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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue — DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. 609 - 609A
B.P. No.

Press
Mis.

Dated 16. 5. 1883

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GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following Proceedings of the Court of Wards, dated 2nd April 1883, No. 912 :—

Read—again the following Proceedings of the Court of Wards, dated 3rd March 1882, No. 637 :—

ABSTRACT.—Requesting the Collectors concerned to submit at an early date special reports on the condition of ryots in estates under Court of Wards.

READ—again the following Proceedings of the Court of Wards, dated 22nd April 1882, No. 1098 :—

ABSTRACT.—Requesting the Collectors concerned to expedite the submission of the special reports required on the condition of ryots in estates under Court of Wards.

READ—also the following letters :—

From the Collector	of Chingleput,	dated	15th June	1882,	No.	273.
„ „	of Coimbatore,	„	13th „	„	„	122.
„ „	of Cuddapah,	„	14th April	„	„	144.
„ „	of „	„	16th August	„	„	391.
„ „	of Ganjam,	„	8th „	„	„	427.
„ „	of Godávari,	„	21st July	„	„	283.
„ „	of Kistna,	„	18th „	„	„	1682.
„ „	of Madura,	„	14th „	„	„	82.
„ „	of Malabar,	„	7th August	„	„	—.
„ „	of „	„	16th „	„	„	2361.
„ „	of „	„	22nd „	„	„	2435.
„ „	of Salem,	„	16th April	„	„	788.
„ „	of „	„	11th August	„	„	1688.
„ „	of Tanjore,	„	17th October	„	„	363.
„ „	of Tinnevelly,	„	27th April	„	„	239.
„ „	of „	„	22nd July	„	„	450.
„ „	of Vizagapatam,	„	13th „	„	„	700.

Resolution—dated 2nd April 1883, No. 912.

The foregoing letters are the replies of Collectors to Court's Proceedings, dated 3rd March 1882, No. 637, and Proceedings, dated 22nd April 1882, No. 1098, calling for the information regarding the condition of ryots in the estates under the management of the Court of Wards, required by the Secretary of State in his Despatch contained in G.O., dated 23rd February 1882, No. 228, Revenue Department. The last report was received only on the 19th October last, and, before submitting their general report, the Court thought it desirable to wait for information as to details of population, houses, &c., according to the results of the Census of 1881 and for the Administration Reports of the estates for the year ending 30th June 1882, now being received, but as many of the Census statements are still in the Press, and as Government have sent a reminder on the subject, the Court will not delay their report.

2. There were in all thirty-eight estates under the charge of the Court of Wards at the close of Fasli 1291 (1881-82), paying about Rs. 11,48,000 to Government and yielding a revenue of about Rs. 25,32,00; Appendix A shows, for the more important estates, particulars as to population,* the area occupied, the average size of the holdings, rates of assessment and incidence per head of the population, the revenue realized during the past three or four years, and the amount expended on Irrigation works. In many estates the renting system is still prevalent, and accurate accounts of the holdings of each ryot are not therefore available. The average size of the holdings and the rates of assessment, &c., given in the statement are therefore only approximate. The information given regarding the proportion of ryots depending entirely on land, those depending partly on land and partly on labor, and of those who depend on money-lenders for farming their lands, or paying the rent, is based merely on estimates furnished by the managers and not on any accurate records maintained in their offices.

* According to the Census of 1871.

3. In the instructions issued by the Court, information was called for as to the style of houses in which the people live, the food they eat, the dress they wear, &c. As Collectors have not furnished similar details as regards the ryots of the adjacent Government villages, the information is likely to prove misleading, and has therefore been omitted from the statement. The existence of tiled houses in rural villages especially does not necessarily prove that the people there are more wealthy than where the houses are mud-roofed or thatched. The description of houses, in particular localities, is generally dependent on the facilities existing for their construction. If the soil is good for making tiles cheap, tiled houses are preferred. If the soil is "*Choudu*," a mud-roof is preferred; so also in respect to the food of the people. In some places jonna (cholum) forms the staple; in some raggi; in others sajja; in largely irrigated tracts rice; and so on.

4. The following is an abstract of the Collectors' replies.

5. GANJAM—*Parlákimedi.*—There are five estates in this district, the largest of which is Parlákimedi, comprising an area of 972 square miles. There are 735 villages in the estate, of which 260 are agraharams, or grant-lands. The soil is fertile, consisting of black and red loam and a large extent of land—Acres 16,191 paying an assessment of Rs. 81,614—is irrigated by a magnificent series of tanks which are fed by means of an anicut constructed on the Mahendratanaya River and by numerous hill streams. Twelve of these tanks are of very considerable dimensions and provide an abundant supply of water. The revenue is administered on the joint rent system under which a lump assessment is imposed on each village, for the satisfaction of which the cultivators are held jointly and severally responsible. A single putta is issued to each village containing a list of the land-holders and each man's share of rent in money and the total cultivable area of the village.

6. The total area of lands paying rent to the estate amounted in Fasli 1291 (1881-82) to Acres 113,166, assessed at Rs. 3,41,598 in 502 villages. Four hundred and seventy-one of these villages were roughly surveyed some fourteen years ago on the block system and assessed at the following rates:—

Taram.	Rate per Acre.		
	Dry.	Wet.	
		1st-class Village.	2nd-class Village.
	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
1	3 0 0	7 0 0	5 12 0
2	2 4 0	5 12 0	4 8 0
3	1 8 0	4 8 0	3 0 0
4	1 0 0	3 0 0	3 0 0
5	0 8 0	2 0 0	2 0 0

The average rates of assessment are:—

—		Extent.		Assessment.			Average per Acre.		
		A.	C.	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.
1. For surveyed lands	Dry ...	48246	40	60,929	12	9	1	4	2
	Wet ...	64268	20	2,79,496	10	9	4	5	7
2. For hill villages not surveyed.	Dry ...	284	8	381	5	0	1	5	6
	Wet ...	15	35	640	4	9	2	15	7
3. For waste lands not surveyed.	Dry ...	44	20	34	3	2	0	12	5
	Wet ...	107	70	115	6	5	1	1	2

With a fertile soil and with tolerably fair rates of assessment, the condition of the ryots of this large estate is on the whole very satisfactory.

7. *Urlám.*—The Urlám estate consists of seven villages, including agraharams situated along the northern bank of the Vamsadhára River. The greater portion of the lands is irrigated and is said to be very fertile. The irrigational facilities are so great as to have given rise to a Telugu proverb to the effect that twelve years' famine elsewhere will produce only a scarcity in this estate. The rent on wet lands is paid in kind, at half the gross produce. For each garce (= 49 bushels) of paddy the ryot has also to pay one rupee in cash. He gets no allowance for cost of cultivation or loss of crop, but, on the other hand, he escapes the Government tenants' liability for second-crop assessment, and is also free to grow wet crops on dry lands without payment of water-rate. A former Principal Assistant Collector, Mr. Winterbotham, has recorded that "the actual cultivators of the soil are, as a body, miserably poor, but the same may be said of the ryots of the surrounding Government villages. There is no marked difference between the condition of the Urlám tenants and that of their neighbours." The disadvantages under which the Urlám ryot labors as regards high rents, inferior occupancy rights, absence of remission for loss of wet crops, as compared with the Chicacole ryot, are, in a great measure, counterbalanced by the greater fertility of his soil and his freedom from second-crop assessment. The Collector states that the peishcush alone paid to Government by this estate considerably exceeds, acre for acre, the average Government assessment of the adjacent taluk.

8. *Jarada.*—This estate is said to be very heavily assessed, and, if the estimate given of the area be correct, the ryots would be paying double the amount which Government ryots pay. The Court consider, however, that the area, which has never been measured, is greatly under-estimated. Nearly half the ryots (255 out of 574) are reported to be dependent for their subsistence on the wages of labor or the profits of petty trade in addition to the produce of their lands and three-fourths of the total number depend on money-lenders for carrying on their cultivation. The Government ryots are better off. The estate is ill-supplied with roads.

9. *Chinna Kimedi.*—The assessment is about Rs. 1-8-0 an acre on dry land and Rs. 5 on wet land. Irrigation is precarious and distance from good markets considerable. Half the farmers eke out their earnings by petty trading and labor, and one-third of the total number cultivating fully assessed lands depend on money-lenders for payment of their kists.

10. *Sérgadá.*—The soil is fertile and the estate is traversed by good roads. According to the manager, however, the Government ryots are better off and are said to be envied by the Sérgadá ryots. About a fourth of them are independent of the money-lender, the rest farm on his capital.

11. VIZAGAPATAM.—There are six estates, of which three have been inspected by the Collector. Speaking generally, he states that no enhancement of rents has taken place since the estates were taken under management, that allowance is made for bad seasons, that coercive measures are sparingly resorted to and that evictions are extremely rare. The tenants are reported to have no saleable interest in their holdings, and the Collector thinks that, in the case of all the estates, the rents prevailing when the Court of Wards assumed the management and which have since been maintained are very much higher than can be regarded as fair. The information obtained from the managers of the estates was to the following effect.

12. *Rewada.*—About one-fourth o the ryots depend entirely upon their own land and the rest depend partly upon their land and partly on the wages of their labor. About nine-tenths depend on money-lenders for payment of rent. The manager, who is the uncle of the proprietor, states that th ryots of the adjoining Government villages of the Sarvasiddhi Taluk possess great advantages over those of the estate as regards facilities of irrigation, fertility of soil, fixity of tenure and rates of assessment.

13. *Merangi.*—About one-fourth of the people are wealthy, possessing property varying from Rs. 1,000 to Rs. 30,000 and three-eighths from Rs. 100 to Rs. 1,000. The frequent enhancement of rent and the collection of extra cesses in the time of the late proprietor and that of the late renter have affected the general condition of the ryots. Three-fourths of them depend on land and one-fourth partly on land and partly on labor. The ryots of Pálkonda are said to be better off. The enhanced rents introduced by the late renter and the extra cesses imposed by him have been abolished since the estate came under management and no complaint has been received that the existing rates of assessment are high, and no lands have been relinquished.

14. *Fondur and Mallavaram.*—Pondur is a fever-stricken little village in a basin surrounded by hills and the ryots are miserably poor. Those of Mallavaram are fairly well to do, and do not depend on money-lenders for help for payment of rents. Their cattle are superior to those of Pondur. All depend on land.

15. *Chidikada Jagannathapuram and Mádugula.*—So far as outward appearances go, there is not much difference between the ryots of these estates and those of Government villages. In the latter the assessment has not been raised for fifty years, and the ryots get remissions when crops fail. They are therefore better off than the ryots of the estate. Ninety per cent. of the ryots in Chidikada Jagannathapuram and 50 per cent. in Mádugula depend on money-lenders for payment of rent.

16. *Sripuram.*—About 60 per cent. of the ryots depend on agriculture and about three-fourths of them depend on money-lenders. Of the five villages in the estate, three are in a fair condition and two are very poor. The general condition of the ryots is not so good as that of the ryots of the adjoining Government villages in Pálkonda. The main irrigation works are said to be out of order. The Collector is requested to report why he has not taken steps to repair them, especially as he states that, by their repair, the extent of cultivation would increase and the necessity for granting remissions cease.

17. GODAVARI—*Gopálpur.*—The Acting Sub-Collector states that the people are fairly well off in the matter of houses and cattle. The quality of the cattle is not good, but it is said to be no worse than in the neighbouring Government villages. About 28 per cent. of the ryots carry on cultivation without the assistance of money-lenders, but some of them are obliged to borrow on their crop when the instalments fall due. About 11·27 per cent. of the landholders pay each an annual assessment of less than Rs. 10; 31·10 per cent. from Rs. 10 to 25; 26·25 per cent. from Rs. 25 to 50 each, and only 13·41 per cent. pay over Rs. 100 each. The Acting Sub-Collector adds that there has been some, though not a great deal of, improvement in the condition of the ryots since the estate came under the Court's management in 1874.

18. *Lakkavaram.*—The prevailing system of land tenure is that of village rents, the greater portion of the cultivable lands being rented in lump to a few representative members of the village community, and the cultivators themselves being left to apportion the land among themselves, each cultivator paying in proportion to the extent of his holding. Under the late proprietor, the villages were rented to the highest bidder, whether resident of the village or an outsider. Since the estate came under management, the villages are rented out to representative inhabitants of the neighbourhood at what is considered a fair rental. In the case of a portion of the irrigable lands in some villages, the Amani system prevails, by which the crops are divided between the proprietor and the ryots. The Acting Head Assistant Collector considers that the system works well, and states that at the recent annual settlement of the villages, a large number of the cultivators attended who were not backward in representing their wants, but that no complaints were made of unfairness in the apportionment of land by the village renters among the cultivators. The general condition of the ryots is said to be the same as that of the ryots in the adjoining Government villages. Lakkavaram itself is a large village with considerable trade.

Certain improvements to irrigation works were recently carried out which, it is expected, will bring a large extent of waste land under cultivation.

19. *Kapileswarapuram and Kesanakurru.*—In the late proprietor's time it had become a practice to enhance the rents periodically at the termination of each lease—a practice fatal to all improvement. The rents are consequently greatly in excess of the rates of assessment prevailing in the adjoining Government villages, and the ryots of the estate are in a much inferior condition to the Government ryots. The Kesanakurru ryots are in a particularly miserable condition. Their water-supply is said to be deficient, the quality of the lands bad, and the crops failing constantly. The Acting Sub-Collector's remarks seem to be somewhat inconsistant with the statement in another portion of his letter in which he states that over 38 per cent. of the ryots of this estate are independent of the money-lenders for assistance. The ryots of Kapileswarapuram are a little better off than those of Kesanakurru.

20. KISTNA—*Núzvíd.*—The Collector has forwarded without remarks the report of the Temporary Deputy Collector. From this report it appears that, owing to exorbitant rates of assessment, the condition of the ryots is not satisfactory. Since the estate came under the Court of Wards several indulgences have been granted to the ryots. They have been allowed the option of giving up or taking up lands. Remissions have been granted for vicissitudes of season and long-standing arrears have been remitted. Undue taxation in the shape of Nuzzurs, &c., has been done away with. But in spite of all this the bulk of the estate ryots have not sufficiently recovered from the effects of former mal-administration. The instalments begin before the harvest, and the bulk of the ryots are consequently obliged to borrow from money-lenders. This estate was last year divided into six shares, in accordance with the decrees of the Privy Council obtained by some of the claimants, and only a sixth share belonging to the Minor, Rajagopala Appa Rau Gáru, was retained by the Court of Wards after the division (G.O., No. 766, dated 20th July 1882). This share has also since been ordered to be handed over to the eldest Minor, who has attained his majority. The two younger brothers of Rajagopala Appa Rau Gáru have already commenced to quarrel with the latter about the division of their shares, and the Court regret that all endeavours to effect a compromise and induce the younger brothers not to insist on a further division of the property have proved unsuccessful.

21. CUDDAPAH—*Chittecherla.*—The estate consists of ryotwari and Inam lands scattered over ten Government villages. The cultivators pay their rents in kind, and are therefore independent of the money-lender. Mr. Atkinson, who was then Acting Sub-Collector, inspected all these villages and found that the estate ryots were very well off. Proposals for introducing fixed money-rents are under consideration.

22. CHINGLEPUT—*Soranjeri.*—The condition of the ryots is fair as compared with that of the ryots in average Government villages similarly situated.

23. TANJORE.—The Collector's report refers to the five estates noted in the margin.* The Papanadu Estate came recently under management, and no information is furnished regarding it. Gandharvakóta is a zemindari in which the ryots possess saleable interest in the soil. The remaining four estates consist of villages under the Ryotwari Settlement. "In the Gandharvakóta Zemindari, there are about 5,155 ryots at present with 3,422 velis† of land under occupation. The holdings of the ryots vary in extent from Velis† 20 to 1 mah §,—the average size of each ryot's holding being nearly 13 mahs §, paying an annual rental of Rs. 6. The saleable interest possessed by the ryots in these lands is valued at Rs. 500

* 1. Gandharvakóta.
2. Vadapathimangalam.
3. Ukkadai.
4. Alangudicheri.
5. Velanganni.

† A *veli* is about 6¼ acres.

§ A *mah* is $\frac{1}{20}$th of a veli.

per. veli, and the incidence of taxati

		Maximum.	Minimum.	
		RS.	RS.	
*Wet	...	30	7	Money assessment per veli.
Dry	...	11	2	
		Share.		
Wet	...	½	⅓	Waram, or share of produce in k
Dry	...	½	⅕	

hich each ryot is liable to pay to the zemindar on account of the lands under his occupation is shown in the margin*. The remaining lands in this zemindari, as well as those in the other four estates, are cultivated either by a system of leasing out lands piece-meal, or more generally under Amani. In the latter case, persons employed in cultivation receive only the wages of labor rendered by them. Most of the ryots of this zemindari cultivate under the sharing system, and the kudiwaram, or ryots' share of the produce, is generally half, and sometimes rises even to four-fifths, of the gross produce when the crops raised are difficult of cultivation. The crops cultivated in the zemindari are miscellaneous dry grains, and the income of each ryot is estimated at Rs. 40 per annum. The laborers employed in Amani cultivation in the zemindari, as well as in other estates, are paid during cultivation a daily hire of from 1½ to 2 annas, and this generally in kind. In the irrigated parts of the Ukkadai, Vadapathimangalam, &c., Estates, the annual income of a Panneiyal or laborer, including his hire and the produce raised in the backyards of his rent-free houses, will generally not exceed Rs. 20 worth of grain; but he receives in addition presents from the landlord during marriage, festivals, &c. The income of a laborer in the unirrigated and dry tracts of the zemindari must be a little less than the above amount. It has been the practice in the Ukkadai and Vadapathimangalam Estates to allow the laborers to cultivate lands as Porakkudies or under-tenants on their taking generally 25 per cent. of the gross produce as the wages for their labor. They receive, besides, advances of seed, &c., for cultivation. But they are a very improvident class, and the advances made to them usually accumulate so that they often become hopelessly in debt to the landlord. However, the condition of this class of peasantry is probably better than that of laborers or panneiyals." The ryots in the Gandharvakóta Zemindari are, for the most part, entirely dependent on the land for their living. Very few of them supplement their income by other callings. This zemindari is inhabited by a caste called Kallars, whose propensity for plundering, committing dacoities, and cattle-lifting is too well known. The general condition of the ryots and laborers in the ryotwari estates referred to appears to be pretty much the same as that of the ryots and laborers in the neighbouring Government villages.

24. MADURA—*Ramnad.*—Nearly one-fourth of the ryots depend entirely upon land, while the remaining three-fourths support themselves partly by land and partly by labor obtained in this country and in the Island of Ceylon. Many of the ryots who are petty holders of land depend on money-lenders for payment of their assessment. They repay the loan partly from the outturn of their fields and partly from their earnings. The condition of the estate ryots is not so good as that of the Government ryots. The difference is due to various causes. "In the first place, Nature itself is not so favorable to the estate of Ramnad as to the Government tracts in the district. The seasons with Ramnad are peculiarly precarious, and the estate is not generally benefited much by the south-west monsoons, which usually enable the Government ryots to plough and sow the dry lar hile the rainfall during the north-east monsoons is not, as a rule, timely, and i r appreciably deficient or injuriously abundant. There are no natural lakes or , and the estate does not possess the invaluable advantage of having spring chan The River Vaigai, the main source of irrigation of the estate, is generally dry about Ramnad. In ordinary seasons it hardly feeds the Ramnad tanks, while in very good seasons it damages them by unmanageably high freshes. There are no hills in the estate, which is singularly bare of trees. The estate, further, does not contain to a large extent good soils well adapted for the cultivation of rice and other food crops, a great portion of the zemindari being sandy. There is hardly any gravel about Ramnad, and road-making is difficult and costly. There are only two made roads throughout the whole estate. In addition to these natural disadvantages, a succession of bad years, constant litigation for about half-a-century, a series of years of bad management by the Zemindar's Managers, and the lamentable

neglect of repairs to the irrigation works, h e also contributed to impoverish the estate and its ryots."

25. Another disadvantage under which ie ryots of this zemindari labor arises from the system of sharing the crops, under v ich the ryot is left at the mercy of the village and taluk officers for reaping his crops arvesting them and getting the produce home. But since the estate came under w dship, the condition of the ryots has improved, proper attention having been pai o the works of irrigation and to the arrangements for the supervision of harvest affording every reasonable facility to the ryots in dealing with their crops.

26. *Gandamanáyakanúr.*—About three-fifths of the ryots are dependent entirely upon land, and the remaining two-fifths on la d and labor. The season during the last few years has not been good, and the outturn o crops was poor. The cultivation under wells is charged at high rates. The condition of the ryots does not compare favorably with that of neighbouring ryots.

27. *Sandayur.*—On the whole, the co lition of one-half the population in the estate is as good as that of the ryots in the a oining Government villages, while that of the other half is not so satisfactory, but s slowly improving under the Court's management.

28. TINNEVELLY—*Urkád.*—The estate onsists, for the most part, of wet lands situated in the Támbraparni Valley. The ry s are fairly wealthy, and do not borrow from money-lenders for payment of assessment. The Collector considers, however, that, owing to the system of sharing the produce which prevails in the estate, the condition of the ryots cannot be said to compare favorably with that of the ryots in the adjoining Government villages, in which an equitable and moderate rate of assessment has been fixed by the Settlement Department. In another letter, the Collector states that the lands, situated as they are in the Támbraparni Valley, scarcely ever fail to yield an average crop, and that the ryots, both Pattadars as well as cultivating tenants, are never known to suffer any inconvenience and seem to be always satisfied with their income, which is steady, though small.

29. *Singampatti.*—The lands in this estate are mostly irrigated. Many of the ryots are poor, and some of them are in the habit of borrowing. They enjoy, however, this special advantage, that they pay a fixed money rent and not a share of the produce. Their general condition was by no means less prosperous than in the previous year, though not so very favorable as that of the ryots in the neighbouring villages. In another letter, the Collector states that the material condition of the ryots of this estate is comparatively better than that of the Urkád ryots. The estate was handed over to the Minor in Fasli 1290.

30. *Manigáchi.*—The greater part of the lands is unirrigated. About three-fourths of the ryots depend entirely upon land, and the rest support themselves partly by land and partly by labor. They do not borrow from money-lenders, and their general condition during the year under report does not compare unfavorably with that of the ryots in the adjoining Government villages, the average yield in the estate being somewhat in excess of that obtained in the Government villages.

31. *Sundarapachapuram.*—The land is almost all black cotton soil. About two-thirds of the ryots depend entirely upon land, and the rest supplement their income by daily labor. The condition of the ryots is the same as in Singampatti.

32. *Vadimitta.*—The general condition of the ryots is much the same as that of the ryots in Government villages. As cotton is largely cultivated in the estate, the ryots get large advances from cotton traders and are thus enabled to pay their rents, &c., without borrowing.

33. COIMBATORE—*Peravipálliam.*—There are three villages in this estate. The average size of the holdings and the saleable value of lands are much the same as in the adjoining Government villages. The general condition of the ryots is also similar.

34. SALEM—*Erumaipati and Pal paliam.*—The condition of the ryots is good, and is certainly in no degree inferior to that of Government ryots. They are not generally involved in debts, but when a loan is needed, they borrow from some of their own class and do not resort to money-lenders. The soil is good; most of the lands contain wells, and there are also two large and well-supplied tanks which are now being repaired at a large expense. The ryots voluntarily offered to contribute the whole extra expense involved in reconstructing the road over the bunds of these tanks, some Rs. 2,500—a fact which shows that there is no want of money amongst them.

35. MALABAR—*Mangara.*—This estate, which was inspected by the Head Assistant Collector, is a small one, and the lands comprising it are scattered and are in the hands of tenants who are of two descriptions:—(1) Kanomdars, or tenants who have mortgage claims on their holdings, and (2) tenants on simple lease. Excluding house-sites, there are about 600 acres in the estate, of which about 350 acres are held by the former class of cultivators and the remainder by the latter. The assessment is very moderate. Most of the rents are paid in kind and the tenants are well off.

36. *Kavalpara.*—The Collector differs from his Head Assistant, and states that the condition of the actual cultivators of the soil is not satisfactory. The tenants are said to have been pauperized by the heavy exactions of the late proprietor, but their condition has improved since the estate came under the Court's management. The total extent of the property, which is situated in the Pálghat Taluk, is over 6,000 acres, of which about 4,450 acres are in the hands of tenants.

37. After giving the subject their careful consideration, the Court of Wards are inclined to think that, with a few exceptions, the condition of the ryots in most of the estates is on the whole fair, and that it has been steadily improving under the Court's management. In many of the estates, however, the cultivators are considered to have no saleable interest in the soil, and they are regarded as mere tenants-at-will. It may be urged that the self-interest of the proprietors would afford some protection to the cultivators against being turned out at pleasure; still, the fact that they may be ousted whenever a higher rent is offered must to a great extent have interfered with the free investment of capital in the land. This state of things will, it is hoped, be remedied before long when the bill now under consideration for amending Madras Act VIII of 1865 becomes law. Under the management of the Court of Wards, everything that is possible is being done to prevent the cultivators from being disturbed in their possession.

38. Of the estates in charge of the Court, the largest is Ramnad, which yields a revenue of Rs. 6,74,342. This zemindari has been the bone of contention for several years between rival claimants, and was heavily involved in debts when it came under the management of the Court of Wards in 1873. The Government were pleased to grant a loan of ten lakhs of rupees to enable the Court to pay the debts (G.O., No. 1089, dated 11th October 1873). A further loan of two lakhs was subsequently sanctioned (G.O., dated 26th January 1878, No. 211, Financial Department) for the repair of irrigation works damaged by the disastrous floods of 1877, but of this sum only a lakh-and-a-half appears to have been drawn up to date. The amount due to Government at the beginning of Fasli 1291, *i.e.*, 1st July 1881, on account of these loans and arrears of peishcush, amounted to Rs. 14,22,835. Of this sum, half-a-lakh of rupees was paid before the end of June 1882, and another half-a-lakh before the end of September 1882, leaving a balance of Rs. 13,22,830. The estate is gradually recovering from the effects of former bad management and of the great famine of 1876 to 1878, and the local officers are exerting themselves towards improving the irrigation works with which the country is studded. The report of the Manager printed with G.O., 18th October 1882, No. 1143, Revenue Department, gives a full history of this zemindari.

39. Parlákimedi is another large zemindari yielding an annual revenue of about Rs. 3,00,000 on the average of the past four years. Owing to the incapacity of the proprietor, who is an imbecile, the estate was taken over in 1850 and has since continued uninterruptedly under management for upwards of fifty-two years. The estate enjoys

great natural advantages, and the ryots are reported to be better off than those of the neighbouring Government taluks. As already stated, the greater portion of the estate was surveyed on the block system in 1868 and the assessment was also revised by the Collector at the same time. As the estate is in a position to bear the expense, a more accurate survey and classification of soil by professional officers was lately sanctioned and is now in progress. The cost of the survey alone, excluding the cost of the demarcation stones, is estimated at Rs. 900.* The present Acting Collector and his Principal Assistant appear to be of opinion that the survey and settlement are not necessary in the interests of the estate, and that any inequalities that may be found to exist in the present assessment can easily be rectified without involving the estate in heavy expenditure. The question, however, was fully discussed in Court's Proceedings, No. 38, dated 8th January 1880, and it was finally decided that this large estate should not be left without the benefit of a proper scientific survey and classification. Out of the surplus which has been accumulating to the credit of the estate, some Rs. 1,36,235 have been spent within the past five years on roads and buildings; Rs. 82,960 on irrigation works; and Rs. 4,53,000 towards the construction of a suitable palace for the Zemindar. Twenty-two lakhs and a-half out of the surplus of the estate have been invested in Government Securities.

* G.O., No. 974, dated 13th September 1882.

40. Accurate information is not available for instituting a comparison between the average rates of assessment prevailing in estates and those obtaining in the neighbouring Government taluks. The rates given for the estates in the statement referred to in paragraph 2 have been arrived with reference to the gross occupied area and assessments given in the Administration Reports for Fasli 1291 (1881-82), but a glance at the figures is sufficient to show that in many cases the averages given are unreliable. In several of the estates, the rent system is prevalent, and in others that of sharing the produce. The extent of the ryots' holdings is therefore never measured and recorded from year to year, and only a rough estimate of the area is given in the Administration Report returns. Similarly, in localities where the sharing system is in vogue, the money value is also entered from mere estimates framed according to the Manager's judgment. It is not surprising, therefore, that the average rates in some instances appear excessively high. In one estate, in Godávari, the rate arrived at for unirrigated lands is actually 40 per cent. greater than that deduced for irrigated lands. In another estate, in the Coimbatore District, the rate on irrigated lands comes out more than Rs. 25 an acre. In Gopálpur, in the Godávari District, the rate on unirrigated land comes out at Rs. 9-8-3 per acre. This estate was surveyed and the lands classified in 1877-78 at a cost of nearly Rs. 4, 00; but the settlement rates then fixed were not brought into force in deference to the wishes of the local officers. The estate came under management in October 1874, and in the following year a reduction of about 14 per cent. was made in the demand, which reduced the average rate of assessment per acre from Rs. 9-0-5 to Rs. 7-11-0. In Fasli 1287 (1877-78)—the year in which the survey and classification were made—there was a further reduction in the demand, which brought down the average rate to Rs. 7-4-11, against Rs. 5-8-5 arrived at in the settlement. It was urged, both by the Sub-Collector and Collector, that the then existing rates, though high, were punctually realized, that the people were satisfied with existing arrangements, that the adoption of the settlement rates would reduce the land revenue demand still further by about 24 per cent., and that it was undesirable to introduce the new rates, as the young proprietor would assuredly raise them again when he comes of age in February 1885. The average rate arrived at for Fasli 1291 (1881-82) is very much higher than that for Fasli 1287 (1877-78), but the increase is merely nominal, as the gross assessment shown in the Collector's Administration Report includes the high rents realized on lanka lands on which tobacco is largely cultivated.

41. The other estates do not call for special remark. In a few estates, the instalments fixed for payment of the dues by the ryots would seem to require revision. The Collectors are authorized to carry out such changes as they may consider necessary, and report them for the sanction of the Court of Wards.

APPENDIX A.

District.	Name of Estate.	Period during which the Estate has been under the management of the Court of Wards.	Annual Peishcush payable to Government.	Average Revenue of the Estate during the three years preceding Fasli 1290 (1880-81).	Revenue of Fasli 1291 ending with 30th June 1882.	Surplus balance on 30th June 1882.	Number of Ayen or fully assessed villages in the Estate.	Number of Agraharams or Villages held on favourable tenure.	Total Area in Square Miles.	Population of the Estate according to the Census of 1871.	Occupied Area in Fasli 1291.					
											Dry.		Wet.		Total.	
											Extent.	Assessment.	Extent.	Assessment.	Extent.	Assessment.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
		YRS. MS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.					ACRES.	RS.	ACRES.	RS.	ACRES.	RS.
Ganjam.	Parlákimedi ..	52 0	87,625	3,71,946	4,47,398	23,87,492	502	390	* 972	2,34,079	48,344	60,857	64,715	2,80,701	113,059	3,41,558
	Chinna Kimedi ..	5 5	20,826	89,304	67,613	64,536	50	74	* 2,130	28,849	2,365	5,854	8,416	37,522	10,781	43,376
	Sérgadá	10 0	6,823	26,625	27,246	25,454	26	12	* 25	6,416	449	806	1,261	5,879	1,650	6,685
	Uriám	3 3	12,467	44,241	38,506	2,54,082	6	7	14·49	11,961	405	1,721	2,669	26,938	3,134	28,659
	Jarada	2 0	2,025	21,648	25,816	33,525	22	34	* 39	5,813	559	680	2,363	14,780	2,922	15,460
	Rewada	13 3	3,764	8,166	5,332	6,251	2	1	0·62	1,636	614	3,043	2[illegible]	1,989	866	5,032
	Merangi	12 7	20,514	45,480		1,34,898	50	86		38,042	2,576	6,134	6,2[illegible]	38,163	7,833	44,297
Vizagapatam.	Pondur-Mallaverum..	5 0	1,677	2,918	3,379	482	2	..	4·31	1,175	613	1,296	90	718	703	2,014
	Chidikada Jagannathapuram.	4 9	4,985	22,730	21,530	16,577	5	..	1·50	2,288	951	3,244	1,326	14,428	2,277	17,672
	Madagula	4 8	22,893	2,769	3,020	2,122	No entire Villages.		* 997	7,428	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Sripuram	3 9	10,795	12,740	16,792	3,772	7	5	6·27	7,430	1,204	2,801	1,535	11,056	2,739	13,857
Godávari	Kapileswarapuram and Kesanakurru.	12 9	20,157	33,528	36,558	61,639	7	..	14·49	11,565	3,424	24,638	1,369	5,966	4,793	30,604
	Gopálpur	7 9	18,527	71,202	80,273	3,24,484	11	..	19·45	13,556	6,049	57,568	..	..	6,049	57,568
	Lakkavaram ..	2 7	2,644	11,673	11,378	65,837	8	..	5·63	3,608	88	44	173	470	261	514
Kistna.	Núzvíd	4 8	95,453	6,84,430	Not known.	1,11,945	162	146	* 694	1,07,760	94,879	2,02,068	23,898	1,26,505	118,777	3,28,573
Chingleput.	Soranjeri	6 10	2,463	5,213	6,151	..	6	..	3·40	1,978	146	237	923	4,409	1,069	4,646
Tanjore.	Gandharvakóta ..	1 0	6,577	Not available.	16,487	2,567	53	..	85·10	22,492	8,097	6,699	2,715	4,795	10,782	11,494

(1) *Column* 5.—This column comprises the average of the actual collections of the past three years as per Statement No. 3. Attempt was made to work out the population per square mile, but very absurd results were obtained in many cases owing to the area being inaccurate. In some cases the density was over 1,000 people to the square mile.

(2) The figures marked thus* in Column 10 are taken from the statement furnished by the Superintendent of Revenue Survey. For the other estates the area has been taken from the Census Volume of 1871.

District.	Name of Estate.	Period during which the Estate has been under the management of the Court of Wards.	Annual Peishcush payable to Government.	Average Revenue of the Estate during the three years preceding Fasli 1290 (1880-81).	Revenue of Fasli 1291 ending with 30th June 1882.	Surplus balance on 30th June 1882.	Number of Ayen or fully assessed villages in the Estate.	Number of Agraharams or Villages held on favourable tenure.	Total Area in Square Miles.	Population of the Estate according to the Census of 1871.	Occupied Area in Fasli 1291.					
											Dry.		Wet.		Total.	
											Extent.	Assessment.	Extent.	Assessment.	Extent.	Assessment.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
		YRS. MS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.					ACRES.	RS.	ACRES.	RS.	ACRES.	RS.
Madura.	Ramnad	9 3	3,13,998	6,63,689	7,06,290	16,251	1,340	827	1556·48	500,653	248,440	2,49,521	7,175	16,914	255,615	2,66,435
	Gandaramadiyakanár.	14 9	13,415	47,420	38,258	1,34,287	21	1	181·07	26,933	33,224	48,590	844	1,984	34,068	50,574
	Sandayur	10 7	3,697	10,449	10,034	6,323	14	1	15·85	8,834	4,394	5,832	165	943	4,559	6,775
Tinnevelly.	Urkád	10 0	12,927	41,801	Not available.	1,410	6	..	3·49	3,903	217	71	269	1,058	486	2,029
	Maniyáchi	18 3	1,811	8,922	Do.	6,624	8	2	69·65	21,181	7,977	7,618	101	457	8,078	7,975
	Sundarapachapuram.	6 1	881	4,426	Do.	1,241	6	..	36·01	6,822	4,397	3,947	61	662	4,458	4,609
	Vádimittá	2 7	5,440	14,068	15,606	5,220	29	1	22·60	8,234	11,067	12,889	154	385	11,221	13,274
Coimbatore.	Poraviputalaiyam ..	3 1	2,605	10,951	15,439											
Salem.	Erumaipatti and Palayapalyam.	8 0	7,446	17,995	17,707	1,133	8	1	4·84	1,780	6,159	12,620	438	3,911	6,597	16,531
Malabar.	Mangara	4 8	..	6,504	4,346	12,941	Not available.				230	457	240	4,251	470	4,708
	Kavalpara	9 10	4,568	39,669	41,492	60,870	Do.				7,635	1,775	3,827	20,713	11,462	22,488

Column 5.—This column comprises the average of the actual collections of the past three years as per Statement No. 3. Attempt was made to work out the population per square mile, but very absurd results were obtained in many cases owing to the area being inaccurate. In some cases the density was over 1,000 people to the square mile.

District.	Name of Estate.	Average Rate of Assessment per Acre. Dry.	Wet.	Average Rates prevailing in the Government Taluk adjoining the Estate or in which the Estate is situated. Dry.	Wet.	Average size of Holdings.	Average Rent paid thereon.	Average incidence of Land Tax per head of the Population in 1871.	Proportion of Ryots depending Entirely on land.	Partly on land and partly on labor.	Proportion of Ryots depending on Money-lenders.	Amount expended on Irrigation Works during the past three years up to the end of Fasli 1290.
		18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
Ganjam.	Parlákimedi	Rs. A. P. 1 4 2	Rs. A. P. 4 5 5	Rs. A. P. 1 3 2	Rs. A. P. 3 13 4	Acres. 7·7	Rs. A. P. 21 5 0	Rs. A. P. 1 9 5				Rs. 42,606
	Chinna Kimedi	2 7 7	4 7 4	1 4 10	2 14 10	3·5	14 0 0	3 1 6				14,640
	Sórada	1 12 8	4 14 4	1 4 10	2 14 10	8	31 8 0	4 2 4				5,067
	Pálam	3 11 3	10 1 6	1 3 2	3 13 4	Not available.		2 5 6				9,494
	Jarada	1 3 6	6 4 1	1 4 10	2 14 10	7·25	19 0 0	4 3 10				
Vizagapatam.	Rewada	4 15 8	7 14 9	0 13 7	4 15 3		37 9 4	3 4 1				800
	Akurghi	2 6 1	7 4 2			5·5	33 11 5	0 15 3				7,613
	Pondur-Mallaveram	2 1 10	7 15 8			14	30 3 4	1 0 0	Almost all.	..	Almost all none.	140
	Chidikada Jagannathapuram	3 6 7	10 14 1			5·80	33 10 6					2,124
	Mádagula	4 0 0	7 8 0			5·95	57 0 2	2 7 7	Do.	..		
	Seripuram	2 6 3	7 3 3			8·87	55 2 7	0 6 0	Do.	..		996
Godávari.	Kapileswarapuram and Kesanakurra.	7 3 1	4 5 8	2 15 11	3 0 6	10·25	66 0 0	2 4 2				
	Gopálpur	9 8 3	..	3 12 1	2 7 0	5·13	60 3 2	2 9 10				4,148
	Lakkavaram	0 8 0	2 11 5	0 15 5	2 10 4	10·57	64 5 0	2 12 9				
						7·83	94 0 0	4 10 9				1,043
						17·72	17 7 2	1 4 6	97 per cent.	3 per cent.	Less than half.	410
Kistna.	Nárvid	2 2 1	5 4 8	1 3 2	2 13 9	15	75 0 0	2 9 1			The bulk of the ryots.	44,644
Chingleput.	Soranjeri	1 19 0	4 12 5	1 3 1	3 11 11	1·01	4 6 1	3 8 10				..
Tanjore.	Gandharvakóta	0 13 3	1 12 3	1 3 11	5 6 9	4·5	6 0 0	Not available.			..	..

The figures entered in Column 24 for the estates in Ganjam were arrived at by dividing the average revenue by the population of 1871.

District.	Name of Estate.	Average Rate of Assessment Per Acre. Dry.	Wet.	Average Rates prevailing in the Government Taluk adjoining the Estate or in which the Estate is situated. Dry.	Wet.	Average size of Holdings.	Average Rent paid thereon.	Average incidence of Land Tax per head of the Population in 1871.	Proportion of Ryots depending Entirely on land.	Partly on land and partly on labor.	Proportion of Ryots depending on Money-lenders.	Amount expended on Irrigation Works during the past three years up to the end of Fasli 1290.
		18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
Madura.	Rammad	Rs. A. P. 1 0 1	Rs. A. P. 2 5 8	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Acres. 5·5	Rs. A. P. 12 4 7	Rs. A. P. 1 13 10	½	½	Many petty land-holders.	Rs. 1,75,052
Timevelly.	Gandamanáyakanúr	1 7 5	2 5 7	1 3 9	4 9 4	..	..	2 11 5	⅔	⅓	Very few.	49,564
	Sandáyur	1 5 3	5 11 5			4·3	5 0 0	1 0 8	¾	¼	..	2,754
	Urkád	0 5 3	7 4 5	0 6 11	10 0 11	1·5	32 6 6	7 8 11	15/16	1/16	None.	4,733
	Maniyáchi	0 15 1	4 8 4	0 13 3	3 12 1	4	5 15 3	2 1 9	¾	¼	Do.	52
	[illegible]	0 14 4	10 13 8	0 13 3	3 12 1	3	12 4 11	4 9 4	¾	¼	Do.	38
		1 2 8	2 9 8	[illegible]	4 11 9	5	7 7 11	1 14 2	15/16	1/16	Do.	67
Salem.	Erumaipa[illegible]apalyam ..	2 0 9	8 14 10	1 2 3	7 10 1	10·43	Not available.					136
Malabar.	Mangara	1 15 9	17 11 5	1 9 9	2 15 4	1·25	Do.	1 4 5	½	½	1/10 Many.	..
	Kavaipara	0 3 9	5 6 7			7	Do.	1 3 1				..

(A true Extract.)

(Signed) J. A. DAVIES,
Acting Sub-Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department,
with Collector's letters in original.
" all Collectors in charge of Wards' Estates.

ORDER—dated 16th May 1883, No. 9, Revenue.

Miscellaneous.

G.O., 23rd February 1882, No. 228.

Ordered that the foregoing paper, relative to the condition of ryots in estates under the Court of Wards, be transmitted to the Secretary of State, in answer to his Despatch, dated 26th January 1882 (Revenue), No. 5.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) E. F. WEBSTER,
Secretary to Government.

To the Court of Wards, with 17 encl

609 A.

reference to its letter, dated 7th M the Government Revenue and Agricultural Department, with 1882, No. 81 R.

(Signed) E. F. WEBSTER,
Secretary to Government.

Exd. J. Henricus.

120 Copies.

Govt. of (1883) Madras.

REVENUE.

Issued

Recd. *Encl.*

G.O., 16th May 1883, Nos. 609, 609 A.

MAY.

Condition of Ryots in Estates under Court of Wards.

Report regarding —, ordered to be transmitted to the Secretary of State.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

LETTER—

TO THE RIGHT HONORABLE
THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR INDIA.

MY LORD,

In continuation of our Despatch, dated 8th November last, No. 26 (Revenue), we have the honor to transmit, for your Lordship's information, copy of our Proceedings noted in the margin, embodying a report from the Court of Wards on the estates under their management. It will be observed that the condition of the ryots in most of the estates is on the whole satisfactory, and that all that is possible still further to improve it, is being done under the Court's management.

Miscellaneous.

G.O., dated 16th May 1883, No. 609.

2. Adverting to paragraph 37 of the Court's Proceedings, we have to inform your Lordship that a Committee has been appointed to consider what changes in Act VIII of 1865 may be necessary to give greater security of tenure to the ryots in Zemindari estates, and, as soon as their report is submitted, it will receive our most careful consideration.

We have the honor to be,
My Lord,
Your Lordship's most obedient, humble servants,

(Signed) M. E. GRANT DUFF.
(„) FRED. ROBERTS.
(„) DAVID F. CARMICHAEL.
(„) H. E. SULLIVAN.

OOTACAMUND,
30th May 1883.

Exd. J. Henricus.

FORT SAINT GEORGE.

REVENUE (1883) DEPARTMENT.

(Copy.)

LETTER to the Right Honorable the Secretary of State for India.

Dated May,

No. 10 of 1883.

Transmitting, with observations, a report from the Court of Wards, regarding condition of the ryots in estates under their management.

COURT OF WARDS, 2ND APRIL 1883, No. 912.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE COURT OF WARDS.

READ—again the following Proceedings of the Court of Wards, dated 3rd March 1882, No. 637 :—

ABSTRACT.—Requesting the Collectors concerned to submit at an early date special reports on the condition of ryots in estates under Court of Wards.

READ—again the following Proceedings of the Court of Wards, dated 22nd April 1882, No. 1098 :—

ABSTRACT.—Requesting the Collectors concerned to expedite the submission of the special reports required on the condition of ryots in estates under Court of Wards.

READ—also the following letters :—

From the Collector of Chingleput,	dated	15th June	1882,	No.	273
" " of Coimbatore,	"	13th "	"	"	122.
" " of Cuddapah,	"	14th April	"	"	144.
" " of "	"	16th August	"	"	391.
" " of Ganjam,	"	8th "	"	"	427.
" " of Godávari,	"	21st July	"	"	283.
" " of Kistna,	"	18th "	"	"	1632.
" " of Madura,	"	14th "	"	"	82.
" " of Malabar,	"	7th August	"	"	—
" " of "	"	16th "	"	"	2361.
" " of "	"	22nd "	"	"	2435.
" " of Salem,	"	16th April	"	"	788.
" " of "	"	11th August	"	"	1638.
" " of Tanjore,	"	17th October	"	"	363.
" " of Tinnevelly,	"	27th April	"	"	239.
" " of "	"	22nd July	"	"	450.
" " of Vizagapatam,	"	13th "	"	"	700.

RESOLUTION—dated 2nd April 1883, No. 912.

The foregoing letters are the replies of Collectors to Court's Proceedings, dated 3rd March 1882, No. 637, and Proceedings, dated 22nd April 1882, No. 1098, calling for the information regarding the condition of ryots in the estates under the management of the Court of Wards, required by the Secretary of State in his Despatch contained in G.O., dated 23rd February 1882, No. 228, Revenue Department. The last report was received only on the 19th October last, and, before submitting their general report, the Court thought it desirable to wait for information as to details of population, houses, &c., according to the results of the Census of 1881 and for the Administration Reports of the estates for the year ending 30th June 1882, now being received, but as many of the Census statements are still in the Press, and as Government have sent a reminder on the subject, the Court will not delay their report.

2. There were in all thirty-eight estates under the charge of the Court of Wards at the close of Fasli 1291 (1881-82), paying about Rs. 11,48,000 to Government and yielding a revenue of about Rs. 25,32,000. Appendix A shows, for the more important estates, particulars as to population,* the area occupied, the average size of the holdings, rates of assessment and incidence per head of the population, the revenue realized during the past three or four years, and the amount expended on Irrigation works. In many estates the renting system is still prevalent, and accurate accounts of the holdings of each ryot are not therefore available. The average size of the holdings and the rates of assessment, &c., given in the statement are therefore only approximate. The information given regarding the proportion of ryots depending entirely

* According to the Census of 1871.

on land, those depending partly on land and partly on labor, and of those who depend on money-lenders for farming their lands, or paying the rent, is based merely on estimates furnished by the managers and not on any accurate records maintained in their offices.

3. In the instructions issued by the Court, information was called for as to the style of houses in which the people live, the food they eat, the dress they wear, &c. As Collectors have not furnished similar details as regards the ryots of the adjacent Government villages, the information is likely to prove misleading, and has therefore been omitted from the statement. The existence of tiled houses in rural villages especially does not necessarily prove that the people there are more wealthy than where the houses are mud-roofed or thatched. The description of houses, in particular localities, is generally dependent on the facilities existing for their construction. If the soil is the soil is good for making tiles cheap, tiled houses are preferred. If the soil is "*Choudu*," a mud-roof is preferred; so also in respect to the food of the people. In some places jonna (cholum) forms the staple; in some raggi; in others sajja; in largely irrigated tracts rice; and so on

4. The following is an abstract of the Collectors' replies.

5. GANJAM—*Parlákimedi.*—There are five estates in this district, the largest of which is Parlákimedi, comprising an area of 972 square miles. There are 735 villages in the estate, of which 260 are agraharams or grant lands. The soil is fertile, consisting of black and red loam and a large extent of land—Acres 16,194 paying an assessment of Rs. 81,614—is irrigated by a magnificent series of tanks which are fed by means of an anicut constructed on the Mahendratanaya River and by numerous hill streams. Twelve of these tanks are of very considerable dimensions and provide an abundant supply of water. The revenue is administered on the joint rent system under which a lump assessment is imposed on each village, for the satisfaction of which the cultivators are held jointly and severally responsible. A single putta is issued to each village containing a list of the land-holders and each man's share of rent in money and the total cultivable area of the village.

6. The total area of lands paying rent to the estate amounted in Fasli 1291 (1881-82) to Acres 113,166, assessed at Rs. 3,41,598 in 502 villages. Four hundred and seventy-one of these villages were roughly surveyed some fourteen years ago on the block system and assessed at the following rates:—

Taram.	Rate per Acre.		
	Dry.	Wet.	
		1st-class Village.	2nd-class Village.
	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
1	3 0 0	7 0 0	5 12 0
2	2 4 0	5 12 0	4 8 0
3	1 8 0	4 8 0	3 0 0
4	1 0 0	3 0 0	3 0 0
5	0 8 0	2 0 0	2 0 0

The average rates of assessment are:—

		Extent.	Assessment.	Average per Acre.
		A. C.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
1. For surveyed lands	Dry ...	48,246 40	60,929 12 9	1 4 2
	Wet ...	64,268 20	2,79,496 10 9	4 5 7
2. For hill villages not surveyed.	Dry ...	284 8	381 5 0	1 5 6
	Wet ...	215 55	640 4 9	2 15 7
3. For waste lands not surveyed.	Dry ...	41 20	34 3 2	0 12 5
	Wet ...	107 70	115 6 5	1 1 2

With a fertile soil and with tolerably fair rates of assessment, the condition of the ryots of this large estate is on the whole very satisfactory.

7. *Urlám.*—The Urlám estate consists of seven villages, including agraharams situated along the northern bank of the Vansadhára River. The greater portion of the lands is irrigated and is said to be very fertile. The irrigational facilities are so great as to have given rise to a Telugu proverb to the effect that twelve years' famine elsewhere will produce only a scarcity in this estate. The rent on wet lands is paid in kind, at half the gross produce. For each garce (= 49 bushels) of paddy the ryot has also to pay one rupee in cash. He gets no allowance for cost of cultivation or loss of crop, but, on the other hand, he escapes the Government tenants' liability for second-crop assessment, and is also free to grow wet crops on dry lands without payment of water-rate. A former Principal Assistant Collector, Mr. Winterbotham, has recorded that "the actual cultivators of the soil are, as a body, miserably poor, but the same may be said of the ryots of the surrounding Government villages." There is no marked difference between the condition of the Urlám tenants and that of their neighbours." The disadvantages under which the Urlám ryot labors as regards high rents, inferior occupancy rights, absence of remission for loss of wet crops, as compared with the Chicacole ryot, are, in a great measure, counterbalanced by the greater fertility of his soil and his freedom from second-crop assessment. The Collector states that the peishcush alone paid to Government by this estate considerably exceeds, acre for acre, the average Government assessment of the adjacent taluk.

8. *Jarada.*—This estate is said to be very heavily assessed, and, if the estimate given of the area be correct, the ryots would be paying double the amount which Government ryots pay. The Court consider, however, that the area, which has never been measured, is greatly under-estimated. Nearly half the ryots (255 out of 574) are reported to be dependent for their subsistence on the wages of labor or the profits of petty trade in addition to the produce of their lands and three-fourths of the total number depend on money-lenders for carrying on their cultivation. The Government ryots are better off. The estate is ill-supplied with roads.

9. *Chinna Kimedi.*—The assessment is about Rs. 1-8-0 an acre on dry land and Rs. 5 on wet land. Irrigation is precarious and distance from good markets considerable. Half the farmers eke out their earnings by petty trading and labor, and one-third of the total number cultivating fully assessed lands depend on money-lenders for payment of their kists.

10. *Sérgadi.*—The soil is fertile and the estate is traversed by good roads. According to the manager, however, the Government ryots are better off and are said to be envied by the Sérgadi ryots. About a fourth of them are independent of the money-lender, the rest farm on his capital.

11. VIZAGAPATAM.—There are six estates, of which three have been inspected by the Collector. Speaking generally, he states that no enhancement of rents has taken place since the estates were taken under management, that allowance is made for bad seasons, that coercive measures are sparingly resorted to and that evictions are extremely rare. The tenants are reported to have no saleable interest in their holdings, and the Collector thinks that, in the case of all the estates, the rents prevailing when the Court of Wards assumed the management and which have since been maintained are very much higher than can be regarded as fair. The information obtained from the managers of the estates was to the following effect.

12. *Rewada.*—About one-fourth of the ryots depend entirely upon their own land and the rest depend partly upon their land and partly on the wages of their labor. About nine-tenths depend on money-lenders for payment of rent. The manager, who is the uncle of the proprietor, states that the ryots of the adjoining Government villages of the Sarvasiddhi Taluk possess great advantages over those of the estate as regards facilities of irrigation, fertility of soil, fixity of tenure and rates of assessment.

13. *Merangi.*—About one-fourth of the people are wealthy, possessing property varying from Rs. 1,000 to Rs. 30,000 and three-eighths from Rs. 100 to Rs. 1,000. The frequent enhancement of rent and the collection of extra cesses in the time of the late proprietor and that of the late renter have affected the general condition of the ryots. Three-fourths of them depend on land and one-fourth partly on land and partly on labor. The ryots of Pálkonda are said to be better off. The enhanced rents introduced by the late renter and the extra cesses imposed by him have been abolished since the estate came under management, and no complaint has been received that the existing rates of assessment are high, and no lands have been relinquished.

14. *Pondur and Mallavaram.*—Pondur is a fever-stricken little village in a basin surrounded by hills and the ryots are miserably poor. Those of Mallavaram are fairly well to do, and do not depend on money-lenders for help for payment of rents. Their cattle are superior to those of Pondur. All depend on land.

15. *Chidikada Jagannathapuram and Mádugula.*—So far as outward appearances go, there is not much difference between the ryots of these estates and those of Government villages. In the latter the assessment has not been raised for fifty years, and the ryots get remissions when crops fail. They are therefore better off than the ryots of the estate. Ninety per cent. of the ryots in Chidikada Jagannathapuram and 50 per cent. in Mádugula depend on money-lenders for payment of rent.

16. *Sripuram.*—About 60 per cent. of the ryots depend on agriculture and about three-fourths of them depend on money-lenders. Of the five villages in the estate, three are in a fair condition and two are very poor. The general condition of the ryots is not so good as that of the ryots of the adjoining Government villages in Pálkonda. The main irrigation works are said to be out of order. The Collector is requested to report why he has not taken steps to repair them, especially as he states that, by their repair, the extent of cultivation would increase and the necessity for granting remissions cease.

17. GODAVARI—*Gopálpur.*—The Acting Sub-Collector states that the people are fairly well off in the matter of houses and cattle. The quality of the cattle is not good, but it is said to be no worse than in the neighbouring Government villages. About 28 per cent. of the ryots carry on cultivation without the assistance of money-lenders, but some of them are obliged to borrow on their crop when the instalments fall due. About 11·27 per cent. of the landholders pay each an annual assessment of less than Rs. 10; 31·10 per cent. from Rs. 10 to 25; 26·25 per cent. from Rs. 25 to 50 each, and only 13·41 per cent. pay over Rs. 100 each. The Acting Sub-Collector adds that there has been some, though not a great deal of, improvement in the condition of the ryots since the estate came under the Court's management in 1874.

18. *Lakkavaram.*—The prevailing system of land tenure is that of village rents, the greater portion of the cultivable lands being rented in lump to a few representative members of the village community, and the cultivators themselves being left to apportion the land among themselves, each cultivator paying in proportion to the extent of his holding. Under the late proprietor, the villages were rented to the highest bidder, whether resident of the village or an outsider. Since the estate came under management, the villages are rented out to representative inhabitants of the neighbourhood at what is considered a fair rental. In the case of a portion of the irrigable lands in some villages, the Amani system prevails, by which the crops are divided between the proprietor and the ryots. The Acting Head Assistant Collector considers that the system works well, and states that at the recent annual settlement of the villages, a large number of the cultivators attended who were not backward in representing their wants, but that no complaints were made of unfairness in the apportionment of land by the village renters among the cultivators. The general condition of the ryots is said to be the same as that of the ryots in the adjoining Government villages. Lakkavaram itself is a large village with considerable trade.

Certain improvements to irrigation works were recently carried out which, it is expected, will bring a large extent of waste land under cultivation.

19. *Kapileswarapuram and Kesanakurru.*—In the late proprietor's time it had become a practice to enhance the rents periodically at the termination of each lease—a practice fatal to all improvement. The rents are consequently greatly in excess of the rates of assessment prevailing in the adjoining Government villages, and the ryots of the estate are in a much inferior condition to the Government ryots. The Kesanakurru ryots are in a particularly miserable condition. Their water-supply is said to be deficient, the quality of the lands bad, and the crops failing constantly. The Acting Sub-Collector's remarks seem to be somewhat inconsistant with the statement in another portion of his letter in which he states that over 33 per cent. of the ryots of this estate are independent of the money-lenders for assistance. The ryots of Kapileswarapuram are a little better off than those of Kesanakurru.

20. KISTNA—*Názvíd.*—The Collector has forwarded without remarks the report of the Temporary Deputy Collector. From this report it appears that, owing to exorbitant rates of assessment, the condition of the ryots is not satisfactory. Since the estate came under the Court of Wards several indulgences have been granted to the ryots. They have been allowed the option of giving up or taking up lands. Remissions have been granted for vicissitudes of season and long-standing arrears have been remitted. Undue taxation in the shape of Nuzzurs, &c., has been done away with. But in spite of all this the bulk of the estate ryots have not sufficiently recovered from the effects of former mal-administration. The instalments begin before the harvest, and the bulk of the ryots are consequently obliged to borrow from money-lenders. This estate was last year divided into six shares, in accordance with the decrees of the Privy Council obtained by some of the claimants, and only a sixth share belonging to the Minor, Rajagopala Appa Rau Gáru, was retained by the Court of Wards after the division (G.O., No. 766, dated 20th July 1882). This share has also since been ordered to be handed over to the eldest Minor, who has attained his majority. The two younger brothers of Rajagopala Appa Rau Gáru have already commenced to quarrel with the latter about the division of their shares, and the Court regret that all endeavours to effect a compromise and induce the younger brothers not to insist on a further division of the property have proved unsuccessful.

21. CUDDAPAH—*Chittecherla.*—The estate consists of ryotwari and inam lands scattered over ten Government villages. The cultivators pay their rents in kind, and are therefore independent of the money-lender. Mr. Atkinson, who was then Acting Sub-Collector, inspected all these villages and found that the estate ryots were very well off. Proposals for introducing fixed money-rents are under consideration.

22. CHINGLEPUT—*Soranjeri.*—The condition of the ryots is fair as compared with that of the ryots in average Government villages similarly situated.

23. TANJORE.—The Collector's report refers to the five estates noted in the margin.* The Papanadu Estate came recently under management, and no information is furnished regarding it. Gandharvakóta is a zemindari in which the ryots possess saleable interest in the soil. The remaining four estates consist of villages under the Ryotwari Settlement.

*1. Gandharvakóta.
2. Vadapathimangalam.
3. Ukkadai.
4. Alangudicheri.
5. Velangannì.

"In the Gandharvakóta Zemindari, there are about 5,455 ryots at present with 3,422 velis † of land under occupation. The holdings of the ryots vary in extent from Velis † 20 to 1 mah §,—the average size of each ryot's holding being nearly 13 mahs §, paying an annual rental of Rs. 6. The saleable interest possessed by the ryots in these lands is valued at Rs. 500

† A *veli* is about 6¼ acres.

§ A *mah* is $\frac{1}{20}$th of a veli.

per. veli, and the incidence of taxation which each ryot is liable to pay to the zemindar on account of the lands under his occupation is shown in the margin*. The remaining lands in this zemindari, as well as those in the other four estates, are cultivated either by a system of leasing out lands piece-meal, or more generally under Amani. In the latter case, persons employed in cultivation receive only the wages of labor rendered by them. Most of the ryots of this zemindari cultivate under the sharing system, and the kudiwaram, or ryots' share of the produce, is generally half, and sometimes rises even to four-fifths, of the gross produce when the crops raised are difficult of cultivation. The crops cultivated in the zemindari are miscellaneous dry grains, and the income of each ryot is estimated at Rs. 40 per annum. The laborers employed in Amani cultivation in the zemindari, as well as in other estates, are paid during cultivation a daily hire of from 1½ to 2 annas, and this generally in kind. In the irrigated parts of the Ukkadai, Vadapathimangalam, &c., Estates, the annual income of a Panneiyal or laborer, including his hire and the produce raised in the backyards of his rent-free houses, will generally not exceed Rs. 20 worth of grain; but he receives in addition presents from the landlord during marriage, festivals, &c. The income of a laborer in the unirrigated and dry tracts of the zemindari must be a little less than the above amount. It has been the practice in the Ukkadai and Vadapathimangalam Estates to allow the laborers to cultivate lands as Perakkudies or under-tenants on their taking generally 25 per cent. of the gross produce as the wages for their labor. They receive, besides, advances of seed, &c., for cultivation. But they are a very improvident class, and the advances made to them usually accumulate so that they often become hopelessly in debt to the landlord. However, the condition of this class of peasantry is probably better than that of laborers or panneiyals." The ryots in the Gandharvakóta Zemindari are, for the most part, entirely dependent on the land for their living. Very few of them supplement their income by other callings. This zemindari is inhabited by a caste called Kallars, whose propensity for plundering, committing dacoities, and cattle-lifting is too well known. The general condition of the ryots and laborers in the ryotwari estates referred to appears to be pretty much the same as that of the ryots and laborers in the neighbouring Government villages.

		Maximum. Rs.	Minimum. Rs.	
*Wet	...	30	7	Money assessment per veli.
Dry	...	11	2	
		Share.		
Wet	...	½	¼	Waram, or share of produce in kind.
Dry	...	½	¼	

21. MADURA—*Ramnád.*—Nearly one-fourth of the ryots depend entirely upon land, while the remaining three-fourths support themselves partly by land and partly by labor obtained in this country and in the Island of Ceylon. Many of the ryots who are petty holders of land depend on money-lenders for payment of their assessment. They repay the loan partly from the outturn of their fields and partly from their earnings. The condition of the estate ryots is not so good as that of the Government ryots. The difference is due to various causes. "In the first place, Nature itself is not so favorable to the estate of Ramnad as to the Government tracts in the district. The seasons with Ramnad are peculiarly precarious, and the estate is not generally benefited much by the south-west monsoons, which usually enable the Government ryots to plough and sow the dry lands, while the rainfall during the north-east monsoons is not, as a rule, timely, and is either appreciably deficient or injuriously abundant. There are no natural lakes or pools, and the estate does not possess the invaluable advantage of having spring channels. The River Vaigai, the main source of irrigation of the estate, is generally dry about Ramnad. In ordinary seasons it hardly feeds the Ramnad tanks, while in very good seasons it damages them by unmanageably high freshes. There are no hills in the estate, which is singularly bare of trees. The estate, further, does not contain to a large extent good soils well adapted for the cultivation of rice and other food crops, a great portion of the zemindari being sandy. There is hardly any gravel about Ramnad, and road-making is difficult and costly. There are only two made roads throughout the whole estate. In addition to these natural disadvantages, a succession of bad years, constant litigation for about half-a-century, a series of years of bad management by the Zemindar's Managers, and the lamentable

neglect of repairs to the irrigation works, have also contributed to impoverish the estate and its ryots."

25. Another disadvantage under which the ryots of this zemindari labor arises from the system of sharing the crops, under which the ryot is left at the mercy of the village and taluk officers for reaping his crops, harvesting them and getting the produce home. But since the estate came under ward-ship, the condition of the ryots has improved, proper attention having been paid to the works of irrigation and to the arrangements for the supervision of harvest in affording every reasonable facility to the ryots in dealing with their crops.

26. *Gandamanáyakanúr.*—About three-fifths of the ryots are dependent entirely upon land, and the remaining two-fifths on land and labor. The season during the last few years has not been good, and the outturn of crops was poor. The cultivation under wells is charged at high rates. The condition of the ryots does not compare favorably with that of neighbouring ryots.

27. *Sandaúr.*—On the whole, the condition of one-half the population in the estate is as good as that of the ryots in the adjoining Government villages, while that of the other half is not so satisfactory, but is slowly improving under the Court's management.

28. TINNEVELLY—*Urkád.*—The estate consists, for the most part, of wet lands situated in the Támbraparni Valley. The ryots are fairly wealthy, and do not borrow from money-lenders for payment of assessment. The Collector considers, however, that, owing to the system of sharing the produce which prevails in the estate, the condition of the ryots cannot be said to compare favorably with that of the ryots in the adjoining Government villages, in which an equitable and moderate rate of assessment has been fixed by the Settlement Department. In another letter, the Collector states that the lands, situated as they are in the Támbraparni Valley, scarcely ever fail to yield an average crop, and that the ryots, both Pattadars as well as cultivating tenants, are never known to suffer any inconvenience and seem to be always satisfied with their income, which is steady, though small.

29. *Singampatti.*—The lands in this estate are mostly irrigated. Many of the ryots are poor, and some of them are in the habit of borrowing. They enjoy, however, this special advantage, that they pay a fixed money rent and not a share of the produce. Their general condition was by no means less prosperous than in the previous year, though not so very favorable as that of the ryots in the neighbouring villages. In another letter, the Collector states that the material condition of the ryots of this estate is comparatively better than that of the Urkád ryots. The estate was handed over to the Minor in Fasli 1290.

30. *Maniyáchi.*—The greater part of the lands is unirrigated. About three-fourths of the ryots depend entirely upon land, and the rest support themselves partly by land and partly by labor. They do not borrow from money-lenders, and their general condition during the year under report does not compare unfavorably with that of the ryots in the adjoining Government villages, the average yield in the estate being somewhat in excess of that obtained in the Government villages.

31. *Sundarapachapuram.*—The land is almost all black cotton soil. About two-thirds of the ryots depend entirely upon land, and the rest supplement their income by daily labor. The condition of the ryots is the same as in Singampatti.

32. *Vadimitta.*—The general condition of the ryots is much the same as that of the ryots in Government villages. As cotton is largely cultivated in the estate, the ryots get large advances from cotton traders and are thus enabled to pay their rents, &c., without borrowing.

33. COIMBATORE—*Poravipálliam.*—There are three villages in this estate. The average size of the holdings and the saleable value of lands are much the same as in the adjoining Government villages. The general condition of the ryots is also similar.

34. SALEM—*Erumaipati and Paliapaliam.*—The condition of the ryots is good, and is certainly in no degree inferior to that of Government ryots. They are not generally involved in debts, but when a loan is needed, they borrow from some of their own class and do not resort to money-lenders. The soil is good; most of the lands contain wells, and there are also two large and well-supplied tanks which are now being repaired at a large expense. The ryots voluntarily offered to contribute the whole extra expense involved in reconstructing the road over the bunds of these tanks, some Rs. 2,500—a fact which shows that there is no want of money amongst them.

35. MALABAR—*Mangara.*—This estate, which was inspected by the Head Assistant Collector, is a small one, and the lands comprising it are scattered and are in the hands of tenants who are of two descriptions:—(1) Kanomdars, or tenants who have mortgage claims on their holdings, and (2) tenants on simple lease. Excluding house-sites, there are about 600 acres in the estate, of which about 350 acres are held by the former class of cultivators and the remainder by the latter. The assessment is very moderate. Most of the rents are paid in kind and the tenants are well off.

36. *Kavalpara.*—The Collector differs from his Head Assistant, and states that the condition of the actual cultivators of the soil is not satisfactory. The tenants are said to have been pauperized by the heavy exactions of the late proprietor, but their condition has improved since the estate came under the Court's management. The total extent of the property, which is situated in the Pálghat Taluk, is over 6,000 acres, of which about 4,150 acres are in the hands of tenants.

37. After giving the subject their careful consideration, the Court of Wards are inclined to think that, with a few exceptions, the condition of the ryots in most of the estates is on the whole fair, and that it has been steadily improving under the Court's management. In many of the estates, however, the cultivators are considered to have no saleable interest in the soil, and they are regarded as mere tenants-at-will. It may be urged that the self-interest of the proprietors would afford some protection to the cultivators against being turned out at pleasure; still, the fact that they may be ousted whenever a higher rent is offered must to a great extent have interfered with the free investment of capital in the land. This state of things will, it is hoped, be remedied before long when the bill now under consideration for amending Madras Act VIII of 1865 becomes law. Under the management of the Court of Wards, everything that is possible is being done to prevent the cultivators from being disturbed in their possession.

38. Of the estates in charge of the Court, the largest is Ramnad, which yields a revenue of Rs. 6,74,242. This zemindari has been the bone of contention for several years between rival claimants, and was heavily involved in debts when it came under the management of the Court of Wards in 1873. The Government were pleased to grant a loan of ten lakhs of rupees to enable the Court to pay the debts (G.O., No. 1089, dated 11th October 1873). A further loan of two lakhs was subsequently sanctioned (G.O., dated 26th January 1878, No. 211, Financial Department) for the repair of irrigation works damaged by the disastrous floods of 1877, but of this sum only a lakh-and-a-half appears to have been drawn up to date. The amount due to Government at the beginning of Fasli 1291, *i.e.*, 1st July 1881, on account of these loans and arrears of peishcush, amounted to Rs. 14,22,835. Of this sum, half-a-lakh of rupees was paid before the end of June 1882, and another half-a-lakh before the end of September 1882, leaving a balance of Rs. 13,22,830. The estate is gradually recovering from the effects of former bad management and of the great famine of 1876 to 1878, and the local officers are exerting themselves towards improving the irrigation works with which the country is studded. The report of the Manager printed with G.O., 18th October 1882, No. 1143, Revenue Department, gives a full history of this zemindari.

39. Parlákimedi is another large zemindari yielding an annual revenue of about Rs. 3,90,000 on the average of the past four years. Owing to the incapacity of the proprietor, who is an imbecile, the estate was taken over in 1830 and has since continued uninterruptedly under management for upwards of fifty-two years. The estate enjoys

great natural advantages, and the ryots are reported to be better off than those of the neighbouring Government taluks. As already stated, the greater portion of the estate was surveyed on the block system in 1868 and the assessment was also revised by the Collector at the same time. As the estate is in a position to bear the expense, a more accurate survey and classification of soil by professional officers was lately sanctioned and is now in progress. The cost of the survey alone, excluding the cost of the demarcation stones, is estimated at Rs. 90,000.* The present Acting Collector and his Principal Assistant appear to be of opinion that the survey and settlement are not necessary in the interests of the estate, and that any inequalities that may be found to exist in the present assessment can easily be rectified without involving the estate in heavy expenditure. The question, however, was fully discussed in Court's Proceedings, No. 38, dated 8th January 1880, and it was finally decided that this large estate should not be left without the benefit of a proper scientific survey and classification. Out of the surplus which has been accumulating to the credit of the estate, some Rs. 1,36,235 have been spent within the past five years on roads and buildings; Rs. 82,960 on irrigation works; and Rs. 4,53,000 towards the construction of a suitable palace for the Zemindar. Twenty-two lakhs and a-half out of the surplus of the estate have been invested in Government Securities.

* G.O., No. 974, dated 13th September 1882.

40. Accurate information is not available for instituting a comparison between the average rates of assessment prevailing in the estates and those obtaining in the neighbouring Government taluks. The rates given for the estates in the statement referred to in paragraph 2 have been arrived at with reference to the gross occupied area and assessments given in the Administration Reports for Fasli 1291 (1881-82), but a glance at the figures is sufficient to show that in many cases the averages given are unreliable. In several of the estates, the renting system is prevalent, and in others that of sharing the produce. The extent of the ryots' holdings is therefore never measured and recorded from year to year, and only a rough estimate of the area is given in the Administration Report returns. Similarly, in localities where the sharing system is in vogue, the money value is also entered from mere estimates framed according to the Manager's judgment. It is not surprising, therefore, that the average rates in some instances appear excessively high. In one estate, in Godávari, the rate arrived at for unirrigated lands is actually 40 per cent. greater than that deduced for irrigated lands. In another estate, in the Coimbatore District, the rate on irrigated lands comes out more than Rs. 25 an acre. In Gopálpur, in the Godávari District, the rate on unirrigated land comes out at Rs. 9-8-3 per acre. This estate was surveyed and the lands classified in 1877-78 at a cost of nearly Rs. 4,700; but the settlement rates then fixed were not brought into force in deference to the wishes of the local officers. The estate came under management in October 1874, and in the following year a reduction of about 14 per cent. was made in the demand, which reduced the average rate of assessment per acre from Rs. 9-0-5 to Rs. 7-11-0. In Fasli 1287 (1877-78)—the year in which the survey and classification were made—there was a further reduction in the demand, which brought down the average rate to Rs. 7-4-11, against Rs. 5-8-5 arrived at in the settlement. It was urged, both by the Sub-Collector and Collector, that the then existing rates, though high, were punctually realized, that the people were satisfied with existing arrangements, that the adoption of the settlement rates would reduce the land revenue demand still further by about 24 per cent., and that it was undesirable to introduce the new rates, as the young proprietor would assuredly raise them again when he comes of age in February 1885. The average rate arrived at for Fasli 1291 (1881-82) is very much higher than that for Fasli 1287 (1877-78), but the increase is merely nominal, as the gross assessment shown in the Collector's Administration Report includes the high rents realized on lanka lands on which tobacco is largely cultivated.

41. The other estates do not call for special remark. In a few estates, the instalments fixed for payment of the dues by the ryots would seem to require revision. The Collectors are authorized to carry out such changes as they may consider necessary, and report them for the sanction of the Court of Wards.

APPENDIX A.

District.	Name of Estate.	Period during which the Estate has been under the management of the Court of Wards.	Annual Peishcush payable to Government.	Average Revenue of the Estate during the three years preceding Fasli 1250 (1840-41).	Revenue of Fasli 1291 ending with 30th June 1882.	Surplus balance on 30th June 1882.	Number of Ayen or fully assessed villages in the Estate.	Number of Agrahrams or Villages held on favourable tenure.	Total Area in Square Miles.	Population of the Estate according to the Census of 1871.	Occupied Area in Fasli 1291. Dry. Extent.	Dry. Assessment.	Wet. Extent.	Wet. Assessment.	Total. Extent.	Total. Assessment.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Ganjam.	Parlákimedi ..	Yrs. 12 Ms. 0	Rs. 87,824	Rs. 3,74,946	Rs. 4,17,778	Rs. 58,87,492	538	300	* 972	2,31,079	Acres. 48,344	Rs. 60,857	Acres. 64,715	Rs. 2,80,701	Acres. 113,059	Rs. 3,41,558
	Chinna Kimedi ..	5 5	29,895	80,401	67,519	61,183	53	74	* 2,130	28,849	2,365	5 854	8,416	37,522	10,781	43,376
	Surgada	10 7	5,822	27,625	27,245	25,151	26	12	* 24	6,416	449	806	1,201	5,879	1,650	6,685
	Urlám	8 5	12,487	41,211	38,566	3,54,052	7	7	* 14·49	11,061	465	1,721	2,669	26,938	3,134	28,659
	Jarada	12 0	2,025	21,848	26,810	33,526	22	31	* 29	5,313	559	680	2,363	14,780	2,922	15,460
Vizagapatam.	Kimedi	13 3	2,754	4,166	7,01[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	431	2,349	929	[illegible]	1,360	6,069
	Merangi	12 7	20,611	15,139	56,778	1,31,998	53	36	54·57	58,012	2,376	5,131	5,237	38,163	7,613	44,297
	Pondur-Mallaveram.	5 0	1,077	2,915	3,979	482	2	..	4·31	1,175	613	1,296	90	718	703	2,014
	Chiddada Jammu-pattapuram.	4 9	4,965	20,730	21,546	16,377	5	..	1·50	2,283	951	3,244	1,326	14,428	2,277	17,672
	Madugula	4 8	39,303	2,769	3,020	2,122	No other Villages.		* 997	7,428	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Sripuram	3 9	10,795	12,710	10,792	3,772	7	5	6·27	7,430	1,201	2,801	1,535	11,056	2,739	13,857
Godavari.	Kapileswarapuram and Kesamudram.	12 9	20,157	56,558	56,558	61,039	7	..	14 19	11,363	5,424	24,638	1,369	5 966	4,793	30,604
	Gopálpur	7 9	13,527	71,202	80,273	3,24,484	11	..	19·45	12,556	6,049	57,568	..	..	6,049	57,568
	Lankavaram ..	2 7	2,544	11,673	11,376	65,837	6	..	5·03	3,008	88	41	173	470	261	511
Kistna.	Nándi	4 8	93,453	6,84,430	Not known.	1,11,945	152	113	* 694	1,07,760	84,579	2,02,063	23,698	1,25,505	118,777	3,26,573
Chingleput.	Sivanjeri	6 10	2,463	5,013	6,151	..	6	..	3·49	1,978	146	237	923	4,409	1,069	4,646
Tanjore.	Gandharvakóta ..	1 0	6,677	Not available.	15,487	2,567	58	..	85·10	22,491	8,067	6,699	2,715	4,795	10,782	11,494

(1) Column 5.—This column comprises the average of the actual collections of the past three years as per Statement No. 3. Attempt was made to work out the population per square mile, but very absurd results were obtained in many cases owing to the area being inaccurate. In some cases the density was over 1,000 people to the square mile.

(2) The figures marked thus * in Column 10 are taken from the statement furnished by the Superintendent of Revenue Survey. For the other estates the area has been taken from the Census Volume of 1871.

District.	Name of Estate.	Period during which the Estate has been under the management of the Court of Wards.	Annual Peishcush payable to Government.	Average Revenue of the Estate during the three years preceding Fasli 1290 (1880-81.)	Revenue of Fasli 1291 ending with 30th June 1882.	Surplus balance on 30th June 1882.	Number of Ayen or fully assessed villages in the Estate.	Number of Agrahrams or Villages held on favourable tenure.	Total Area in Square Miles.	Population of the Estate according to the Census of 1871.	Occupied Area in Fasli 1291. Dry. Extent.	Dry. Assessment.	Wet. Extent.	Wet. Assessment.	Total. Extent.	Total. Assessment.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Madura.	Ramnad	Yrs. 9 Ms. 3	Rs. 3,13,998	Rs. 6,63,689	Rs. 7,00,280	Rs. 15,251	1,340	827	1556·48	500,658	Acres. 243,440	Rs. 2,49,521	Acres. 7,175	Rs. 16,914	Acres. 255,615	Rs. 2,66,435
	Gandamanáyakanúr.	14 9	13,415	47,420	33,238	1,34,287	21	1	181·07	26,933	33,224	48,690	844	1,984	34,068	50,674
	Sandayur	10 7	3,697	10,449	10,034	6,323	14	1	15·85	8,834	4,394	5,832	165	943	4,559	6,775
Tinnevelly.	Urkád	10 0	12,927	41,891	Not available.	1,410	6		3·49	3,903	217	71	269	1,958	486	2,029
	Maniyáchi	16 3	1,811	8,022	Do.	6,624	8	2	69·65	21,191	7,977	7,528	101	457	8,078	7,975
	Sundarapachapuram.	6 1	551	4,425	Do.	1,241	6	..	36·01	6,822	4,397	2,947	61	662	4,458	4,609
	Vadamalai	2 7	5,440	14,068	15,396	5,220	22	3	22·06	5,[illegible]	11,[illegible]	12,669	164	385	13,221	13,274
Coimbatore.	Poraviphalayam ..	3 1	2,595	10,551	15,439	3,708	3	..	19·93	5,878	7,955	8,660	93	2,482	8,051	11,142
Salem.	Irumulapatti and Palayupalyam.	8 0	7,446	17,995	17,707	1,133	8	1	4·84	1,730	6,159	12,620	438	3,911	6,597	16,531
Malabar.	Mangara	4 8	..	6,564	4,346	12,911	Not available.				230	467	240	4,251	470	4,708
	Kavalpara	9 10	4,568	32,669	41,492	60,870	Do.				7,635	1,775	3,827	20,713	11,462	22,488

Column 5.—This column comprises the average of the actual collections of the past three years as per Statement No. 3. Attempt was made to work out the population per square mile, but very absurd results were obtained in many cases owing to the area being inaccurate. In some cases the density was over 1,000 people to the square mile.

District.	Name of Estate.	Average Rate of Assessment per Acre. Dry.	Wet.	Average Rates prevailing in the Government Taluk adjoining the Estate or in which the Estate is situated. Dry.	Wet.	Average size of Holdings.	Average Rent paid thereon.	Average incidence of Land Tax per head of the Population in 1871.	Proportion of Ryots depending entirely on land.	Proportion of Ryots depending partly on land and partly on labor.	Proportion of Ryots depending on Money-lenders.	Amount expended on Irrigation Works during the past three years up to the end of Fasli 1290.
		18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
Ganjam.	Parlakhimedi	Rs. A. P. 1 4 2	Rs. A. P. 4 6 5	Rs. A. P. 1 3 2	Rs. A. P. 3 13 4	Acres. 7·7	Rs. A. P. 21 5 0	Rs. A. P. 1 9 5	½	½	½	Rs. 42,806
	Chinna Kimedi	2 7 7	4 7 4	1 4 10	2 14 10	3·5	14 0 0	3 1 6	½	½	½	14,640
	Sórada	1 12 8	4 14 4	1 4 10	2 14 10	8	31 8 0	4 2 4	½	½	½	5,067
	Urlam	3 11 3	10 1 6	1 3 2	3 13 4	Not available.		2 5 6	½	½	½	2,424
	Jarada	1 3 6	6 4 1	1 4 10	2 14 10	7·25	19 0 0	4 3 10	½	½	½	..
Vizagapatam.	Rewada	4 15 8	7 14 9	0 13 7	4 15 3	6·41	37 4 4	3 4 1	½	½	½	800
	Veerasingi	2 6 11	7 4 2			6·5	33 11 5	0 15 3	½	½	½	7,613
	Pondur-Mallaveram	2 1 10	7 15 6			14	68 5 5	1 0 9	Almost all.	..	Almost all none.	510
	Chinkada Jagannathapuram	3 6 7	10 14 1			5·89	33 10 6	2 7 7	Do.	..	½	2,124
	Middugula	4 0 0	7 8 0			5·95	67 0 2	0 8 0	Do.	..	..	..
	Sriperam	2 5 3	7 3 3			8·87	55 2 7	2 4 2	½	½	½	996
Godávari.	Kapileswarapuram and Kesanakurru.	7 3 1	4 5 8	2 15 11	3 0 6	10·25	65 0 0	2 9 10	½	½	½	4,148
	Gopálpur	9 8 3	..	3 12 1	2 7 0	5·13	60 3 2	2 12 9	½	½	½	1,043
	Lankavaram	0 8 0	2 11 5	0 15 6	2 10 4	10·57	64 5 9	4 10 9	97 per cent.	3 per cent.	Less than half.	410
Kistna.	Márvid	2 2 1	5 4 8	1 3 2	2 13 9	7·83	94 0 0	1 4 6	½	½	The bulk of the ryots.	44,644
						17·72	17 7 2					
Chingleput.	Seranjai	1 10 0	4 12 6	1 3 1	2 11 11	15	75 0 0	2 9 1	½	½	½	..
						1·01	4 6 1	3 6 10	½	½	½	..
Tanjore.	Gandharvakóta	0 13 3	1 12 3	1 3 11	5 6 9	4·5	6 0 0	Not available.	½	½	..	..

The figures entered in Column 24 for the estates in Ganjam were arrived at by dividing the average revenue by the population of 1871.

District.	Name of Estate.	Average Rate of Assessment per Acre. Dry.	Wet.	Average Rates prevailing in the Government Taluk adjoining the Estate or in which the Estate is situated. Dry.	Wet.	Average size of Holdings.	Average Rent paid thereon.	Average incidence of Land Tax per head of the Population in 1871.	Proportion of Ryots depending entirely on land.	Proportion of Ryots depending partly on land and partly on labor.	Proportion of Ryots depending on Money-lenders.	Amount expended on Irrigation Works during the past three years up to the end of Fasli 1290.
		18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
Madura.	Ramnad	Rs. A. P. 1 0 1	Rs. A. P. 2 5 8	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Acres. 5·5	Rs. A. P. 12 4 7	Rs. A. P. 1 13 10	¼	¾	Many petty land-holders.	Rs. 1,75,052
	Gandamanéyakandr	1 7 5	2 5 7	1 3 9	4 0 4			1 11 5	½	½	Very few.	49,564
	Sandáyur	1 5 3	6 11 6			6	5 0 0	1 0 8	½	½	..	2,754
Tinnevelly.	Urkád	0 5 3	7 4 5	0 6 11	10 0 11	1·5	32 6 6	7 8 11	¹⁄₁₃	¹²⁄₁₃	None.	4,738
	Manivachi	0 15 1	4 8 4	0 13 3	3 12 1	4	5 15 3	2 1 9	¾	¼	Do.	52
	Sundarapuchapuram	0 14 4	10 13 8	0 13 3	3 12 1	3	12 4 11	4 9 4	¾	¼	Do.	38
	Vódimittu	1 2 8	2 8 0	1 3 2	4 11 9	5	7 7 11	1 14 2	¹⁵⁄₁₆	¹⁄₁₆	Do.	57
Coimbatore.	Perayapalaiyam	1 1 5	2 13 8	0 14 6	4 13 2	22	Not available.		½	½	¹⁄₁₀	..
Salem.	Erumaipatti and Palayapalyam	2 0 9	8 14 10	1 2 3	7 10 1	10·43	Not available.	1 10 1	¾	¼	None.	136
Malabar.	Mangara	1 15 9	17 11 5	1 9 9	2 15 4	1·25	Do.	1 4 5	½	½	¹⁄₁₀	..
	Kavalpara	0 3 9	5 6 7			7	Do.	1 3 1	½	½	Many.	..

(A true Extract.)

Acting Sub-Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department,
with Collector's letters in original.
„ all Collectors in charge of Wards' Estates.

Ed. A. Baitt.

Rec'd from Govt (Revenue) Department
No. 2849

1883.

Court of Wards,

MADRAS.

Printed April 28th.

Proceedings, 2nd April 1883, No. 912.

Read—
Directed
Dispatch

Reviewing and submitting to Government reports from certain Collectors regarding condition of *ryots in estates under Court of Wards.*

5 MAY 83

17

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

No. 1847

From Court of Wards

Dated 2nd April 1883.

FOR ORDERS.

This enclosing information relative to the condition of ryots in Estates under the Court of Wards is submitted by them in answer to the Secretary of State's despatch enclosed in G. O. 23rd Feb 1882 No 22.8.

Vide also para 7 of G.O. 18th October 1882 No. 1143 where? For this Government and enclosed letter No 26 of 8th January last.

Perhaps the Court's Proceedings might be transmitted to England with a short Covering despatch.

Jas Caird

C no. 2849

FOR ORDERS.

Condition of ryots in Estates under Court of Wards.

G.O. by Govt of ...

The Honble Mr Carmichael
The Honble Mr Sullivan
The Right Honble the Gov Genl

The following G.Os were sent to the Board of Revenue for their information

G.O. dated 3rd Feby 1789. Rs. 4
" 26 Feby 1789 — 211 Rupees
Mr — 13 July 1790 — 576 Rupees
" 23 July 1792 — 576 Rupees
Mr — 20 March — 228 "
" — 2 May " — 916 "
" — 20 Dec " — 1150 "
" 13 Sept " — 761 "
" 18 October — 971 "
" 16 May 1793 — [illegible]

55-5-5½.
Rll-5-53.
Dc 15-5-82

REV
1895 - 4978-5110 - 724

Rev: Dep.t

Read Proceedings
of the Court of Wards,
dated 2nd April 1883,
No 912.

G. B. vol 609.

Produced with the
foregoing Paper relating
to the Conclusion of Pro-
ceedings in Estates under the
Court of Wards to be trans-
mitted to the Secretary
of State in answer to
his Despatch, dated 26th
January 1883, (Revenue)
No 5.

16. Feb 83.

No 10

To The Right Honorable
The Secy. of State for India
My Lord

In continuation of
my Despatch, dated 8th

G. B. 23rd Feb: 82, No 228.

Govt of India Secret Dep.
with its Encl. Feb 22.

No

Cash No. 26 Revenue, we have the honor to transmit for your Lordship's information copy of our Proceedings noted in the margin and to beg to report from the Court of Wards on the Estates under their management. It will be observed that the condition of the Ryots in most of the Estates is on the whole satisfactory and that all that is possible is still done to improve it, is being done under the Court's management.

Referring to para 37 of the Council Proceedings, we beg to inform your Lordship that a Commission has been appointed to consider what changes in Act VIII of 1865 will be necessary in order to give greater security of tenure to the Ryots as soon as their Report is submitted it will receive our most careful consideration.

E. J. W. 15/9/83

30 May/83

51 I.C. Rec'd 6 Sep.

No 4 609 A.

Copy to the Govt of India, Revenue and Agricultural Dept, with reference to its Letter of 9th March 1882. No 97 R.

15.5.83.

1 2

May

Not to be folded or roughly