50. The Assistant Director T. Vencatachari and the two Uncovenanted Assistants Venkata Row and Rungachari worked without unflagging diligence to complete the work within the time assigned by Mr. Puckle. The work was practically finished in June, but the closing of the accounts brought as well into July. By the 1st August, however, the transfer of all three parties to Coimbatore had been effected, and work was immediately commenced in that district.

51. The delay in the submission of this report has arisen from the difficulty of obtaining complete information on various small matters after the transfer of the settlement parties to another district.

P.S.—The general report on the settlement of the whole district required by Government in G.O., No. 1,053, dated 11th July 1878, will shortly be despatched.

From A. T. ARUNDEL, Esq., Acting Deputy Director of Revenue Settlement, Party No. IV, to W. WILSON, Esq., Acting Director of Revenue Settlement, dated Coimbatore, 21st October 1878, No. 1,302-395.

I HAVE the honor to submit a report on the completed settlement of the district of Chingleput as required by Government in their Order, No. 1,053, dated 11th July 1878.

2. Two settlement schemes for the district have received the sanction of Government. The first scheme was prepared by the late Director Mr. Banbury for the taluks of Ponneri, Tiruvallur, and Saidapet, and was sanctioned in G.O., No. 295, dated 24th February 1875. The second scheme was prepared by the Deputy Director Major (now Lieutenant-Colonel) Stuart for the taluks of Conjeveram and Chingleput, and was sanctioned in G.O., No. 541, dated 6th February 1877. The sixth and last taluk of the district, Madhurantakam, was settled without special preliminary scheme on the data procured for the rest of the district.

3. The actual introduction of the settlement was effected in each taluk as follows:—

Name of Taluk.	No. of Villages settled.	Period of Settlement.	Name of Settling Officers.
Saidapet	69	8th March 1875 to 9th June 1875.	Mr. Puckle, Director of Revenue Settlement.
	140	August 1875 to July 1876.	Major C. J. Stuart, Ag. Deputy Director.
Ponneri	152	March 1876 to Jan. 1877.	Major C. J. Stuart, Ag. Deputy Director.
Chingleput	236	Dec. 1877 to Mar. 1878.	Runga Chari, Uncovenanted Assistant, Party No. II.
Tiruvallur	224	Do. do.	D. Venkata Row, Ag. Assistant Director, Chingleput Party.
Conjeveram	130	April 1878 to June 1878.	D. Vencata Row, Ag. Assistant Director, Chingleput Party.
	164	Jan. " to " "	Ayyavayyengar, Acting Uncovenanted Assistant.
Madhurantakam ...	177	Apr. " to " "	Runga Chariyar, Uncovenanted Assistant, Party No. II.
	170	Mar. " to " "	Assistant Director T. Venkata Chariar.

Under Mr. A. T. Arundel, Acting Deputy Director of Rev. Sett.

4. The area and population of the district are as follows:—

Taluks.	GOVERNMENT (RYOTWARI).		ZEMINDARI INAM, &c.		TOTAL.		POPULATION.		
	Villages.	Area in Square Miles.	Villages.	Area in Square Miles.	Villages.	Area in Square Miles.	Government (Ryotwari) Villages.	Zemindari Inam, &c.	Total.
1. Saidapet	209	255.47	75	86.89	284	342.36	142,165	44,073	186,238
2. Ponneri	152	233.81	100	108.72	252	342.53	68,127	35,295	103,423
3. Tiruvallur	224	393.71	77	113.86	301	507.57	110,063	40,677	150,740
4. Conjeveram	294	389.18	113	134.40	407	523.58	138,012	29,589	167,601
5. Chingleput	236	313.80	76	92.06	312	405.86	108,936	26,809	135,745
6. Madhurantakam ...	347	475.79	170	219.85	517	695.64	135,599	61,901	197,500
Total	1,462	2,096.26	611	745.78	2,073	2,842.04	702,902	237,815	940,717

5. *Physical features.*—Four out of the six taluks of Chingleput, viz., Ponneri, Saidapet, Chingleput, and Madhurantakam are washed by the Bay of Bengal. The City of Madras falls within the limits of the Saidapet Taluk which bounds Madras on all sides except the east. The districts conterminous with Chingleput are Nellore on the north, North Arcot on the north and west, and South Arcot on the south. The country on the whole is flat and uninteresting, with sandy wastes adjoining the sea. The northern part of the Tiruvallur Taluk and the immediate neighbourhood of Chingleput are however hilly, and isolated rocks and ridges rise abruptly from the plain in various other localities. The rainfall is fairly abundant. The average rainfall during the decade 1866—1875 over the whole district amounted to 41 inches per annum.

6. *Rivers.*—Beginning from the north, the *Aranyanadi* passes through the north of Tiruvallur and the centre of Ponneri, throwing off channels which supply twenty-three tanks. The *Cortelliar* or *Kusastala* river springs from the surplus of the great Kaveripakkam tank in the adjoining district of North Arcot. Before entering Chingleput, the river is tapped by the Kesaveram weir which supplies the Bangaru channel known further down its course as the Cooum. In the Chingleput District the Cortelliar flows through Tiruvallur and the south of Ponneri. It is first dammed by the weir of Vellur Tambrapakkam which supplies the great reservoirs of Cholaveram in Ponneri and the Red Hills Lake in Saidapet. Further down its course another weir at Seivapuram irrigates the neighbouring villages.

The *Cooum* derives its source mainly from the surplus of the Cooum Tank and the Bangaru channel from the Cortelliar. By a channel from a masonry weir it fills the great Chembrambakkam Tank in Saidapet, and it supplies numerous other tanks by mud-dams thrown across its stream. The *Adayar* is a stream formed by the surplus water of the Chembrambakkam Tank. It affords no supply of water for direct irrigation. The *Palar* rises in Mysore, passes through North Arcot, and, after skirting the south of the taluks of Conjeveram and Chingleput, falls into the Bay of Bengal, a few miles south of the old Dutch Settlement of Sadras. This river irrigates many villages on each bank by means of channels cut through its sandy bed and re-excavated year by year by the ryots with much labor and expense. The principal of these channels is the Pambakkal, which runs a course of between 30 and 40 miles through the Conjeveram Taluk supplying a series of important tanks. It terminates in the large reservoir of Sriperumbudur, which alone irrigates 1,379 acres assessed at Rs. 6,620. The *Vegarati* river is a small tributary falling into the Palar on the left or northern bank. It affords an uncertain supply to a few channels drawn from its bed. The *Choyaur* takes its rise in the hills of the Salem District. As far as its junction with the Palar, it forms the southern boundary of the Conjeveram Taluk. It supplies some small tanks on its northern bank in Conjeveram, and on the south the great reservoirs of Uttramerur (4,821 acres assessed at Rs. 18,764) and Madhurantakam (2,893 acres assessed at Rs. 11,764).

7. *Tanks.*—The district contains 3,000 tanks and channels irrigating a total area of 330,000 acres assessed at over 11½ lakhs of rupees per annum. There are 29 of these

tanks, each of which irrigates over 1,000 acres of land. The total area under these 20 tanks, is 73,000 acres and the assessment is nearly three lakhs of rupees.

The largest tank in the district is the Chembrambakkam, which irrigates 12,207 acres assessed at Rs. 62,863. The Cholavaram, another well-known tank, irrigates 2,472 acres assessed at Rs. 9,513.

The Red Hills Tank, which supplies Madras with fresh water, irrigates at present 3,324 acres assessed at Rs. 12,692.

8. *Communications—Railways.*—The district is traversed by three lines of Railway. The Madras Railway passes through the Saidapet and Tiruvallur Taluks; the Conjeveram Railway joins the large town of Conjeveram with the Madras Railway at Arkonam in North Arcot; the South Indian Railway connects the towns of Saidapet, Chingleput, and Madhurantakam with Madras on the north and the districts of South Arcot and Tanjore on the south.

Roads.—The district is on the whole well supplied with roads, though a few feeders will probably be required in the course of time for the smaller stations on the South Indian Railway.

Canals.—There is through communication by the Buckingham Canal recently completed under the auspices of His Grace the Governor from the south of the district beginning at the mouth of the Palar near Sadras through the district northward into Nellore via the Pulicat Lake, a distance of about 70 miles. The Buckingham Canal has been formed by uniting through the town of Madras the former waterways known as the East Coast Canal and Cochrane's Canal.

9. *Towns.*—The most important town in the district is Conjeveram, famous for its two shrines, sacred to Siva and to Vishnu, to which pilgrimages are made from all parts of India. Mahabalipuram or Seven Pagodas, 35 miles south of Madras, is visited on account of its singular rock temples now partially submerged by the sea. Sadras, 30 miles south of Madras, and Pulicat, 20 miles north of Madras, are known as old Dutch Settlements. Chingleput on the South Indian Railway, 30 miles south-west of Madras, is the residence of the Judge, the Sub-Collector, and other Civil authorities.

10. *Condition of the people.*—Mr. Banbury's remarks on this topic are applicable to the whole district. He says, "Considering the proximity to Madras and the consequent increase in civilization among these ryots, one would expect to see greater prosperity and better cultivation than elsewhere, but such is not the case. Poverty and poor cultivation are the general characteristics. This unsatisfactory state of affairs must be attributed to the three following causes:—

"1st.—The mirassi system. The so-called Mirassidars often cultivate only a small portion of their lands, leaving the rest to be tilled by Payakaries (tenants) whose tenancy is insecure, and who consequently do not lay out anything to speak of in manuring or good farming, but just manage to get on as they can. Again, many of the Mirassidars are in offices at Madras and know or care little about their possessions, saving when they use their influence to obtain remissions of assessment thereon.

"2nd.—The Mirassidars naturally enough were unwilling to see waste lands which they deemed their own property made over to others, and thus being anxious to keep out these new-comers, whom they regard as interlopers, the Mirassidars were wont to take up more waste lands than they had, either the means or inclination to cultivate, and thus embarrassments and impoverishment are the frequent consequence.

3rd.—The proximity to Madras has doubtless something to answer for. Life at or near Madras means increased wants, and when the cultivation is neglected for the gratification of these wants, money is not forthcoming for the payment of Government dues.

"No doubt the soil is inferior as a rule, but if this tract of country could by magic be transported into Cuddapah, and be filled by the hard-working race of those

parts, matters would soon assume a more satisfactory appearance." To these reasons I would add a fourth, viz., that the constant demand for labor in a great city like Madras is a constant inducement to men in the condition of mere field laborers or tenants at a rack-rent to migrate thither in search of more profitable employment. This tendency receives a great stimulus from the fact that the Mirassi system has hitherto been a great barrier against the development of the under tenant into a landholder. The landholder himself is in too many cases an absentee, but clings tenaciously to his right and title in lands that he cannot cultivate himself. The tenant or new comer desirous to become a landholder could obtain no holding of his own without a struggle and preferred trying his fortune in Madras to becoming a tenant-at-will of the landholder on the hard terms of an equal division of the produce. Under such adverse conditions no wonder that good farming is a rarity, weeding and manuring neglected, and that most of the district wears a poverty-stricken aspect. Finally, custom, tyrannical throughout Hindoo Society, brings its mischievous influence to bear, and those who with a good example would be inspired to active exertion, become as supine as their neighbours. In a subsequent page of this report will be found the arrangements which under Mr. Puckle's supervision have been carried out with the view of removing the evil effects of these adverse conditions.

11. *Products.*—The agriculture of the district is devoted in the main to the production of food-grain. During the year ending July 1876, 413,000 acres of Ryotwari and Inam lands were cultivated with food-grains, of which 325,778 acres were rice. In the following year of famine the area under food-grain was 371,000 acres, of which 240,060 were rice. The extent under Indigo fell from 4,600 acres in the former year to 3,100 in the latter. The area under oil-seeds and nuts rose from 9,700 acres in 1876 to 21,300 in 1877. There are 2,200 acres planted with cocoanut groves and 21,700 acres under plantations of other trees including casuarinas, which are largely grown for firewood on the sandy tracts near the sea.

12. *History of the Revenue Administration.*—The pages of Mr. Banbury's original report show that the Chingleput District was for several generations little better than a *corpus vile* for imperfect experiments in administration. The following abridgment of the history may be of interest. The Chingleput District forms part of the Jaghire or ceded territory made over to the East India Company by the Nabob of the Carnatic in 1750 and 1763. Its subsequent history may be divided into three periods: 1st, from the date of the grant to the invasion of Hyder Ali in 1780; 2nd, from Hyder Ali's invasion to the introduction of the Ryotwari system in 1804; and, 3rd, from 1804 to the present time.

13. *First Period, 1760 to 1780.*—On the acquisition of the territory it was leased by the East India Company to the Nabob himself from year to year for the sum of Rs. 12,90,000, of which about Rs. 8,70,000 appear to have been revenue derived from the land. The Revenue Accounts for the years 1762 to 1766 gave the average income from every source as Rs. 9,63,800. Under this administration the outturn of the ryots' crop was taken at an exorbitantly high rate which made no allowance for vicissitudes of season and the amounts wrung from the ryots in corruption and extortion either reduced them to beggary or forced them to abscond with what possessions they could, leaving the nominal rent still outstanding. "The Nabob's administration destroyed the very vitals of the Jaghire, while its invasion with fire and sword by Hyder Ali in 1780 hardly left in many parts of the country any other traces of its having been inhabited by human beings, than the bones of bodies that had been massacred, or the naked walls of the houses, choultries, and temples which had been burnt. To the havoc of war succeeded the affliction of famine, and the emigrations arising from these successive calamities nearly depopulated the district."

14. *Second Period, 1780—1804.*—On the outburst of war in 1780, the district of Chingleput with the rest of the Jaghire passed from the Nabob's control to that of a "Committee for assigned Revenue." In 1783, the whole Jaghire was divided into fourteen farms which were rented out in nine years' leases to needy and ignorant adventurers at rents which rose progressively from a total of Rs. 1,68,700 to Rs. 13,33,500. In six years' time the annual revenue should have been ten lakhs, but so rapacious and incapable were the renters and so impoverished the people that the

average revenue at that time was less than four lakhs of rupees; most of the renters were in prison for default and their farms had been confiscated. In 1790, the Governor, Lord Hobart, found matters had reached a pernicious climax to the detriment both of the Government and the people, and he solved the difficulty by abolishing the nine years' lease altogether. The lands were then made over in small allotments on a three years' lease to the chief inhabitants of each locality. This step was followed by an increase of revenue, but no attempt was made to effect improvements in the country or to develop its resources.

15. In 1794 a brief gleam of prosperity fell upon the district. It was placed under the rule of Mr. Lionel Place as Collector. This gentleman proved an able Administrator. His tenure of office lasted less than five years, yet the revenue rose higher than it had ever been since the cession of the province to the East India Company. Mr. Place put himself into intimate communication with the people, and reverting to the original basis of the Hindu community, took the village as his administrative unit, restored the ancient village officers and made the chief shareholders in each village responsible for the payment of the village revenue. The Government share of the produce was estimated at 43 to 50 per cent. on irrigated land and 55 per cent. on unirrigated, and was commuted into a money payment. The new system, however, was condemned both by the Board of Revenue and by the Government and in 1799 Mr. Place resigned.

This talented officer was the first to devote himself to the material improvement of the district. The great Madhurantakam reservoir supported by a bank of gigantic dimensions terminating in a magnificent waste water wier was constructed entirely under his supervision. It irrigates 2,893 acres which yield an annual revenue of Rs. 11,764. It cost over a lakh of rupees, was three years in building, and the work was twice destroyed by floods before its successful completion.

16. The next administrative vicissitude of Chingleput was in 1801, when a permanent settlement was attempted. The country was divided into sixty-one feudal Zemindaries assessed at a total revenue of Rs. 12,85,000. The rents however proved too high; the Zemindars failed to meet their engagements, and a calamitous season in 1806 completed the collapse of the system. The permanent settlement came abruptly to an end, and the three years' lease of villages was resumed.

17. *Third Period, 1804 to the present time.*—On the downfall of the abortive permanent settlement, a brighter day began to dawn for the district with the introduction of the Ryotwari system.

In 1803-4, this system, involving the individual responsibility of each ryot to Government for the dues on his own holding, was brought into operation by Mr. Hepburn in parts of the present taluks of Tiruvallur, Conjevaram and Madhurantakam. It proved an immediate success. The ryots were satisfied and the revenue rose during the first year one-third higher than it had ever been before. The lands were surveyed and classified, first into irrigated, garden and dry, and then into sorts or grades with an assessment often fixed rather with reference to the nature of the crop than to the intrinsic fertility of the soil. The average outturn of produce for ten years was first estimated; 20 per cent. was then deducted for cultivation expenses, and half of the remainder was the Government share. This share was then commuted into a money payment at 31½ Madras measures (about 1¼ bushels) of unhusked rice per rupee. The resulting rates varied from Rs. 1-1-2 to Rs. 18-2-10 per acre for irrigated and from Annas 12-7 to Rs. 9-4-9 for unirrigated land.

Little seems to have been done for the next twelve years, but the system was fitfully extended to other parts of the district. During the twenty years from 1816, twelve or thirteen Collectors were engaged on the work. Their arrangements were seldom accepted by the Board of Revenue, but practically remained in force for want of anything better, subject to such modifications as emergencies required. In 1855 the charge for a second crop on unirrigated lands was struck off by the Board of Revenue. The last important act of Government prior to the present settlement was to reduce the assessment on irrigated land to a maximum of Rs. 8-5-1 per acre. This order was issued in 1859, but was not universally applied till 1866.

18. *The Mirassi System.*—A brief account of this remarkable institution will make clear the changes introduced during the settlement. The Mirassi system took its rise in the early times when tracts of country were apportioned to settlers by the ruling power. The descendants and representatives of the original settlers or grantees were eventually known by the name of Mirassidars and held their lands under what is called the Mirassi right.

19. The original form of tenure was a system of rotation of holdings by which each family or representative in turn held every portion of the arable land, passing from one holding to another after a regular interval. Traces of this primitive institution are still to be found in Tanjore and in Tinnevely, and it existed in one or two villages in the Chingleput District at the introduction of the present settlement. But this aboriginal system which was a prohibition on the investment of private capital in the land practically died out at a remote period.

20. In the next stage we find the shares (pangu) or holdings into which the arable area was divided apportioned permanently among the original grantees or their inheritors, now known as the "Mirassidars." Lands which were required for the public purposes of the small community, or which though arable were not of sufficient value to form part of the regular shares, remained the joint possession of all the Mirassidars and were known as "the Common land" or "Samudayam." Inferior both to the shares (pangu) and to the common land (Samudayam) were the outlying uncultivated wastes which, except for grazing and firewood, were originally of no value to any body.

21. Each little colony or community of Mirassidars with its body of laborers and petty artisans thus formed originally, as even now, a village unit, complete in itself, and strenuously endeavored to keep itself intact and to prevent the intrusion of strangers. The fact is that no strange settlers were permitted in the village except to become tenants under the Mirassidars, and the only new comers allowed to become possessors of land were artisans such as the Blacksmith, the Carpenter, and others who received a plot of land from the Mirassidars as a retainer for their services. This rooted antagonism to new comers is a striking feature in all parts of South India where the Mirassi system has prevailed. The increase of population, however, and the consequent extension of cultivation, under British rule has acted with varying degrees in different places as a solvent of the original system.

22. The introduction of the Ryotwari system under which the assessment is laid, not in the lump upon the whole village, but in detail upon every field, involved an important change.

All the waste lands that had been omitted from the original assignment of the arable area into private shares and a residue of common land now became chargeable with assessment as soon as they came under cultivation. The interests of the Mirassidars, however, were but little affected by this change so long as they were able to exclude strangers from independent possession of land. But under the Waste Land Rules issued by our Government in 1856 (Despatch Court of Directors, 17th December 1856,) all such cultivation, inasmuch as it added to the revenue and also to the wealth of the country and to the well-being of the people, was carefully fostered, and strangers were allowed and encouraged by Government to take up such land if the resident landholders declined it. The Mirassidars had no desire to take up more land, and in most cases no means to cultivate more. But the increasing and expanding population of tenants, laborers, traders, &c., throughout the country were both willing and anxious.

23. In these circumstances, the Mirassidars in their jealousy of, and aversion to, strangers had several ready methods of obstruction. They might themselves take up all the waste land that was applied for by outsiders, trusting to chicanery to escape paying the assessment; or they might bribe the would-be applicant to forego his intention; or they might agree to admit him as a resident land-owner on his paying them a fee in acknowledgment of their supremacy. Finally, after a struggle the Mirassidars might have to renounce their exclusiveness altogether. Practically, all these courses have been adopted in different districts.

24. Both in the Chingleput and the Tinnevely Districts, Mirassidars have again and again impoverished themselves and prevented an extension of cultivation by taking up waste lands for which they were unable to pay. In the Tinnevely District, men have been known to make a living by going from village to village on the pretence of applying for waste lands, and then agreeing for a consideration to forego their determination.

25. In Chingleput, the Mirassidars for years succeeded in getting large remissions of assessment for waste lands, which they took up in order to keep out others, but which they left uncultivated. In 1863, no less than 14 per cent. of the land revenue demand was remitted on this ground, while in the neighboring district of South Arcot, the amount so remitted was only one-fifth per cent. If, however, such land was put up to sale for arrears of revenue, the Mirassidars holding all the village offices contrived that there should be no bidders at the auction. The plot was thereupon knocked down to Government at a nominal price. One of the Mirassidars would then apply to the authorities for the same land, and the same process would eventually be repeated.

26. As these strongholds began to succumb before a stricter collection of the Government revenue dues, the Mirassidars of Chingleput defended with still greater vigor their last position, demanding fees from all strangers who occupied waste lands. This claim was a matter of course stoutly resisted by the new comers, many of whom made good their tenure without concession. The Mirassidars, however, took the contest into the Civil Courts, where some fortunate decrees in their favor gave them material assistance. But the disputes continued unabated, fostering a mutual ill-will among the people, hindering the extension of cultivation, and effectually barring the progress of the district. The cause of the evil was but partially understood, and the remedies from time to time suggested and applied naturally failed of effect.

27. In 1874 the extraordinary amount of coercive processes issued for the collection of the revenue in Chingleput attracted the attention of Government who called for a special report in regard to the fact "that more than one-half of the whole revenue realized in 1871-72 by the sale of lands was recovered in the single district of Chingleput and amounted to no less than Rs. 1,03,358." The Secretary of State approved this requisition, and desired to be furnished with the result of the inquiry — G.O., No. 590, dated 13th April 1875. The result of the inquiries was that on the recommendation of the Board of Revenue, the Government took the decisive step of accepting a radical change proposed by the Collector Mr. Barlow and the Director of Revenue Settlement Mr. Puckle. By this new policy the claims of the Mirassidars were conceded. Their fees were for the first time formally recognized, were fixed in amount, and have now been registered as a payment to be made to the Mirassidars by all applicants for waste lands in future.

28. Mr. Barlow's interesting history of the Mirassi troubles and his and Mr. Puckle's proposals for remedying during settlement the evils complained of are given at length in G.O., No. 590, dated 13th April 1875.

29. The course adopted during the settlement has been as follows:—In the first place great efforts have been made to induce the Mirassidars of every village to divide among themselves all their common land (Samudayam) in proportion to the shares (pangu) they already possessed. The anomalous position of the tenants and other occupiers of this common land has been the cause of ceaseless disputes and quarrels in almost every village. It is needless to restate all the old troubles, suffice it to say that the success of his efforts in dividing similar lands in Tinnevely led Mr. Puckle to hope that a similar advantage might be gained for Chingleput. With the common lands once divided among the individual Mirassidars, the complications arising from joint proprietorship and separate tenancies are at once removed. The result has been in accordance with the anticipations. Common lands, amounting to 19,509 acres in 897 villages, have been divided in due proportion among the Mirassidars concerned (numbering 9,379 men) with their own concurrence, and the extent assigned to each has been entered in his lease or putta. Disputes among the Mirassidars themselves have prevented the complete division of all this common land, but it now exists in only 52 villages instead of 949 as heretofore. The extent undivided is

3,342 acres, and this remainder can no doubt be gradually apportioned by the Revenue authorities as opportunities occur.

30. The next step in the settlement was to remove the ground of one strong objection of the Mirassidars to the assignment of waste lands to outsiders. As much waste land as could reasonably be needed for pasturage and for firewood, besides smaller allotments for building sites, cattle-stands, roads, threshing-floors, and other similar purposes has been permanently and definitely allotted for these purposes. It is never to be brought under cultivation but stands entered as unassessed waste land (Toramboke) in the accounts. The total extent thus allotted is 44,280 acres; of this 41,675 acres are for pasturage and firewood, and the rest for miscellaneous public purposes.

31. The following statements give this information more in detail:—

For the whole District.

Object of Allotment.	OCCUPIED.		UNOCCUPIED.		Un-assessed Waste.	Total.
	Wet.	Dry.	Wet.	Dry.		
Pasturage	38	547	1,518	7,857	...	9,960
Firewood jungle	...	959	252	14,117	16,387	31,715
Village-site	...	470	30	442	26	1,033
Threshing-floor	19	35	178	230	1	463
Cattle-stand	1	34	25	171	318	549
Water-spread	3	25	...	135	...	163
Road	51	168	22	127	...	368
Temple	...	5	...	...	...	5
Burial-ground	...	3	12	9	...	24
Total ...	177	2,246	2,037	23,088	16,732	44,280

For each Taluk.

Name of Taluk.	OCCUPIED.		UNOCCUPIED.		Un-assessed Waste.	Total.
	Wet.	Dry.	Wet.	Dry.		
Saidapet	23	1,161	143	2,052	...	3,379
Ponneri	38	105	1,069	1,936	...	3,148
Chingleput	44	101	72	3,420	15,180	18,817
Tiruvallur	27	228	141	1,418	...	1,814
Conjeveram	28	284	291	3,146	...	3,749
Madhurantakam	17	367	321	11,116	1,552	13,373
Total ...	177	2,246	2,037	23,088	16,732	44,280

32. *Manorial Fees (Svatantram).*—The third and most important innovation has been the recognition by Government of the claim of the Mirassidars to levy what have been well called *Manorial fees* (Svatantram) from all persons newly taking up waste lands for cultivation. A proposal to this effect had been made without success in 1868 by a former Collector. It was now renewed by the Collector Mr. Barlow in 1875 and cordially supported by Mr. Puckle who entered into the question in the villages and among the fields with the people themselves worked out the details of the proposed scheme, and showed how it could be carried into actual practice. As Mr. Puckle observed there was "no escape from a present decision as to whether the Mirassidars' claim is to be put down by the strong hand or not." As a settlement

officer he proceeds — "I have invariably recognized what exists in the districts I have had to deal with, and as the Mirassi claim without doubt does exist in the Chingleput district, I would counsel the Board to accept it, especially if it can be shown that no loss will result from so doing; that conflicting interests will be reconciled, and the condition of the district will be greatly ameliorated."

33. The Manorial fee in accordance with the sanctioned proposals has accordingly been entered in the new village registers, not only against every field lying waste in each village, but also against all the lands now held by the Mirassidars themselves and entered in their puttass. The fees thus entered against land held by the Mirassidars will, of course, not be collected from anybody at present, but if any of these lands should hereafter be relinquished by a Mirassidar and subsequently taken up for cultivation by a stranger, then the entry of the fee will cease to be nominal, and will be an item payable by the new landholder in addition to the Government assessment. The only lands under village against which no fee has been entered are those which have already been obtained by strangers under the rules for granting waste lands, and which are held under lease or putta from Government. As Mr. Puckle says "what has been done of late years by the grant of puttass is final," and such lands must be regarded as "finally alienated from the Mirassi body."

34. The amount of the Manorial fee was arrived at without much difficulty and with no opposition on the part of the Mirassidars. It is needless to detail the somewhat intricate method of ascertaining and of calculating the proper amount of the fee. It will be enough to remark that Mr. Puckle found 2 annas on every rupee of the Government assessment to be a fair average rate, and this was accepted by the Board and the Government.

The fee thus fixed represents the average money value of the grain fee originally demanded by the Mirassidars. As the Board of Revenue observe "it was impossible to introduce the old varying rates and a uniform and simple rate, such as proposed, has undoubtedly great advantages." The Mirassidars everywhere have been glad to accept it without dispute. The enormous advantage of receiving from Government a distinct recognition of their claim to any fee at all would of itself lead them to drop minor contentions, and close at once with the proposal.

The large body of Mirassidars consulted by Mr. Puckle "seemed perfectly satisfied. They expressly asserted that they would not only not oppose the grant of waste land to outsiders, if assured of the receipt of their Manorial fees, but that they would gladly resign some lands they are now holding and paying for merely to exclude outsiders, and that such lands might be taken up by outside applicants without opposition in future."

35. The total amount of waste land in the Chingleput District against which the Manorial fee has been entered is 153,308 acres in 1,441 villages. The average amount of the fee at 2 annas per rupee of the assessment is Rs. 18-9-7 per village. The highest average was in the Madhurantakam Taluk where it amounted to Rs. 25-10-9 per village, and the lowest was in the Conjevaram Taluk where it amounted to Rs. 15-0-10. Mr. Puckle in his original proposals estimated that the average per village would not exceed Rs. 25 in the improbable event of every acre of waste land being taken up for cultivation, and the result shows that even this moderate estimate was too great. It is indeed astonishing that so trifling a matter as disputes over the annual payment of a sum that cannot possibly amount to Rs. 20 per village should have been the main barrier to the progress of a whole district for nearly a quarter of a century. The introduction of the settlement throughout the district has brought no new difficulty or obstacle to light; the fees have everywhere been recorded, and there seems valid ground to hope that the measures which have been so carefully devised and introduced may in the course of a few years bring about a greater degree of prosperity than the Chingleput District has experienced during a century of British rule.

36. It is easy to lay one's finger on the one weak link in the chain. There is no authority save the whole Mirassi body or corporation entitled to demand and collect the Manorial fees now recognized, and no legal means exist save a civil suit by the whole Mirassi corporation by which a recalcitrant occupant can be compelled to pay

the fees. The Board of Revenue (Proceedings, No. 2,168, 4th August 1875,) feared "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 (Mirassidars) 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." I think that there is reason to hope that these forebodings will prove groundless. In the first place the fees payable by any new occupant are now clearly known, the amount is trifling, and there will no longer be an intricate and vexatious inquiry to ascertain which of a series of varying and vaguely known rates of payment in kind should be adopted. In the second place, there is to every native cultivator an all-important distinction between refusing to pay an uncertain fee which Government has never recognized and which high authorities have considered deserving of summary suppression "by the strong hand," and refusing to pay a definite fee, trifling in amount, recognized and fixed by Government, entered in the Government Register kept by every village Notary (Curnam) and demanded by a Mirassidar who will almost universally be the official to whom all the Government dues and taxes must be paid. The disastrous seasons of the last two years have discouraged applications for waste lands; only a few have been made and accepted, and in those cases the question of the payment of the fee had been so settled by the villagers among themselves that I could obtain no information about it. The probability seems to be that backed by the authority of Government and supported by every Revenue official, the payment of the fee will speedily become "customary," in which case no more trouble will be experienced.

37. I have now reported upon the most important of those peculiarities of condition and of tenure in the Chingleput District which have for so long attracted the attention of the Government, and will pass on to give a resume of those changes and results by settlement which are common to almost every district.

38. The table of rates of assessment was fixed by Mr. Banbury, the former Director of the department, in the usual way. The yield of each kind of soil is determined by experiment, and after suitable deductions for cultivation expenses and vicissitudes of season, the net yield is commuted into a money value at a low average rate of market prices, and half of this amount represents the Government assessment. The scale of assessment thus fixed falls in eight gradations from Rs. 7-8-0 to Rs. 2 per acre for irrigated land, and from Rs. 3 to Annas 4 for unirrigated land. This scale has been applied throughout the district (*vide* paragraph 48).

39. The work undertaken during the settlement in addition to the division of common land, allotment of pasturage grounds, registration of Manorial fees, &c., already detailed was as follows:—

- (1.) The area under irrigation was revised and extended or curtailed as the state of the water-supply required.
- (2.) The classification of the soil was examined and fields of similar soil under similar conditions were similarly assessed and formed into blocks on the village map.
- (3.) Sub-divisions of holdings were measured up and entered in the register, and various miscellaneous accounts prepared.
- (4.) Leases or puttass wrongly entered in the names of deceased ryots, vendors, donors, &c., were transferred to the rightful holders with the consent of all parties concerned.

40. After the completion of these preliminaries, provisional drafts of the new leases or puttass, called "rough puttass," were prepared and sent to the villages for distribution among the ryots. A notice was affixed to each naming the time and place for the hearing of all objections to the new entries and rates, and a description of the method of assessment, together with a sketch map showing the different blocks of land, was furnished to the village authorities for the use of the villagers. "On the day named in the notice, those who had cause for complaint appeared with their village officers (before the settling officer), and their complaints as redressed or rejected were entered in the settlement diary."

"The accounts were then corrected, and the completed diglot registers of each village with all names entered both in English and Tamil were forwarded to the Director's Office to be printed."

41. This village register is the foundation on which the whole Revenue administration rests. It forms a complete Domesday Book, recording accurate information about every separate holding whether large or small. The area is given in acres and cents, or hundredths of acres, and the assessment thereon stands in parallel columns. A single field on the survey map may be actually divided among twenty ryots. In such a case there will be twenty sub-letters, and each ryot will have a separate line in the register giving full particulars of his holding, even though the extent of it (as sometimes happens) is no more than the one-hundredth part of an acre. From the register is prepared a ledger known as the chitta which gives each ryot's personal account with Government. Every field or fraction of a field held by the same ryot is picked out from the register and entered in this ledger under his own name with particulars of area, assessment, and other details. The total of the area shows the extent of his different holdings in the village, and the total of the assessment is the amount due thereon by him to Government. A copy of this, his personal account, is given to each ryot with a note as to the date on which each instalment falls due and is known as his "putta."

42. An English *Descriptive Memoir* of each village giving full details about the village and its settlement, together with a list of the Mirassidars and their proportional shares, and an account of all lands held tax free or on favorable tenures, is also forwarded to Madras for printing together with a sketch map of the village showing the tanks and channels and all similarly assessed fields laid out into blocks.

The Descriptive Memoirs of all the villages in each taluk consecutively numbered are bound into a single volume which thus supplies complete information about every village, and is of the greatest value for reference on all matters of Revenue Administration.

43. A great improvement in the book-keeping of numerous village accounts has been effected in Chingleput as in Tinnevely, Trichinopoly, and elsewhere by getting rid of the third column, i.e., for "Pies" in the cash entries. In calculating items of assessment, sums of 5 pies and less are struck out while sums of 6 pies and upwards are entered as one anna. Much of the labor required for calculating the innumerable items and summing up accounts is saved by this simple expedient.

44. *Revision of Irrigated Area.*—The following statement shows the changes that have been effected under this head:—

Name of Taluk.	Area by account of year ending June 1875.	Deduct transfers from Irrigated to Unirrigated.	Remainder.	Add transfer from Unirrigated to Irrigated.	Total.
	ACRES.	ACRES.	ACRES.	ACRES.	ACRES.
1. Ponneri	35,853	4,545	31,308	6,519	37,827
2. Saidapet	43,991	851	43,140	4,204	47,344
3. Chingleput	44,601	973	43,628	3,749	47,377
4. Tiruvallur	46,540	669	45,871	10,943	56,814
5. Canjevaram	66,792	1,412	65,380	8,738	74,118
6. Madhurantakam	60,786	956	59,830	6,550	66,380
Total for the District...	298,563	9,406	289,157	40,703	329,860

45. *Transfer of Puttas, &c.*—The total number of puttas issued during the settlement was 62,523 as against 59,474 by the former accounts. Twelve thousand puttas were transferred to the names of the rightful holders with the consent of all parties.

46. *Manavari Lands.*—One of the minor peculiarities of tenure in this district are the Manavari (literally sky water) lands. These are fields that raise a crop of rice entirely, or almost entirely, by the aid of the rainfall. Such lands, though without any artificial irrigation save from rivulets, surface drainage, and simple mud dams, were formerly assessed at excessively high rates, and as the area under this kind of cultivation was considerable, much hardship to the ryot was the result. The question gave rise to much inquiry and correspondence and has even been regarded as one of the causes of the backward condition of the Chingleput District. After various plans of amelioration had been tried, the Government* in 1870 sanctioned a remission of 20 per cent. from the full assessment. These lands have now been assessed at special rates varying from Rs. 3 to Annas 12 per acre with the following result:—

* G.O., No. 938, dated 24th June 1870.

Rate per Acre.	Extent.	Assessment.
RS. A. P.	ACRES.	RS.
3 0 0	166	496
2 8 0	2,633	6,585
2 0 0	4,844	9,688
1 8 0	7,372	11,058
1 4 0	3,795	4,746
0 12 0	1,067	801
Total ...	19,877	33,374

Comparative Statement of the Manavari lands for each Taluk.

Name of Taluk.	AS PER SETTLEMENT.			Assessment as per Revenue Accounts after deducting 20 per cent. Remission.	Difference.
	Extent.	Assessment.	Average.		
	ACRES.	RS.	RS. A. P.	RS.	RS.
1. Saidapet	2,982	4,801	...	* Unknown.	...
2. Ponneri	2,013	3,291	...	3,700	— 409
3. Chingleput	8,828	13,899	...	14,695	— 796
4. Tiruvallur	688	1,135	...	1,249	— 114
5. Canjevaram	3,768	7,163	...	6,785	+ 378
6. Madhurantakam	623	1,187	...	1,136	+ 51
	975	1,917	...	1,992	— 75
Total ...	19,877	33,393	1 10 11	29,557	...

* Details not procurable.

47. *Settlement Assessment.*—The following table shows the survey area and assessment irrigated and unirrigated of each taluk as compared with the area and assessment by the old accounts:—

Wet or Dry.	Name of Taluk.	Fasli in which Taluk was settled.	AS PER SETTLEMENT.			AS PER REVENUE ACCOUNTS.			DIFFERENCE.		PERCENTAGE.	
			Extent.	Assessment.	Average.	Extent.	Assessment.	Average.	Extent.	Assessment.	Extent.	Assessment.
Wet.	Saidapet...	1285	47,344	1,72,201	RS. A. P. 3 10 2	42,254	1,63,103	RS. A. P. 3 13 9	ACRES. + 5,090	RS. + 9,098	ACRES. + 12	RS. 6
	Ponneri...	1285	37,827	1,23,350	3 4 2	31,086	1,22,274	3 9 5	+ 3,741	+ 1,076	+ 11	+
	Chingleput...	1286	47,377	1,54,435	3 4 2	43,533	1,46,995	3 6 0	+ 3,844	+ 7,440	+ 9	+
	Thiruvallur...	1286	56,814	1,91,921	3 6 1	50,565	1,77,738	3 8 3	+ 6,249	+ 14,183	+ 12	+
	Conjeveram...	1287	74,118	2,73,101	3 10 11	66,448	2,50,716	3 12 4	+ 7,670	+ 22,385	+ 11.5	+
	Madhurantakam...	1287	66,380	2,45,906	3 11 3	60,570	2,26,364	3 11 10	+ 5,810	+ 19,542	+ 9.6	+
Dry.	Total...	...	329,860	11,60,914	3 8 4	297,456	1,087,190	3 10 6	+ 32,404	+ 73,724	+ 10.9	+
	Saidapet...	...	28,112	83,555	1 3 1	25,195	40,161	1 9 6	+ 2,917	6,006	+ 12	- 16
	Ponneri...	...	27,210	29,726	1 1 6	24,646	31,670	1 4 6	+ 2,564	1,944	+ 10	- 6
	Chingleput...	...	20,624	20,051	0 15 7	18,595	24,193	1 4 10	+ 2,029	4,142	+ 11	- 17
	Thiruvallur...	...	41,980	43,837	1 0 8	37,281	45,633	1 3 7	+ 4,699	1,796	+ 13	- 4
	Conjeveram...	...	40,086	46,043	1 2 5	36,194	49,147	1 5 9	+ 3,892	3,101	+ 10.8	- 6.3
Total Wet and Dry.	Madhurantakam...	...	56,221	76,450	1 5 9	49,279	79,618	1 9 10	+ 6,942	3,168	+ 14.1	- 3.9
	Total...	...	214,233	2,49,662	1 2 8	191,190	2,70,422	1 6 8	+ 23,043	- 20,760	+ 12	- 7.7
			544,093	14,10,576	...	488,646	13,57,612	...	+ 55,447	+ 52,964	+ 11.3	+ 3.9

48. The following statement gives the area and assessment under each rate :—

IRRIGATED.			UNIRRIGATED.		
Rate per Acre.	Extent.	Assessment minus Deduction on account of Baling.	Rate per Acre.	Extent.	Assessment.
RS. A. P.	ACRES.	RS.	RS. A. P.	ACRES.	RS.
7 8 0	3,328	21,879	3 0 0	+295	+886
6 4 0	22,945	1,42,704	2 8 0	4,117	10,312
5 0 0	44,353	2,19,676	2 0 0	23,010	46,096
4 0 0	55,787	2,19,897	1 8 0	42,836	64,329
3 8 0	49,796	1,70,730	1 4 0	58,374	72,991
3 0 0	56,380	1,66,453	0 12 0	52,950	39,784
2 8 0	56,840	1,37,012	0 8 0	24,294	12,190
2 0 0	33,790	76,236	0 6 0	7,735	2,917
			0 4 0	622	157
Total ...	*328,219	*11,57,497			
Baling in the Saidapet Taluk.	*1,641	*3,417			
	329,860	11,60,914	Total ...	214,233	2,49,662

49. *Second Crop.*—Nine thousand one hundred and twenty-two acres of irrigated land have been permanently assessed with a compounded rate for the growth of a second crop. The rate for compounding is half, one-third, or one-fourth additional to the single crop rate according to circumstances. The additional assessment on this area is Rs. 17,029. The former second crop assessment on the same area is not shown in the accounts, but as there is a large additional extent fluctuating with the character of the season, which is cultivated with occasional second crop, it is better to omit the second crop charge altogether in a comparison of the former land-revenue of the district with that fixed by the settlement.

50. *Results.*—The result of the settlement in the Chingleput District has been an increase of Rs. 73,724, or 6.8 per cent. on the assessment of the irrigated area, and a decrease of Rs. 20,760, or 7.7 per cent. on the assessment of the unirrigated area. There is a net increase of Rs. 52,964, or 3.9 per cent. on the whole, and the land-revenue of the district now stands at Rs. 14,10,576, exclusive of the uncertain increments caused by second crop charges and the water-rate that may hereafter be charged on lands classed as unirrigated. The average rate of assessment is Rs. 3-8-4 for irrigated land and Rs. 1-2-8 for unirrigated. The increase of assessment on the former is moderate, and considerably less in proportion than the increase of area by the survey. The unirrigated lands, which were overassessed before, have now been fairly relieved, and a large extension of cultivation may in consequence be expected. The total area of waste land available for tillage amounts to 35,502 acres irrigated, assessed at Rs. 1,00,277, and 145,450 acres unirrigated, assessed at Rs. 1,33,530, or in all 180,952 acres of land, assessed at Rs. 2,33,807. Two and a third lakhs of rupees is therefore the maximum of the possible increase of revenue from extension of cultivation apart from additional charges for water-rate on lands classed as unirrigated.

No. 352A-10A.

MR. ARUNDEL'S reports on the introduction of the revised settlement in the taluks of Conjeveram and Madhurantakam and on the completion of the settlement of the district of Chingleput are submitted through the Board of Revenue for the information of

* Lands irrigated by baling were assessed at Rupee 1 per acre less than the full rate.
† These figures are the totals of the several taluk reports, and are approximately correct.

Government. In the former of these reports there have been embodied in this office certain further information and corrections submitted with a letter from Mr. Arundel, No. 44-12, dated 17th January 1879.

The result of the settlement in the two taluks is briefly as follows:—

1. **CONJEVERAM.**—There is on the whole an increase in area of acres 11,562, or 11·3 per cent., and in assessment of Rs. 19,281, or 6·4 per cent., as compared with the revenue figures for Fasli 1287, the year immediately preceding the introduction. Wet shows an increase in area of acres 7,670, or 11·5 per cent., and in assessment of Rs. 22,385, or 8·9 per cent.; in dry, with an increase in area of acres 3,892, or 10·8 per cent., the assessment is decreased by Rs. 3,104, or 6·3 per cent.; in the proposals-report the total increase on the revenue figures for Fasli 1283 was acres 11,490, or 11·3 per cent. in area, and Rs. 15,035, or 4·9 in assessment; in dry, with an increase of 10·9 per cent. in area, there was a decrease of 3·6 per cent. in assessment.

Soils.—From the statement given in paragraph 13 it will be seen that acres 52,999·64, or rather less than a third of the classified area, fall under the black series of soils; the remainder belong to the red.

Irrigation.—From paragraph 6 it appears that acres 40,385, or more than half the occupied wet area, are irrigated from river and spring channels and river-fed tanks; the remainder is under rain-fed tanks.

Incidence of Assessment.—The wet rates vary from Rs. 7-8-0 to Rs. 2; subject to a deduction, where baling is necessary, of Rupee 1 an acre. Of the total irrigated area, acres 74,118, only acres 19,694, or 26·6 per cent., are assessed at Rs. 5 and upwards; only acres 31,837, or 43 per cent., at Rs. 4 and upwards; acres 32,521, or 43·8 per cent., are assessed at rates varying from Rs. 2 to Rs. 3. In dry the rates range from Annas 6 to Rs. 2-8-0 an acre. Only acres 2,191, or 5·5 per cent., of the total dry area, acres 40,086, are assessed at Rs. 2 and upwards; acres 16,733, or 41·7 per cent., are assessed at Rs. 1-4-0; and acres 13,185, or 32·9 per cent., are assessed at rates varying from Annas 6 to Annas 12; there is no one rupee rate. The average wet rate is a trifle higher, the average dry a trifle lower, than in the highest of the already settled taluks of the district.

Waste.—There are acres 33,982 of classified waste, of which acres 7,110, assessed at Rs. 19,688, are wet, and acres 26,872, assessed at Rs. 21,774, are dry.

2. **MADHURANTAKAM.**—There is on the whole an increase in area of acres 12,752, or 11·6 per cent., and in assessment of Rs. 16,874, or 5·4 per cent., as compared with the revenue figures for Fasli 1287; in wet the area is increased by acres 5,810, or 9·6 per cent., and the assessment by Rs. 19,542, or 8·6 per cent.; in dry, with an increase in area of acres 6,942, or 14 per cent., there is a decrease in assessment of Rs. 3,168, or 3·9 per cent.; in the proposals-report there was compared with the revenue figures for Fasli 1285 a decrease in area of acres 232, or 0·2 per cent., and in assessment of Rs. 4,657, or 1·4 per cent.

Soils.—Acres 99,928, or 57·7 per cent., fall under the black series, and acres 73,273, or 42·3 per cent., under the red.

Irrigation.—Acres 21,923, or 33 per cent., of the occupied wet area are irrigated from river and spring channels, the remainder, acres 44,457, from rain-fed tanks.

Incidence of Assessment.—The scale of wet rates is the same as in Conjeveram, but in dry the highest rate is Rs. 3; in Conjeveram the highest was Rs. 2-8-0.

The registered area under the Rs. 3 rate is only 8 acres. In wet only acres 15,574, or 23·5 per cent., of the total wet area, acres 66,380, are assessed at Rs. 5 and upwards; acres 25,301, or 38·1 per cent., are assessed at rates between Rs. 2 and Rs. 3. In dry there are only acres 831, or 1·5 per cent., of the total dry area, acres 56,221, assessed at more than Rs. 2 an acre; acres 39,213, or 69·7 per cent., are assessed at rates varying from Annas 12 to Rs. 1-8-0. The average wet rate is Rs. 3-11-3, a trifle higher than the Rs. 3-10-11 of Conjeveram; the average dry rate is Rs. 1-5-9, which is higher than the average of any of the other settled taluks of the district.

Waste.—There are acres 50,599 of classified waste; of this acres 6,378, assessed at Rs. 20,323, are wet, and acres 44,221, assessed at Rs. 52,738, dry.

Inams.—The Inams referred to in paragraphs 17 and 41 of Mr. Arundel's report are attached to village services, public and quasi-public.

Completion of the Chingleput District.—With the introduction of the new rates in these two taluks the revision of the assessment of the Chingleput District is completed; it was begun in 1870 and has thus taken eight years. The result of the settlement is an increase in area of acres 55,447, or 11·3 per cent., and in assessment of Rs. 52,964, or 3·9 per cent.; in wet the area shows an increase of acres 32,404, or 10·9 per cent., the assessment of Rs. 73,724, or 6·8 per cent.; in dry the area is increased by acres 23,043, or 12 per cent., but its assessment is reduced by Rs. 20,760, or 7·7 per cent.

Name of Taluk.	No. in which Taluk was settled.	AS PER SETTLEMENT.			AS PER REVENUE ACCOUNTS.			DIFFERENCE.		PERCENTAGE.	
		Extent.	Assessment.	Average.	Extent.	Assessment.	Average.	Extent.	Assessment.	Extent.	Assessment.
		ACS.	RS.	RS. A. P.	ACS.	RS.	RS. A. P.	ACS.	RS.	ACS.	RS.
Saidapet ...	1285	47,344	1,72,201	8 10 2	42,254	1,63,103	8 13 9	5,090	9,098	12	6
Ponneri ...	1285	37,827	1,23,350	3 4 2	34,086	1,23,274	3 9 5	3,741	1,076	11	9
Chingleput ...	1286	47,377	1,54,435	8 4 2	43,533	1,40,995	3 6 0	3,844	7,440	9	5
Tiruvallur ...	1286	56,814	1,91,921	3 6 1	50,565	1,77,738	3 8 2	6,249	14,183	12	8
Conjeveram ...	1287	74,118	2,73,101	8 10 11	66,443	2,50,716	8 12 4	7,670	22,385	11.5	8.9
Madhurantakam ...	1287	66,390	2,45,906	3 11 3	60,570	2,30,364	3 11 10	5,810	19,542	9.6	8.6
Total ...		329,860	11,60,914	8 8 4	297,456	10,87,190	8 10 6	32,404	73,724	10.9	6.5
Saidapet ...		28,112	33,555	1 3 1	25,195	40,161	1 9 6	2,917	6,006	12	16
Ponneri ...		27,310	29,726	1 1 6	24,646	31,670	1 4 6	2,664	1,944	10	6
Chingleput ...		20,624	20,051	0 15 7	18,695	24,193	1 4 10	2,029	4,142	11	17
Tiruvallur ...		41,980	43,837	1 0 8	37,231	45,633	1 3 7	4,699	1,796	13	4
Conjeveram ...		40,086	46,043	1 2 5	36,194	49,147	1 5 9	3,892	3,164	10.8	6.3
Madhurantakam ...		56,221	76,450	1 5 9	49,279	79,618	1 9 10	6,942	3,168	14.1	3.9
Total ...		214,233	2,40,003	1 2 8	191,100	2,70,423	1 6 8	23,043	20,769	12	7.7
Total Wet and Dry ...		544,093	14,10,596	...	488,646	13,57,612	...	55,447	62,964	11.3	3.9

Alloiments for Pasture, &c.—Acres 44,280 have been assigned for the common and public use of the various villages as pasture, firewood jungle, &c. These lands have been "permanently and definitely allotted for these purposes; they are never to be brought under cultivation, but stand entered as unassessed waste land (poramboke) in the accounts." This procedure is in accordance with the policy that has been adopted by this department in recent years, but it seems very questionable whether a policy that seeks to determine not merely for the term of a settlement, but for all time the purposes to which certain lands are to be devoted is sound. The want of common is certainly no hindrance to agricultural enterprise or improvement in the breed of cattle. An allotment for pasture discourages the thought of growing crops for feeding cattle. An allotment for firewood encourages the idea that it is the duty of Government to light the ryots' kitchen fire; firewood is easily grown, and when it pays to grow it it will be grown; threshing floors and cattle-stands should be provided not by Government, but by the ryot in his fields and at his homestead.

A sounder policy is that which allows the ryot to graze his cattle and cut his firewood on the waste and jungles of his village without hindrance so long as they are not required for other purposes.

MR. PUCKLE'S SETTLEMENT OF THE MIRASSI QUESTION.—Mr. Arundel discusses at some length the long-vexed question of Mirassi right and Mr. Puckle's solution of the difficulties attending it, and remarks that "it is indeed astonishing that so trifling a matter as disputes over the annual payment of a sum that cannot possibly amount to Rs. 20 per village should have been the main barrier to the progress of a whole district for nearly a quarter of a century." Mr. Puckle's solution of this difficult question is a marvel of simplicity; it is in brief this: the claims of the Mirassidars were ascertained, valued, and entered in the settlement register, and so far the claims of the Mirassidars are recognized by Government. But Government will go no further; they will not permit the claim to be entered in the putta, nor will they collect it for the Mirassidar. Nor does this valuation and entry in any way bind the Mirassidars; their promise to accept this valuation of their claims is of no legal value; it is made to a party that cannot enforce it; that gives nothing in return for it; they may set their promise aside whenever they please. Nor does this "settlement" of the question bind the future occupant of lands subject to the claim; he was no party to the arrangement, and may decline to pay anything beyond the assessment he owes to Government from which he holds the land, and which will not concede any such co-ordinate right of ownership to the Mirassidar who claims the fee as his share of the rent, as would act in bar of its right to dispose of waste (notwithstanding the claims of the Mirassidar) in such manner as may most conduce to the advantage of the public revenue;—in case of dispute, therefore, the question is a "still-vexed" question. To settle the question Government, when acknowledging the claim, should have gone a step further and have extinguished it for ever by redeeming it; claims never conceded without dispute, and often successfully resisted, could not have been worth many years' purchase.

MADRAS,
12th February 1879.

(Signed) W. WILSON,
Director of Revenue Settlement.

From W. WILSON, Esq., Director of Revenue Settlement, to C. A. GALTON, Esq.,
Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Madras, 8th May 1879,
No. 1,263-26.

With reference to G.O., No. 469, dated 24th February 1879, and in continuation of this office No. 352 A-10 A, dated 12th February 1879, I have the honor to annex a statement of the cost of the survey and settlement of the Chingleput District:—

1. Revenue Survey—Demarcation ...	RS. 3,95,059	RS. 8,34,065
Survey ...	4,39,006	
2. Revenue Settlement ...		4,19,176
Total ...	12,53,241	

How the Revenue Settlement will be made ...

7. The financial result of this settlement is to raise the assessment of the Chingleput District from Rs. 13,57,612 to Rs. 14,10,576, or by Rs. 52,964, or by 3 per cent.; the increase of area by survey is however 11 per cent., and the average

District.	AVERAGE ASSESSMENT PER ACRE.			District.	AVERAGE ASSESSMENT PER ACRE.								
	Wet.	Dry.			Wet.	Dry.							
	RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.		RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.
Godavari	6	0	6	1	12	9	Salem	4	8	11	1	2	3
Kistna	5	14	1	1	8	5	Trichinopoly	4	4	2	0	15	5
Kurnool	5	14	3	0	15	4	Tinnevely	6	10	2	0	11	2
Nellore	5	5	0	1	3	7	Chingleput	3	8	4	1	2	8

(True Copies and Extract.)

Acting Secretary.

Copy to the Collector of Chingleput.

Exd. W. J. Lewis and A. Grubert.

1253241 - m. 8 f. 11.

2nd. Look at Sept. 1st day 4 feet. in water.

6-1 1253261
250648

753809} 5296499 G-8/10

2025 10 10

L.D. N: 4652

The information
asked for by H. G.
the Gov^t in connection
with the above paper
is put up.

10/8/25 

I have kept the
Letter open
just as you were
I am quite
Yours truly
M^r/8

Recd. 12/1/66

Ms. A. 6. 52
1879.

Board of Revenue,

MADRAS.

20

THE SECRETARY TO GOVT.,
REVENUE DEPARTMENT,

50.
 50.
 50.

Dated May 2nd.

Printed 30th:-

18 Dec.

PROCEEDINGS, 2ND MAY 1879, No. 1,162.

① 243-11/6/79. cont.

67
MAY.
1963

No. 1,162.

No. 1, 102.
 Sep. 1719. 18 Aug. 1819.

Settlement — of the Cojaveeram and Madhurankam Taluks in Chingleput District. — Reviewing memorandum from Director of Revenue Settlement forwarding reports from Deputy Director on the — and on the completion of the settlement of the entire district.

R.D. P. 26: meeting
 report of S. Director
 Re: Settlement. The settl-
 the taking of the settlement
 + Conference. + on the
~~the~~ settl- of the Chy. Sept.

His ent. - N° 462
 of 2/5/29.

For now.

Let me have a copy
 for my report.

Mr Wilson is very
 new to the settlement
 of the settlement
 the new settlement
 public work policy
 in these times
 nature.

I am now
 attending the settlement
 that his business
 has been fact

Mr. Arnold's report is
 interesting. The most
 prominent features in
 it are the settlement of
 the Kikuyu problem in the
 fact majority of Kikuyu
 & the removal of land for
 pasture & fuel supply.
 Mr. Wilson's remarks at
 Page 31 of the P. 26 are
 worthy of attention and
 value. Surely it is
 becoming policy when
 settling aside these lands
 for fuel supply sum to
be cultivated to the
on those who are to enjoy
the privilege of cutting &
burning the fuel the only
of keeping up the supply.

by exhibiting a few
 boxes on each board?
 office to do this if
 systematically collected.
 Then again the proposal
 to buy out the Miamis
 in a ^{few} ~~single~~ is a
 very wise one. He
 He could be collected
 of Govt or might be
 omitted.

28/6/29 JAG

Handwritten note in left margin.

My doubt is whether
 it is sufficiently
 Liberal & inducive
 an era of prosperity
 in that class of work
 have probably the
 least performers
 D. of the Presidency
 W. of the Presidency
 very poor soil.
 The average dry rate
 is higher than
 I have seen like a
 I see result from
 the division of the
 settlement. In
 addition to
 the Land Revenue

Handwritten note in top right margin.

Handwritten note in bottom right margin.

is considerable.
 being over $\frac{1}{2}$ all the
 of Surplus.

However many
 valuable reforms
 have been introduced
 & time must show
 how far these differ

The only point that
 seems to me to call
 for remark is the
 unsettled claims
 in the 2 Taluks
 now reported on
 specially. It should be
 seen whether the
 same fact was
 noted in regard
 to the other Taluks
 of the D. & the
 attention of the
 B. member in
 charge of the

E. A. L.

Litho. & P. S. American
the "modern" paper. I may
observe that we can scarcely
be wise to avoid
Act. 7 in Vol. 7 of H.
I have reported
I. D. M. Thompson
Signed by [illegible]

Shou Lin for Keim
Office.

2. The only point which
seems to call for remark
is the extent of
unsettled claims in the
Conjerman + Niederzachen
Talys, especially
reported on in the former
taking 610) sum 9 in
Klatte 12330 being
held as claims without
recognition and by the
Dram. Com. - The
Klatte has not been
noticed in the reports
on the introduction of the
various settlements
into the other Talys of
Chingpoot, ^{possibly} ~~probably~~
because the extent of
unsettled claims in
them was not known,
but if otherwise it should
be explained how the
point has been overlooked.
The attention of the
Bd. then in charge
of the Dram. Dept. is
called to the subject.

22/1/24 JHJ

In Dept. 1. the O. D. on 19 Aug. 14. D. and C. for
2. the D. and C. on 19 Aug. 14. D. and C. for
3. the D. and C. on 19 Aug. 14. D. and C. for
100 5 C. for

It is noted that the
of the D. and C. on 19 Aug. 14.
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D. and C. on 19 Aug. 14.
D. and C. on 19 Aug. 14.

The report on the D. and C. on 19 Aug. 14.
has been laid out with no mention
of the D. and C. on 19 Aug. 14.

Goodly Shiden
T.C. 157, 5/52

The following is a list of the names of the persons who have been appointed to the various positions in the various departments of the Government of the State of New York, for the year 1890.

Covent Sharpe

C 23-7-79
 R 8-8-79
 R 15-8-79
 R 16-8-79

1958-1959

30. 10-16

14-8-17

11/10/17
319/3411

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government Records.

Revenue Department.

G. O. (Printed).

Dated 18-8- 1879.

No. 1719