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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 4879 ~~Press~~ Mis.

Dated 2nd August 1889.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue

(Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture).

Dated 22nd February 1889.

No. 336 Routine

A. Wilson Esquire, M.A.C.S.

READ — Memorandum from the Under Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, dated 21st February 1889

Resolution

The papers called for are submitted

2. The correct date of the first paper appears to be 10th May and not 7th, as given in the memorandum

A True Extract

Secretary

To

The Secretary to Government,

Revenue Department,
with 6 enclosures

Exd Cl.

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue

(Land Revenue)

(~~Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture~~).

Dated 13th September 1888.

No. 5461 Mis.

READ ....Letter× from the Inam Commissioner, dated 10th August 1888, No. 304

× Letter and enclosure sent to Government by the Land Revenue Department

Resolution

The Board agree with the Inam Commissioner

(signed) H. S. Sim.
Ag. Secretary

To
The Inam Commissioner
Copy to Collector of Madura

(True Copy)

Secretary

Cudd C.S.

No. 746.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 10th May 1872.

Read the following letter from G. BANBURY, Esq., Acting Director of Revenue Settlement, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Madras, 9th March 1872, No. 469-14 :—

IN answer to Board's Proceedings, dated 27th November last, No. 4,318, I have the honour to forward, copy of a letter* received from Mr. Rundall, which furnishes complete details of the measures adopted by him in Nellore, as regards the revision of tank Ayakuts ; and also to submit a few remarks upon this subject, as requested in Board's Proceedings, dated 4th July 1871, No. 2,689. Mr. Rundall's observations which I asked him to make regarding this matter, with which he is so practically conversant, are contained in the latter portion of the accompanying letter.

2. I need not take up the Board's time by discussing Mr. Rundall's procedure, as his letter explains all clearly enough. It will be observed that in Nellore, the transfers were from wet to dry and *vice versa*, whereas the Board's rules, and those issued by Mr. Garstin, only touch upon the first change and alteration. I would certainly advocate that those measures which have been so carefully carried out in the case of Nellore, be allowed to hold good, whatever may be the orders passed regarding the course hereafter to be adopted in other districts.

3. In those Provinces dealt with by the Settlement Department, the disposal of this question is now deemed part and parcel of the Settlement Officer's work. In Trichinopoly, Mr. Puckle not only carried out this task, but also restricted and defined the limits up to which cultivation should be carried on upon lands bordering the water-spread of tanks, so that no injury should be caused to these reservoirs by ploughing going on within their beds, and thus silting them up far sooner than would otherwise be the case.

4. I do not see that there is any necessity for waiting until certain details—such as the area of the catchment basins, the capabilities of the supplying channels, the loss by evaporation, etc., can be gathered by the Department Public Works for the purpose of furnishing statements of the supply which each Reservoir should properly hold as we have a very safe and very practical guide for determining this point in the annual Returns of Acreage actually cultivated with wet crops under each source.

5. It certainly seems very advisable, as remarked by the Board† to give District Officers a certain decree of latitude to meet the different circumstances of their different districts. Thus Mr. Longley when writing of Salem says‡ " Cases in which the registered (fysal) area of a tank is beyond the irrigable capabilities of a tank are very few ; " whereas in Chingleput, the cases in which the tank can really irrigate any thing like its Ayakut are quite the exception.

6. This peculiarity in the Chingleput District has often been brought to notice, and is particularly remarkable in the Sydapett and Ponnery Taluqs, where the ryots plough when rain moistens the ground, and sow paddy without the fields being irrigated §. Then if the season be good, the crop reaches maturity owing to falling rains, the fact of water being near the surface, and to one or two waterings direct from the tank should the inadequate supply permit. Of course, if the rain fails, the crop fails; and in fact the system is very similar to that described by Mr. Thornhill, in his report on Ganjam, dated 10th ultimo, paragraph 25, *et seq.* The Chingleput ryots are generally unwilling to relinquish the practice, and such Mr. Thornhill states to be the case with the cultivators in Ganjam. This

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* Dated 12th February 1872, No. 111-40.

† Paragraph 2 of Board's Proceedings, dated 4th July.

‡ Paragraph 5 of Board's Proceedings, dated 9th January 1872.

§ This is termed " Poojudykal" or dry sowing, in contradistinction to the " Seradi" or wet sowing.

at once leads to a consideration of the question of "consent," which although of not much consequence in Salem, where the instances in which it would have to be obtained are but few, is of the utmost importance in a District like Chingleput, where the cases must be counted by thousands, and where the people are both tenacious of, and thoroughly well acquainted with, their individual rights. The Board will notice that Mr. Rundall deems the consent of the holder of the land only a *sine qua non* in doubtful cases; but where the justice of the transfer is clearly borne out by reason and evidence, he discards this element of assent from the transaction.

7. The changes from dry to wet would, as a rule, be effected without a word of objection from the field owners when the grounds for the change were valid; and this validity can be comparatively easily ascertained by the number of years "tirwajasty" or water-rate has been levied upon the fields in question.

8. But the matter is very different as regards transfers from "wet" to "dry;" and in these cases the ryots will cling to what they deem their inalienable rights with much pertinacity. Thus in Chingleput, owing to the system already described, a ryot holding "wet" lands does not in many instances, receive a really decent supply from the tank above once in four or five years; and as he gets, or concludes he will get, his assessment remitted under "Shavy" or "Dittum Bunzer," for the years of failure, he is in no mood to give up anything or to alter anything.

9. To put a stop to this practice, and to prevent difficulties arising from consent being withheld in reasonable cases, the *Board propose that when the ryot declines to accept the transfer, remission will not be given upon these lands, when the water-supply fails. This is no doubt a summary and successful way of meeting the question, but it would, I think, hardly do to lay this down authoritatively as a hard and fast rule, as it is at variance with all established views, and might hereafter lead to considerable trouble and trickery as to which lands were really consent refused," and which were not. With very keen Revenue officers, this ordinance might be tantamount to the almost total extinction of remissions under "Wet waste in puttas." I think, however, this alternative might be held "*in terrorum*" by the Collector over those ryots who had no grounds for withholding consent; as he could act up to his threat or not, as he liked; and there would be an opportunity for appeal to the Board if the penalty were exacted.

* *Vide* paragraph 6, Board's Proceedings, dated 4th July 1871.

10. Connected with the question of consent, is the consideration whether, the ryot would have grounds for a Civil Action, in the case of the transfer being made in spite of his remonstrance. The Revenue authorities would have in the first place good evidence to adduce as to the correctness and fairness of the measure. Again the ryot could not plead loss, owing to the fact of his no longer receiving remission on account of "wet waste in his putta," now that his land has been transferred to dry; such remissions being an act of leniency on the part of the State, of which the Courts could not take cognizance. On the other hand, if the ryot could prove that the recent exclusion of his land from the category of wet, had simultaneously excluded him from his hitherto unquestioned right to water, an action would doubtless lie. The mere fact of transfer might not in itself practically cut off the water hitherto received, unless accompanied by an order that the newly arranged wet ayakut alone was entitled to the supply, as without such prohibition and restriction, the ryot whose fields had been lately transferred to dry would very probably, in unusually good seasons, manage to obtain his exceptional supply as heretofore. The following course would meet the legal difficulty, but then it would fail to carry out completely the object of Government in re-arranging and circumscribing the area to be irrigated. If, as proposed by Mr. Garstin, in the case of those who *did* consent to the transfer, we charge those who did *not* consent, the old wet rate whenever they happen to raise a wet crop, they could not make out any case of real loss or damage; the wet waste remission question being one, as before stated, beyond the Court's recognition. Similarly, the same course might be pursued in the case of districts newly settled, as the corresponding wet rate, as shown by the table of conversion, might be charged when these lands newly brought under the category of "dry" happened to obtain water for a "wet" crop. It is true this would involve scrutiny and enquiry, and might give rise to petty frauds by ryots taking water surreptitiously for their dry crops, but these contingencies occur when charging water-rate or "tirwajasty" as would be done if the consolidated wet assessment were not demanded in these exceptional cases.

11. Except in the case of Service Inams hereafter to be enfranchised, it would be perhaps best not to interfere with these properties,* as they have been dealt with by the Inam Commissioner, and the less the title-deeds are touched, the better. Those Inams the quit-rent of which has been settled on dry assessment, should of course pay the usual tirwajasty when irrigated; and as far as I have seen, there must be remarkably few cases where dry Inams have been settled at wet rates, although many of the exactly opposite description. It would not do, therefore, to let Inamdars now begin to plead that their quit-rent was unfairly fixed at wet assessment, or the stock of already existing unduly low enfranchisements would be considerably added to.

* *Vide* Paragraph 9 of Proceedings above quoted.

12. There is no doubt much truth in what Mr. Rundall says in paragraph 14, as to the advisability of this measure being carried out mainly by the Settlement Department; but as the rules hereafter to be laid down by the Board will of course, be adopted by us, thus making the procedure uniform throughout, there seems nothing to prevent Collectors from executing the task in those districts not likely soon to come under Settlement, or where the necessity for the introduction of the changes is both immediate and obvious.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From C. RUNDALL, Esq., Deputy-Director of Revenue Settlement, Nellore and North Arcot,
to the Acting Director of Revenue Settlement, dated Chittoor, 12th February 1872,
No. 111-40.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Proceedings, marginally noted, the first requesting me to submit any remarks that may occur to me upon the proposals contained in the Board's Proceedings, of the 4th July, No. 2,689; and the second, requesting me, in submitting the same, to embody full particulars as to the measures adopted in revising the registered wet area in the Nellore District, as required by the Board's Proceedings of the 27th November, No. 4,318.

No. 1425-254, dated 19th July, and No 2387-426, dated 28th November 1871.

2. I will first refer to the latter question. The measure was originally initiated by Mr. Dykes, when the Settlement of the district was being carried on under his orders, as explained at paragraph 134 of my Settlement Report. It extended to a regular revision of the whole of the area registered as wet (Ayakut) and all other land irrigated, but not so registered. The changes that appeared to the classifiers essential on their examination of the different fields, were duly recorded in certain prescribed forms, which were printed. The first form, showed the changes that were proposed from wet to dry, and from dry to wet; the reasons for the transfers advocated being assigned under the remarks entered against each number in the Classification Registers. The second recorded the numbers and area that in the opinion of the Classifier upon his examination, should hereafter comprize the registered wet area (Ayakut) of the several sources of irrigation appertaining to the village. These two statements were furnished to the Tahsildars, and their recommendations were based on them in a great measure. Statements were drawn up showing first, in the consecutive order of the numbers, the registered wet area; and afterwards the registered dry numbers under irrigation from the source, and paying water-rate, or other numbers that it was deemed desirable to add to the registered wet area. Copies of the demarcation sketches showing the numbers appertaining to irrigation, with the changes denoted thereon by symbols, accompanied the statements, and showed the position of the fields which might be proposed for transfer. To secure uniformity as regards preparation, a Settlement Gumasta was deputed to each taluq. One or two taluqs only be done at a time to compile the proposals under the Tahsildar's orders in conjunction with the Village Curnam and authorities. Where requisite, the ground was further examined by the

Tahsildars or by the Revenue Inspectors. The following was the form in which the proposals were embodied:—

Source of irrigation and details and average of cultivation during past years.	AYAKUT BY PRESENT AMOUNT			CULTIVATED AREA IN FASLI 1280.										TRANSFERS PROPOSED.				AREA TO BE CONFIRMED UNDER WET		
				Under paddy				Other crops.												
	Nos.	Area.		Ayakut area.		Area under Tirwajasty		Ayakut area.		Area under Tirwajasty		Total.		From Wet to Dry.		From Dry to Wet		Nos.	Area.	
1	2			3		4		5		6		7		8		9		10		
		A.	C.	A.	C.	A.	C.	A.	C.	A.	C.	A.	C.	A.	C.	A.	C.		A.	C.

3. Under other crops, columns 5 and 6, only those matured with the aid of irrigation were inserted, any purely dry crops being specified by the remarks, and omitted from the above columns. As regards the numbers which the Statement might show to have been irrigated, the year or fasli to which the details entered might relate—invariably the preceding year—no further enquiry was deemed to be necessary, such numbers being regarded as fully practicable of irrigation for the future. Attention was, therefore, given to the numbers which the Statements thus prepared might show not to have been irrigated, and particulars as to the past cultivation or irrigation were recorded against all such numbers. Thus completed, the statement showed the past irrigation under the source for at least six years, generally seven or eight; particulars as to the fields cultivated for the year to which the details might apply; the changes from wet and dry, and dry to wet, which might be recommended by the Tahsildar; and finally, the numbers and area which it might be proposed to retain as the registered wet area (Ayakut).

4. After being rendered to this office, the Statements were checked and prepared for my inspection, and whilst on circuit in the taluq to which the proposals might refer, I went through the whole details for each village with the Curnam in attendance, to afford information on all necessary points; the past history of each uncultivated number, where the record might be deficient, having been previously inserted from the Curnams' accounts. Such numbers as the record might thus show to be occasionally irrigated, in years when the tank received a fair supply, were left unchanged; whilst those which might be rendered as waste, and appear from the investigation to be seldom or rarely irrigated, or might be generally under dry cultivation, were transferred to dry, provided, in the latter instance, that the ryot consented to the change. If occasionally irrigation was practicable, and the field might be cultivated with dry crops, or with *quasi* dry crops requiring to be so regarded, the change was only effected with the consent of the occupant. If the ryot objected—and they often show great reluctance to change land thus circumstanced and cultivated—the number was retained as wet. It was deemed undesirable to go contrary to the wishes of the occupants in cases where the interests of Government were furthered rather than otherwise, by confirming the area as wet. Where the land may have been waste for a long series of years, or had always been so kept by the occupant; and Government may have been precluded from realizing any revenue at all therefrom, either by irrigation being impracticable or the area being purposely kept waste by the occupant, the wishes of the parties interested were not regarded. The area concerned was in such cases changed to dry on the grounds that it had been out of irrigation for a series of years, and generally as well that it was situated unfavourably for irrigation with reference to position, and proved wholly unprofitable to Government. These general principles were applied to tracts rather than to isolated fields, regard being had to the compactness of the registered area after the necessary revision might have been effected. A careful scrutiny of the plan rendered this easy.

5. In the case of transfers from dry to wet, the rule applied was, that the land had been regularly irrigated for the three immediately preceding seasons; or was being regularly irrigated at the time along with such registered wet land as might adjoin, whenever the latter happened to be irrigated; for, the precariousness of the supply under the ordinary tanks or sources of irrigation, bars the regular irrigation of even the registered wet area in its entirety each season, and therefore any want of regularity in respect to previous irrigation could not be considered as operating to prevent the transfer of such dry numbers as might be irrigated to an equal extent with the wet area. Where the capability of the irrigation admitted of it, land only occasionally irrigated and under water-rate, was also altered, but only upon the written approval of the occupant. If the wishes of the occupants were unrecorded or not expressed when the Curnam appeared before me, the settlement of the numbers concerned was deferred, either till the ryots interested appeared, or the Curnam could produce their written acquiescence, or disapproval as the case might be, when the matter was finally disposed of.

6. The general principles which guided the settlement of the measure in Nellore may be summarized as follows:—

(1).—Where wet land may have been irrigated for a series of years, or where, owing to the high level at which situated, wet land may have been altogether out of cultivation and unprofitable to Government, and the probability of irrigation may have been very slight, the numbers concerned were adjusted to dry irrespective of any wish the occupants may have expressed.

(2).—Where wet land may have generally been under cultivation with dry crops, and the ryots may have acquiesced in the transfer, the lands were changed to dry; but where, owing to occasional irrigation being practicable, the ryots preferred the land being confirmed as wet in order that they might retain their right to a supply of water when available, no change was made.

(3).—Where the crops cultivated might be nominally only dry crops, being matured always with the aid of irrigation, they were regarded as wet rather than as dry crops.

(4).—Dry assessed land shown to be irrigated yearly, likewise land regularly irrigated during the three preceding seasons, and also land cultivated with wet crops whenever it might be practicable to irrigate the adjacent wet assessed area, was uniformly adjusted to wet on the ground of the land having, for some time previously, been set apart for wet and regularly irrigated. The consent of the ryot was not regarded as essential in these cases.

(5).—In cases where irrigation may not have been regular, and the land may not have been wholly brought under wet cultivation, but still be occasionally under ordinary dry crops, any change effected was made only with the consent of the occupant.

(6).—Unoccupied area, both wet and dry, was revised according to the capabilities of each source of supply, and the probability of irrigation being impracticable or available hereafter, consideration being given to the state of the tank or source, and the irrigation of past years.

(7).—Changes from wet to dry were effected as regards unoccupied waste, and occupied waste also in some cases, only so far as the land was suitable, and therefore likely to be occupied, and cultivated under dry crops hereafter, if adjusted. If, owing to deleterious qualities inherent in the soil, the land proved to be unsuitable for dry cultivation, the object of the revision in such cases ceased to have force.

7. The results of the proposed measure for each source of irrigation and village thus considered, were next embodied in an abstract Statement, showing first, the Tahsildars' recommendations; secondly, the results of my amended proposals, and also the total result of the proposed changes for the whole taluq. Any important or doubtful changes were left for consideration with the Collector. These abstract statements for each taluq were then gone through by the Collector in consultation with myself; and where the modifications might be extensive, they were explained

in detail by reference to the Village Statements and Plans, and further modified or confirmed as the Collector might deem requisite. The following is the form of abstract adopted:—

Abstract showing the proposed transfers and changes to the irrigable area of the Villages of the Taluq.

Villages and source of supply.	Average cultivation of last five years.	Ayakut.			Transfer from Wet to Dry.			Transfer from Dry to Wet.			Area to be finally confirmed under Wet Assessment.		
		Nos.	Acres.		Nos.	Acres.		Nos.	Acres.		Nos.	Acres.	
			A.	C.		A.	C.		A.	C.		A.	C.

8. As thus settled, the original Abstracts were finally modified and corrected and then furnished to the Collector, along with detail Lists, showing the survey numbers and area confirmed under each source of irrigation, prepared separately for each village. The latter were furnished to the Taluq authorities through the Collector for guidance, in disposing of applications for land as wet, and for copies to be taken by the Village Curnams. The actual changes as regards the assessment of the land in occupation were left to be effected at the time of the introduction of the new settlement, after the proposed transfers may have received the approval of the Board. Full particulars are to be found at paragraphs 136 to 138 of the Principal Division Settlement Report of Nellore, and appendices therewith submitted.

9. From the foregoing details it will be evident to the Board that due regard has been paid to the prescriptive rights of the ryots, wherever land may have been held with the object and intention of the land being irrigated and cultivated with wet crops when practicable. The right of the ryot to hold as wet, land he may be cultivating as dry, even if water can but seldom be obtained, has been respected ; and such land has been left as wet or transferred to dry, only in conformity with the expressed wish of the occupant or interested party. On the other hand, land which the ryots may have taken up or be holding with the purpose of claiming an increased proportion of their other wet land, being irrigated in years when the tank supply may be partial, as explained at paragraph 133 of my Settlement Report, has been adjusted to dry ; also, land which not being irrigated or practicable of being supplied, evidently appeared to be retained by the ryots in their puttas as pasturage with the object of evading the payment of assessment—enquiry tending to show that the assessment had, with few exceptions, been remitted yearly.

10. For lands thus adjusted to dry from wet, no particular hard and fast rule was observed ; but each question of the sort was disposed of on its merits, after full enquiry into any past irrigation, the length of period irrigation may have ceased, and the cause.

11. But few references were made to the Department Public Works only in cases where it might be doubtful if land from its position was practicable of irrigation or otherwise. The future capabilities of each source of supply were judged and decided upon, with reference to the past history of its irrigation, in years when the tank or channel may have fairly filled, or have been supplied. The area previously irrigated was consulted for this purpose ; and inasmuch as the area recorded against each number in the Statements, prepared for Nellore, was by survey, and the whole proposals were based on Survey areas in making the comparison, a margin was allowed, above and beyond what the Revenue Accounts might record the irrigation of previous years to have been, in order to take into account the increase of area invariably accruing by survey. If the revision happened to be based solely on the revenue areas, no such allowance or consideration would be necessary.

12. The above course I regard as far more practicable for gauging the capabilities of each tank, with a view to a revision of the area, than that detailed by the Collector of South Arcot, in his draft Circular, forwarded with the Board's Proceedings of the 27th November last, No. 4,318. The experience recorded and to hand, in respect to past irrigation, must necessarily be a more valuable guide than an intricate calculation as to the contents of a tank when full, and the number of times it may be likely to fill each year. Such calculations might be of use in the case of tanks regularly fed and filled each year from river channels, but would hardly avail in the case of tanks dependent solely on rain, and more or less precariously fed, as most rain-fed tanks are liable to be. Any estimate as to the average number of times that a supply may be received into a tank, and the average quantity of water each supply may comprize, must necessarily be liable to considerable error, and be very misleading in some instances. It involves calculations that may be regarded as more likely to confuse than aid a Tahsildar in carrying out the revision of the registered wet area.

13. The foregoing fully recounts the information required by the Board as to the measures adopted in Nellore for the revision of the registered wet area. I will now offer, as desired, a few remarks on the proposals of the Board for carrying out the revision of the wet area, contained in Proceedings of the 4th July last, No. 2,689. I observe that in recommending for the approval of Government, the advisability of revising periodically the registered area (Ayakut) of all important tanks, the Board of Revenue refer to the area being increased or decreased according to the circumstances and capacity of the work. The proposal of the Collector of Cuddapah as published in the Gazette of that District, under date, the 29th April 1871, and the Board's review thereon, which forms the first of the Proceedings above quoted, refer wholly to adjustments which may be necessary from the wet to the dry assessed area, and do not provide for any adjustment to wet of the dry assessed area, now being regularly irrigated and paying water-rate. The Draft Circular submitted by the Collector of South Arcot, similarly restricts the revision to the reduction of the existing wet registered area. The proposals consequently require to be regarded as only a partial measure of revision and not sufficiently complete or comprehensive to place the registered wet area of each tank on a satisfactory basis as regards present capabilities. In giving effect to the proposals thus drawn up, and settling what should hereafter be the registered wet area, consideration must necessarily be had as well to dry lands now being regularly irrigated and under water-rate. The directions should be complete in this respect, and the forms prescribed should, I consider, provide for dry assessed land already converted to wet as regards cultivation, being added to the registered wet area.

Board's Proceedings, 10th October 1870, No. 6,048.

14. As remarked by Government, the operations should certainly form part of every general revision of assessment of a district, and I am of opinion it should be undertaken by the Settlement Officer in conjunction with the Collector. For the purpose of classification, each wet field must necessarily be gone over by our Classifiers and, unless specially provided for, a similar opportunity of instituting a thorough examination of the wet area of each source of irrigation is not likely to occur. The ordinary Revenue Establishments could not well, without interfering with their regular duties, which of late years have been greatly augmented, undertake as searching an investigation as circumstances require ; or record particulars as fully as the classifiers can do. The previously prepared demarcation plans, which the classifiers have with them, materially facilitate the investigation. By assigning the operation regularly to the Settlement Department, uniformity of action and treatment in carrying out the measure in each taluq would be secured, for the proposals would be initiated by classifiers, well experienced as to the necessity for revising the wet area of the numerous irrigation works, and therefore eminently fitted to be entrusted with the duty. Moreover, they would carry their experience with them from one taluq to another. Their proposals would be the basis of the recommendations made by the responsible Revenue officer the Tahsildar, who would promptly be able to state by inspection of the ground, whether the

transfers advocated might rest on good and sufficient reasons. The statements which the Tahsildar might submit, embodying his proposals could best be scrutinized by the Settlement Officer, and after being amended or confirmed, finally settled in consultation with the Collector. The Settlement Officer, when moving through all parts of the taluq, and personally examining the wet area of a good many of the tanks, has also opportunities of acquainting himself with the necessity for the revision which the classifiers may in the first instance propose, and can satisfy himself as to the correctness of the same. The opinion of the villagers and wishes of the ryots can also be ascertained.

15. I would therefore advocate that the operation be regularly entrusted to the Settlement Department to be carried out in the above manner, and under such rules as the Board may eventually prescribe, and form part of the duties of the department in all districts which may now be under classification, or may hereafter be taken in hand. In settled districts, and in others in which classification operations may have been completed, as regards all or most taluqs, the revision might be conducted by the Revenue Officers, and should embrace the consideration of all requisite transfers from the dry to the wet registered area, as well as from wet to dry. Cuddapah would thus require to be dealt with. In districts, circumstanced like South Arcot, which has yet for the most part to be taken up for Survey and Settlement, the better course would be, I consider to introduce a partial revision only for the present. The measure should extend to all lands which may not have been irrigated or cultivated at all during the past five years, and to land generally under dry cultivation during the same period. Details of all such fields for the past *ten years could be easily embodied in a Tabular Statement, which should first shew in the lump*, particulars as to area of fields irrigated during the past five years, the unirrigated fields being specified afterwards. Upon a consideration of the statements which would thus be compiled and submitted by the Tahsildar, the necessity for amendment could be decided on, and the question of each unirrigated field disposed of on its own merits. It would be necessary as well for the area yearly irrigated during the previous ten seasons, to be recorded on the statement, to enable the past capabilities of the source in respect to the area irrigated, to be fairly considered.

16. All proposals should be accompanied by plans, showing the position of the fields with reference to the wet registered area under irrigation, and whether adjacent to dry land. The revision should be restricted to tracts of fields as far as possible, and isolated fields in the midst of the wet area under irrigation ; either regularly or now and again details being fully recorded ; should not, as a rule, be disturbed, but left wet as at present. The lie of the land might also be judged of by having the details recorded against each field as to the lowest level at which the tank supply can flow to the land. The entry of one-third, one-half, or three-quarters, as the case may be, would suffice for this purpose.

17. As regards this district, I have the honor to suggest that, save where immediate revision of the registered wet area may appear to the Divisional Officers to be urgently called for, the introduction of the measure be deferred, and carried out simultaneously with the classification, as undertaken for each taluq. The operation requires special care in this district ; for, so far as we have yet gone, there is abundant testimony of great need of adjustment, not only of the existing registered wet area, but also of such lands as may formerly have belonged thereto, and which, in the revision made in conformity with the Board's Proceedings, marginally noted, have been adjusted either as well lands (puttadar patchal) or as unirrigable wet (nunjah) to dry assessment. A careful examination and scrutiny of the circumstances of the supply of the whole of these lands is essential.

No 641, dated 26th January 1836.

18. There is another aspect from which the revision of the registered wet area requires to be viewed in this district. I allude to changes from single to double crop and *vice versa*. These should be embodied in the general revision undertaken by this department, and I request that the approval of the Board to the extension of the revision to the classification of the wet area, may be solicited.

19. Adverting to paragraph 6 of the Board's Proceedings of the 4th July last, No. 2,689, there was no understanding in Nellore with the ryots concerned, that all remissions would be withheld in the event of deficiency of supply to lands left waste, but which the ryots may have had the option of having transferred to dry at the revision of the registered wet area, and have declined. Any penalty which might thus be ordered would, I fear, generally have little force, but be evaded in the end, owing to the Settling Officer at Jamabandi being unable to discern or identify the fields which ought thus to be refused remission, unless great care were taken to place the details beyond doubt or chance of being overlooked. The course adopted in Nellore, though differing in this respect, as will be gathered from what has already been recorded, will, I trust, meet with the approval of the Board. I would still advocate that some latitude be allowed to the officer who may carry out the revision as regards all land that may have been waste and not irrigated during the past ten years, or at all since occupied ; and permission be accorded to adjust all such lands to dry irrespective of the consent or otherwise of the Puttadar.

20. With reference to the remarks of the Collector of Salem, at paragraph 5 of his letter, printed with the Board's Proceedings of 9th January, No. 62, communicated under date, the 22nd ultimo, No. 101-18, I fail to see that in cases of the nature just referred to, we are restricted merely to changing land from wet to dry, when the ryot may consent. I maintain we have the right to change and to assess the land as dry where advantage cannot or has not for a series of years been taken of a Government source of supply for irrigation. If the occupant may for a series of years have failed to avail himself, or exercise his right to a supply of water from a Government source, he is certainly no sufferer in respect to such right, by the land being revised to dry, and so assessed for the future. Pecuniarily the occupant suffers no doubt, for he will have hereafter to pay the just dues of Government which heretofore he has generally evaded; but the consideration of this point is not necessary.

21. There is yet another question for consideration, in connection with the revision of the wet area, that has already arisen in this district. In his Circular of 25th April 1871, the Collector of Cuddapah, specifies at paragraph 17, that the instructions laid down apply to all Government and Dasabandam tanks, but some of the Dasabandamdars of this district are protesting against any revision being made to the registered wet area (Ayakut) of their Dasabandam tanks. The Dasabandam system in force in some cases in Chendragiri appears to be quite exceptional, and to materially concern the Dasabandamdars; for their liability varies according to the extent of the total registered wet area (Ayakut), both Dasabandam Inam and Government area, that may be yearly cultivated. It appears that they are only entitled to hold free a proportion of the actual cultivation under the total registered wet area (ayakut), which, according to the nature of the terms on which held, is either one-fourth or one-fifth of the actual cultivation. For example, suppose the total registered wet area of a Dasabandam tank is 30 acres, 10 acres of which comprise the Dasabandam Inam, and 20 acres the Government area, assessed at wet rates. In the event of the whole 30 acres being cultivated, the Dasabandamdars are entitled to have one-fourth of the Inam area or 7½ acres, allowed them without further charge; the remaining portion of the Inam, or 2½ acres, being chargeable at the fixed wet rates for the Government land, which for this purpose may be reckoned at Rupees 6, per acre, minus the Jodi charged on the Inam which may be taken at Rupees 10. The assessment on the 2½ acres would thus be Rupees 15, less the amount of the Jodi; or Rupees 15—10=Rupees 5, which represents the liability of the Dasabandamdars in years when the registered wet area might be fully cultivated. If the area cultivated was altogether 12 of the 30 acres, including either the whole or part of the Dasabandam Inam area, then, one-fourth of the cultivation would be only 3 acres, and the Dasabandamdars would be liable for 7 acres of their Inam to be fully assessed, or 7 × 6=Rupees 42—Rupees 10 (the amount of the Jodi)=Rupees 32. The charge is so regulated that the Dasabandamdar's liability increases in proportion as the area cultivated may fall off. Should irrigation from one of these Dasabandam sources be extended to land not appertaining to the registered wet area, water-rate is levied by Government, and the Dasabandamdars have no concern therewith, and do not benefit thereby.

22. In the case of these Dasabandam tanks, I have ordered the same scrutiny of the registered wet area to be undertaken by the Classifiers; as for other tanks, and any necessary change in respect *thereto to be proposed and recorded as usual.* I have as well intimated to the Dasabandamdars that they are at liberty to prefer their objections when I take up and consider the question of the tanks they are interested in, due notice of which will be given to them.

23. As yet I have not sufficient acquaintance with these Dasabandam tanks to make any recommendation regarding them; but consider that it will probably be found impracticable to effect any amendment at all to the registered wet area of such peculiarly circumstanced sources of irrigation. I will hereafter report more fully on the subject.

24. In carrying out the revision of the registered wet area in Nellore, the measure was not extended to Inams, but confined solely to Government lands (Sircar). At paragraph 192 of the Settlement Report for the Principal Division of Nellore, I have recommended, for the approval of the Board, that Service Inams no longer irrigable be adjusted to dry, prior to enfranchisement. Whilst Service Inams should, I consider, be treated in any revision of the wet registered area, along with ordinary assessed lands; it would, I think, be preferable to confine any revision in respect to ordinary Inams, solely to sources that may have become wholly unserviceable and be ruined; the Government area appertaining to which may already, or during the contemplated revision, be adjusted to dry, the consent of the Inamdar being essential in all cases. The quit-rent on Inams is generally so moderate, that I regard it as undesirable to disturb the existing classification of Inams as to wet and dry, in all cases where there may be the least probability of irrigation being practicable hereafter, though not at present; or where the Inams may adjoin in any way wet assessed land.

25. I believe the Board of Revenue long ago refused to allow the adjustment to dry, of Inams enfranchised at garden rates of assessment (bagayat) in Cuddapah. Other districts are similarly circumstanced, I conclude, and the extension of the revision of the registered wet area to Inams generally, would necessitate the adjustment of all Inams formerly registered as garden (bagayat) to dry, and the modification of the quit-rent already imposed by the Inam Commissioner.

26. The draft Circular submitted to the Board by the Collector of South Arcot, and received with Proceedings of the 27th November, No. 4,318, is herewith returned.

(True Copy)

(Signed) G. BANBURY,
Ag. Director of Rev. Settlement.

IN their Order of the 27th January 1871, No. 181, Government approved of a revision of the Registers of "wet" land so as to exclude land which cannot be supplied with water. The revision, it was remarked, must form part of the work of the Settlement Department in districts where they find it has not been done, but Collectors were authorized to revise the registry under the orders of the Board without waiting for the general revision of the Settlement Department.

2. The Officers of the Public Works Department were to assist in ascertaining what quantity of land each irrigation work could supply with water, Tahsildars were to inspect all localities where an alteration in the registry was proposed, and Divisional Officers when the alteration was important, and Tahsildars were to be held personally responsible for their proposals as regarded individual puttadars.

3. In April 1871 the Collector of Cuddapah issued a Circular to Tahsildars on this subject. In addition to the instructions already cited, he ordered that land not cultivated with "wet" crops for four years out of the last ten should be classed as "dry," that even if land had been cultivated with "wet" crops oftener, and it appeared that such land had been supplied with water at the expense of land to which the water would flow more easily it should be registered as "dry," that the revision should proceed irrespective of the consideration whether the land was Government land or Inam, that Inam quit-rents might be reduced with reference to any alteration in the registry if the Inamdars liked, and that lands newly registered as "dry" should be rated at the average "dry" rate of the village and pay tirvahjasti when supplied with water.

4. In reviewing this Circular the Board observed that the rule that land not supplied with water for four years out of ten should be treated as "dry" was too inelastic, and were inclined to say that land should not be transferred from "wet" to "dry" without the consent of the owner, but that if the consent were refused remission should not afterwards be allowed on account of insufficiency of water. They considered that the Officers of the Public Works Department should be consulted in all cases of importance.

5. In October the Collector of South Arcot submitted for approval a draft Circular on the same subject. The points on which he adds to the instructions of Government are as follows:—Divisional Officers are to inspect localities where the revision proposed by the Tahsildars exceeds 10 per cent. of the registered ayacut. Fields on which remission has been granted for six years out of the last ten ought to be registered as "dry." If the owners consent to change the registry they will be charged the old "wet" assessment when supplied with water; if they refuse, the registry will not be altered, but no remission will afterwards be granted for insufficient supply, and when the supply fails altogether the "dry" rate will be charged. The "dry" rate charged pending the general Settlement will be the average dry rate of the village. Inam lands are only to be revised with the Inamdars' consent: if they are thus transferred from "wet" to "dry," the quit-rent will be reduced, except in years when there is a supply of water, when the old quit-rent will be charged. Water is not to be supplied to "dry" lands until the "wet" are supplied. The ayacut of each tank must be calculated with the assistance of the Public Works Department on a consideration of the capacity of the tank, the number of times it generally fills, and the ascertained quantity of water required to irrigate an acre.

6. Before disposing of this draft Circular, the Board called on the Director of Revenue Settlement for report, and the result is the full discussion contained in the letters from Mr. Banbury and Mr. Rundall which are printed at the head of these Proceedings.

7. In Nellore the revision of the registry has been elaborate and complete, involving changes from "dry" to "wet" as well as from "wet" to "dry." A similarly complete revision must form an essential part of the work of the Settlement Department everywhere, but in districts where that department is not at work, and where therefore the Collectors have not the means of ensuring accuracy in doubtful cases the revision need not extend to the transfer from "dry" to "wet" in any case, nor to the transfer from "wet" to "dry" in cases where the necessity of the transfer is not demonstrable.

8. The Board will first point out three considerations which must influence the revision whether conducted by the Settlement Department or by Collectors.

(1). The principle kept always in view must be that the area which Government can ordinarily supply with water shall be registered as "wet" and all the rest as "dry." This is a question of fact, and on re-consideration the Board are of opinion that the "consent" of the landholders is immaterial. If land can be supplied with water it is "*wet*" land: if not it is "*dry*" land. Nor can the consent of the owners be forced by withholding remissions, for this course would throw too much power into the hands of the Curnams, and would be inconsistent with the general rule that the Government revenue being a commuted share of the crop, it cannot be collected when a crop is not grown because of want of water. On the other hand a mere change in the registry will not deprive a land-holder of any prescriptive right to water which he may have obtained whilst his land was classed as "wet." After the change is made the land will still be entitled to water in an exceptional year in the same way as it was before if he chooses to take it, but in that year the owner will pay the "dry" rate *plus* a water-rate, instead of a "wet" rate, whilst in all other years he will pay a "dry" rate instead of *nothing*.

(2). Frequent reference must be made to the Officers of the Public Works Department. The public accounts showing what "wet" fields have lain waste for want of water are of the greatest practical value, but they are sometimes untrustworthy, where, for instance, single crops or second crops have been concealed through the corruption or carelessness of the Curnam. The Board believe it will be found in some cases that the Engineers will be able to show that the supply of water has been far more than sufficient for the wet cultivation which appears in the accounts. In other cases it may be that the insufficiency of supply for certain fields may be removed by new sluices or repairs. The Board must leave it to the discretion of the Collectors and the Settlement Officers to determine when to consult the Engineers, but they must not be slow to do so.

(3). The revision must not include Inams, which have been finally settled already.

9. Subject to these principles the Director of Revenue Settlement will be requested to issue instructions to his officers as to the manner in which their revision is to be effected.

10. In districts where the Settlement Department is at work such as Salem, Nellore, Chingleput and North Arcot the revision may be entirely left to that department; but in Cuddapah, where immediate relief is necessary, a rough revision must be at once undertaken on the principles hereinafter laid down.

11. In districts where the Settlement Department has finished its work such as Trichinopoly, Kistna, Godavery and some taluqs of Kurnool the Collectors will be good enough to ascertain and report whether any extensive revision of the ayacuts is necessary. If so the Director of Revenue Settlement will be requested to aid by detaching small parties to the districts and seeing, in conjunction with the Collectors, that proper principles and methods are adopted.

12. The Director of Revenue Settlement will be requested to submit a complete list of the *districts or isolated taluqs to which the two preceding paragraphs apply.*

13. In Tinnevelly the complete revision will be performed under the Collector who is conducting the Settlement.

14. In all *other districts where a revision of ayacuts is necessary the Collectors* will issue instructions to their Tahsildars founded on the following rules but adapted to the special characteristics of the several districts.

15. The revision of the ayacut will be *restricted to Government* land *and to transfers* from "wet" to "dry."

16. The Tahsildars will first prepare and submit to the Divisional Officers a complete list of the tanks and channels in their taluqs showing first the works whose ayacut *needs revision* arranged according to the extent of the revision required and the necessity for commencing it speedily, and second a list of the works whose ayacut does not need revision.

17. Tahsildars will then deal with the works whose ayacut needs revision in the *order in* which they appear in the list. A Statement will be prepared showing the total area irrigated for one and two crops during the last ten years. The fields on the ayacut which being occupied have not produced wet crops for five years, or being unoccupied have been so situated that irrigation was impossible during the five years will be enumerated *seriatim*. Opposite each field the Tahsildar will state his opinion regarding the transfer and his reasons for it and those of the village officers. In the case of occupied fields the opinion of the occupants will also be given. The report must be accompanied by a map showing the ayacut divided into properly numbered fields, "wet" fields which *being occupied* have been *irrigated once at* least during the last five years, "wet" fields which being occupied have not produced "wet" crops during the last five years, "wet" fields which being unoccupird have not been in a position to be irrigated for five years, and "dry" fields *either interspersed in the ayacut or bordering it will be* shown in different colours.

18. In all cases before preparing these documents the Tahsildar will inspect the locality. He will be held strictly responsible for any errors or omissions in his report. Partiality to individuals will be *most severely punished.*

19. When the transfers proposed amount to 10 per cent. of the ayacut or more, the Divisional Officer will inspect the locality taking with him the Tahsildar's report and map.

20. Divisional Officers will *transmit the report* and map with their opinion to the Collector.

21. The Collector will submit his orders thereon for the sanction of the Board. Till the sanction is obtained the Collector's orders must not be carried into effect.

22. At all stages of the enquiry the Tahsildar, the Divisional Officer or the Collector will consult the Officers of the Public Works Department whenever it seems advisable to them to do so.

23. The "dry" rate imposed on the transferred land will be (pending any general revision of the Settlement) the average "dry" rate of the village.

24. When any of the occupied fields which are transferred from "wet" to "dry" have previously enjoyed a right to water under exceptional circumstances as for instance when the supply of water is extraordinarily full, they will still keep that right after the transfer, but when they are irrigated the owners will pay the usual water-rate in addition to the "dry" rate.

(True Copies and Extract.)

(Signed) J. GROSE,
Secretary.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) M. JORDAN,
Second Assistant.

To the *Officiating Chief* Secretary to Government, R. D.
,, all Collectors.
,, the Acting Director of Revenue Settlement.

Exd. G. A. Turton.

1872.
Board of Revenue,
MADRAS.

PROCEEDINGS, 10TH MAY 1872, No. 746.

Encl.

Received

MAY.
No. 746.

Revision of Tank Ayakuts.—Orders passed on report from Director of Revenue Settlement regarding.

No. 2,087.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 28th October 1872.

Read the following letter from E. STORR, Esq., Sub Collector, to the Collector of Cuddapah, dated Madanapally, 19th September 1872, No. 299 :—

IN acknowledging the receipt of Board's Proceedings, No. 1,663 of August 22nd, 1872, with the Draft Rules by the Director of Revenue Settlement for the revision of Tank Ayacut, I have the honour to submit the following remarks, which I request you will forward for their consideration, as I am very anxious that this revision, which will probably be at once commenced in the sub-division, should be as complete as possible.

2. In paragraph 3 of the Circular, it is stated that "it has been ruled by the Board that these enquiries are not to extend to Inam lands which should be left as they are." So far as I can gather from the Board's Proceedings of May 10th, 1872, No. 746, this ruling was only intended to refer to the rough revision to be undertaken by Collectors, and not the more thorough one by the Settlement Department. All that the Board say (*Vide* paragraph 8, Clause 3 of the above Proceedings) is that the revision must not include Inams *which have been already finally settled.* This surely applies only to Inams which have been settled by the Inam Commissioner, and not to Village Service Inams which have not been touched.

3. In the near prospect of the enfranchisement of these Inams at five-eighths of their assessment, I think it is very advisable not only that they should be re-classified when necessary into wet and dry in the same way as Government lands, but also that the nominal assessment on these lands, which is, in many cases excessive, and in almost all cases very unequal in its incidence, should be revised at the same time.

4. I am led to mention this latter point as I am informed by the Tahsildars that no classification of Service Inams has been undertaken by the Settlement Department, and if this is the case, the present time will be a good opportunity for carrying out this revision. I see that Mr. Pelly in his scheme for the revision of Village Establishments contemplates these Inams being placed on the same basis with respect to assessed value as the *Circar lands,* before they are enfranchised, and Mr. Rundall in paragraph 24 of his letter, printed with the Board's Proceedings No. 746 of May 10th, recommends that they should be included in the General revision of Tank Ayacuts as well as re-classified before enfranchisement.

5. Many of these lands bear a nominal assessment of Rupees 20, and some even Rupees 30 per acre, and of course it will be no compensation to the Inamdars to enfranchise them at three-eighths of this assessment. They would be better off holding them at the full Circar assessment, the highest rate for which in the richest taluqs of the district will be virtually only Rupees 10 per acre, under the new Settlement.

6. *Paragraph 5 of Rule XVI.*—As regards the classification of lands in tank beds as wet, I think an exception should be made in those cases, when the tanks are hopelessly ruined, and where the beds are, to all intents and purposes dry lands. The giving of such lands on putta has been forbidden by Board's Proceedings of January 11th, 1872, No. 85, but where the lands have already been given on

virtually dry rates, and where there is no chance of their ever receiving a supply of water, arbitrarily to class them all as wet, and charge a wet assessment would be felt to be a harsh measure.

7. *Paragraph 3 of Rule XVII.*—By this rule it is ordered that dry lands which have been cultivated with wet crops simultaneously with the adjacent registered wet fields *under any source of irrigation* should also be classed as wet. I presume that wells are not intended to be included in the words "any source of irrigation" otherwise a large number of dry fields will be improperly classed as wet.

8. *Rule XVIII.*—Directs that lands upon which a second crop is raised by means of wells dug at the ryots' expense, provided these wells are in the tank bed, or in the Nunjay land under the tank, are to be classed and assessed as double crop lands on the ground that the wells derive their supply from the main source.

9. As regards wells dug in the tank bed, the rule is a fair one, but to apply it strictly to wells half a mile away from the tank bund, and to charge them the full Fysaljasty, or half the ordinary assessment, will place the ryots in a worse position that they are in now. By Government Order, No. 928 of June 12th, 1872, on Board's Proceedings No. 85 of January 11th, 1872, the charge for a second crop raised partly by wells has been reduced to one-fourth of the assessment. This arrangement it is true was a temporary one pending the introduction of the revised settlement, but the principle on which it was granted, viz., that it was not equitable to charge ryots at the same rate for water drawn off from a tank or channel, and for water raised at their own cost, from wells dug at their own expense, remains the same.

10. Wells beyond a certain distance from the waterspread of a tank do not affect its supply in any way, and to class and assess as double crop lands, those which are watered by wells only, and do not receive any supply from a Government source, appears to me hardly fair. I know of some instances in which two crops have been grown for years on so-called wet lands, but which have received water solely from the ryots' own wells, and without the assistance of which no crop whatever could have been raised.

11. *Rule XXVII.*—States that as in the case of the other Inams the Daswundams should remain as heretofore, though Government lands irrigated by the Daswundam tank or channel may be adjusted under the foregoing rules.

If this rule is to be strictly carried out, and the Daswundam Inams left as they are, a large proportion of the wet lands will be left unrevised as about two-thirds of the 5,000 tanks and channels in the sub-division are, what are called, Shamilat Daswundams.

12. These Shamilat Inams have no particular locality, but consist of a deduction of assessment of from one-eighth to three-fourths of the cultivated area under the tank or channel.

I see no reason why the fields containing these Inams should not be re-classified, in the present revision. The Daswundamdars have no priority of claim to water over the other ryots, and I cannot see that their position will be in any way affected by merely altering the classification of the lands to wet or dry as the case may be, when such re-classification is not to affect any right they now possess to water when available.

On the other hand, it will be considerably to the interest of Government to throw open to dry cultivation at reasonable rates, wet lands now left uncultivated from their high assessment.

13. There are no cases in the sub-division similar to those mentioned as existing in North Arcot by Mr. Rundall in paragraph 21 of his letter accompanying Board's Proceedings of 10th May 1872, where the liability of the Daswundamdars increases in proportions as the area cultivated falls off. The only cases (and there are few in number) where the liability of the Daswundamdars would be at all affected by the extent of cultivation, are those in which what is called a Hungami Jodi, or temporary quit-rent has been fixed on the Inams. This is payable only when the numbers on which it is payable are cultivated, and as it may reasonably be expected that many of the so-called wet lands now yearly left waste will be cultivated with dry crops when the assessment is reduced, the Inamdars might complain of having to pay a Jodi for dry cultivation, which was originally calculated on the produce of wet lands.

14. Some concession might however be made to them on this score, or if it is thought unadvisable to alter the old Jodi, such Inams might be left as they are, but to exclude all the Shamilat Daswundam fields from the present revision, will cut off a large area of land from the advantages which will certainly in time be gained both by Government and the ryots from the new classification of lands according to their real capability of being irrigated or not.

No. 160.

SUBMITTED for the consideration of the Board of Revenue.

PULLAMPETT,
25th September 1872.

(Signed) A. J. B. ATKINSON,
Acting Head-Assistant Collector,
for Collector.

THE Board's ruling that the revision of tank ayacuts should not include settled Inams was of general application. When an Inam title-deed has once been issued it is not expedient to disturb it because the land or some of it is wrongly classified as dry or wet. Moreover when the Inam Commissioner decided that an Inam now supplied with water was *dry* it was because the supply was created after the Inam was granted.

2. Village Service Inams have not been enfranchised except in Godavery, Kurnool and Trichinopoly, but the Board believe that title-deeds for such Inams in Bellary and Cuddapah have been prepared and are signed and sealed though kept in abeyance. It is necessary in Cuddapah where the inequalities of assessment are great and very desirable in Bellary that the quit-rent should be re-calculated after the Inams have been assessed by the Settlement Department, and in determining the assessment the classification of the land as wet and dry must be revised. The Inam Commissioner will be requested to favour the Board with his opinionon this subject.

3. Mr. Storr is mistaken in supposing that the Settlement Department have not dealt with Service Inam lands so far as to enable them hereafter to determine what would be the assessment on them if they were Government land.

4. Mr. Banbury's instructions as to classifying land in tank beds does not refer to ruined tanks.

5. In Section 17 Clause 3 of the instructions he refers to dry lands irrigated from the same source as the adjacent registered wet fields.

6. The question whether the rule that "second crop" is to be charged for when it is grown with water obtained from private wells in wet land is an important one involving a very large amount of revenue in most of the districts. It is an indisputable fact that such wells are generally made because their position with regard to the tank assures them a good supply of water, and that it is almost impossible to discover, when there is a dispute, whether the water for the second crop has been drawn directly from the tank by channels or indirectly by means of the well. There may be some cases of hardship but they must be few in number and the interests of the State require that the rule should not be relaxed.

7. The way in which *Shamilat Daswundams* should be dealt with at the Settlement is under discussion, and a report on the subject has been called for from the Collector of Cuddapah. If the Inamdar is still to be paid by a share of the out-turn of the wet cultivation under his well it is clear that a revision of the ayacut will affect his interest unless he is allowed his share of the outturn *on the dry land* irrigated from the well when the whole ayacut is occupied.

(*A true Copy and Extract.*)

(*Signed*) J. GROSE,
Secretary.

To the Collector of Cuddapah.
,, the Inam Commissioner.
Copy to the Director of Revenue Settlement.

Exd. G. A. Turton.

1872.
Board of Revenue,
MADRAS.

PROCEEDINGS, 28TH OCTOBER 1872, No. 2,087.

Encl.

Received

OCTOBER.
No. 2,087.

Tank ayacuts — Orders passed on letter from Sub-Collector of Cuddapah regarding revision of.

No. 231.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 18th February 1873.

Read the following Official Memorandum from R. A. DALYELL, Esq., Inam Commissioner, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Madras, 31st January 1873, No. 55 :—

WITH reference to paragraph 2 of the Board's Proceedings, dated 28th October 1872, No. 2,087, the Inam Commissioner has the honour to state that he concurs in the views expressed by the Board in regard to the re-calculation of the quit-rent of the Bellary and Cuddapah Village Service Inams after the revision of the settlement of those districts.

COMMUNICATED to the Director of Revenue Settlement, and to the Collectors of Cuddapah and Bellary.

2. The quit-rent on Village Service Inams in these two districts must be re-calculated after the Inams have been assessed by the Settlement Department.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

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

To the Director of Revenue Settlement.
,, the Collector of Cuddapah.
,, the Collector of Bellary, with copy of Board's Proceedings No. 2,087 of 1872.
,, the Inam Commissioner.

Exd. T. Cartledge.

1873.

Board of Revenue,

MADRAS.

PROCEEDINGS, 18TH FEBRUARY 1873, No. 231.

Received *Encl.*

FEBRUARY.

No. 231.

Village Service Inams—in Bellary and Cuddapah Districts.—Official Memorandum from Inam Commissioner expressing concurrence in Board's views in regard to re-calculation of quit-rent of — after revision of settlement of those districts, communicated to Director of Revenue Settlement and to Collectors concerned.

BOARD OF REVENUE, 21ST NOVEMBER 1885, No. 3198.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

READ—the following letter from G. D. LEMAN, Esq., Collector of Coimbatore, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 9th October 1885, Reference on No. 4689 Ver. Genl. :—

I have the honor to submit the following case for the orders of the Board of Revenue.

2. The village service inam lands of the villages noted in the margin in the Coimbatore taluk were registered as double-crop lands in the pymaish, and they continued to be so registered till fasli 1289 (1879-80), the fasli of the introduction of the settlement.

1. Chittracháváди.
2. Komárapálaiyam.
3. Coimbatore.
4. Anuperpálaiyam.
5. Rámanathapuram.
6. Singánallúr.
7. Kuniyamuttur.

3. They were then registered as single-crop lands, not being favorably situated for the irrigation of a second crop.

4. Mr. Wilson, while Collector of this district, was of opinion that the Settlement Department had no power to alter the classification of the inam lands, and ordered that they should be altered back as double-crop lands in the accounts and that the assessment fixed by the Settlement Department *plus* half of it should be entered as the consolidated double-crop assessment. His order was carried out. In consolidating the second-crop assessment on other lands in these villages, the Settlement Department took only quarter, and not half, of the single-crop assessment.

5. When these service inam lands were enfranchised by the Special Deputy Collector, quit-rent was fixed with reference to the consolidated assessment fixed by Mr. Wilson.

6. The inamdars complain that they cannot get water sufficient to raise two crops in all the lands and ask that 251·52 acres may be registered as single-crop land. The tahsildar who has inspected them supports their statement, and there is no doubt they are over-charged when assessed as double-crop.

. I consider that they should be registered as single-crop. I have thought it proper to refer the matter to the Board as the classification of the Settlement Department was altered by a late Collector.

8. The whole extent of the inam service lands in these villages is 334·32 acres, assessed at Rs. 2,653-4-0, but the inamdars admit that out of this 82·80 may fairly be classed as double-crop, while asking that 251·52 be transferred to single-crop.

9. This is the change I propose to make and also to make the second-crop charge quarter of the first instead of half on those lands that I propose to make double-crop lands.

Reference on the above, dated 19th October 1885.

Forwarded to the Acting Director of Revenue Settlement and Agriculture for favor of remarks.

2. As a general rule, the classification of inams as single or double crop should not be altered in the settlement, but there can be no objection to double-crop lands being registered as single-crop when the inamdars apply for such transfers. They will be liable to pay half the first crop charge whenever a second crop is raised with the aid of Government water.

3. Referring to paragraph 5 of the Collector's letter, the settlement of the village service inams in the Coimbatore District should now be revised in the cases mentioned in paragraph 8.

(Signed) F. A. NICHOLSON,
Acting Secretary.

To the Director of Revenue Settlement and Agriculture,
with letter in original to be returned.
Copy to the Collector of Coimbatore.

READ—the following letter from W. H. GLENNY, Esq., Acting Director of Revenue Settlement and Agriculture, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Madras, 11th November 1885, No. 3213:—

I have the honor to return the enclosure of the Board's reference, dated 19th October last, on General Register No. 5668, and to state that I concur with the Board in the view stated in paragraph 2 regarding the treatment of inams by the Settlement Department.

2. In accordance with paragraph 3 of the reference, the revision of quit-rent of certain inams in the Coimbatore district will be carried out.

RESOLUTION—dated 21st November 1885, No. 3198.

Communicated to the Collector of Coimbatore with reference to his letter, dated 9th October 1885, Reference on No. 4689 Ver. Genl.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) F. A. NICHOLSON,
Acting Secretary.

To the Collector of Coimbatore.
Copy to the Director of Revenue Settlement and Agriculture.

Exd. J. W. Fischer.

1885.

Board of Revenue,

MADRAS.

Printed December 1st.

Proceedings, 21*st Nov.* 1885, *No.* 3198.

Communicating to the Collector of Coimbatore letter *from* the Director of Revenue Settlement and Agriculture regarding the revision of *quit-rent* on certain *inams* in the district.

Board of Revenue (Sett., L. Records and Agri.), 19th April 1887, No. 11.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE

(Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture).

Read—again the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 15th March 1887, No. 486 :—

Abstract.—Stating that certain village service inams in Chicacole taluk, Ganjam district, were correctly charged with water-rate, and requesting the Director of Revenue Settlement to report why those inams were classed as wet in the settlement.

Resolution—dated 19th April 1887, No. 11.

The village service inams in the Ganjam district are still unenfranchised, and their classification by the Settlement Department as dry or wet followed the instructions of the Board in paragraph 2 of their Proceedings, No. 2087, dated 28th October 1872, and Proceedings, No. 231, dated 18th February 1873.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) P. RAJARATNA MUDALIAR,
Secretary.

To the Collector of Ganjam.

Exd. J. Henricus.

1887.

Board of Revenue

(Settlement, Land Records
and Agriculture),
MADRAS.

Printed April 27th.

Proceedings, 19*th April* 1887, *No.* 11.

Stating that the *village service inams* in the Ganjam district are still unenfranchised and their classification as wet or dry was made under Board's instructions contained in their Proceedings, No. 2087 of 28th October 1872, and No. 231 of 18th February 1873.

1889.

Board of Revenue

(Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture),

MADRAS.

To

The Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

23 FEB 89 DEPARTMENT

No. of Enclosures.

Proceedings, dated 22nd February 1889,

No. 396 Routine.

Subject.

Furnishing Copies of Certain papers Called for, with remarks.

B. P. (Sett.) d/29th [illegible] No. 60

No. 361

Official Memorandum.

With reference to his letter dated 3rd July 1888 No 160, the Inam Deputy Collector is informed that the service Inams in Madura should be enfranchised at $\frac{5}{8}$th of the assessment as was done in other Districts. The Board of Revenue (Land Revenue) to whom a reference was made on the subject concurred× with the undersigned in his opinion that there is no valid

×Vide Board's Pro: 13th September 1888, No 5461 Miscellaneous, copy enclosed.

valid reason for departing from the hitherto recognized policy of enfranchising Village service Inams at 5/8th of the assessment.

Inam Commissioner's Office
Madras 25 September 1888 } (Sd) W. S. Whiteside
Inam Commissioner.

To,
The Inam Deputy Collector
Madura.

(A True Copy)

Inam Deputy Collector.

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue
(Land Revenue)

Dated 13th September 1888.

No. 5461. Miscellaneous.

The Honorable W. S. Whiteside.

Read endorsement of the Inam Commissioner, Madras, dated 10th August 1888, No. 304, on letter from the Collector of Madura dated 25th July 1888 No. 109.

Resolution.—

The Board agree with the Inam Commissioner.

(True Extract)
(signed) H. A. Sim
Ag: Secretary.

To,
The Inam Commissioner
Copy to the Collector of Madura.

(True Copy)

(Signed) W. S. Whiteside.
Inam Commissioner.

(True Copy)

P. Venkataramadas
Inam Deputy Collector.

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue.
(Land Revenue)

Dated 13th September 1888 - No 5461. Mis:

The Honorable - Mr. S. Whiteside -

Read the following endorsement from the Inam Commissioner dated 10th August 1888, No 804 on letter from the Collector of Madura dated 25th July 1888, No 109.

Submitted for the orders of the Board of Revenue (Land Revenue).

2. The undersigned observes that in all the southern Districts the Village Service Inams dealt with are of the two classes specified by the Dy Collector. All these Inams have been enfranchised at five eighths of the assessment. Madura is the only southern district remaining to be settled and the undersigned sees no valid reason for departing from the hitherto recognized policy of enfranchising Village Service Inams at five eighths of the assessment.

Resolution:

The Board agree with the Inam Commissioner -

(True Copy Extract)
(Sd) H. A. Sims
Actg Secy.

To the Inam Commr.
Copy to Collr of Madura } (True Copy)

Madura Collr's office
25th July 1888.

No 109.

From

The Collector of
Madura.

To

The Inam Commissioner
Madras.

Sir,

#
No 150 of 29 June/88.
" 151 . do
" 157 " 1st July
" 160 " 3rd

I have the honor to forward four letters\# from the Inam Dy Collector dealing with the following questions:—

(1) Whether the Village Service Inams may not be fully assessed instead of being enfranchised at five-eighths of the assessment.

(2) Whether he may transfer to dry lands which have been classed as wet, if the inamdars desire the transfer.

(3) Whether he may convert double-cropped into single-cropped lands; &

(4) Whether he may compound for the second crop charge at the usual rates.

2. With regard to the first question the Dy Collector states that the service inams are of two sorts — land inams or tirva inams. The former are in the enjoyment of the office-holders in the majority of cases. The reason for enfranchising them at less

than the full assessment does not obtain in these cases, and when money payment is substituted, the village officer who is in possession of the inam land should pay the full assessment thereon. In the case of Terowa inams also, the full assessment should be paid to Government, as it has been paid to the inamdar hitherto. There is no necessity in this case too to enfranchise the inam at less than the full assessment.

3. The result of this will be that the Village Service fund will benefit to a large extent and it may be possible to impose a lighter cess on the people than would be feasible otherwise. From the correspondence on the subject of the revision of the village service establishment, I find that Messrs Levinge and Pelly were in favor of the proposal to fully assess the inams and I strongly support their recommendation.

4. The Dy Collector proposes also to sell by auction the occupancy right of the inam lands when the village officer has not been in possession thereof for twelve years and more. This was also the recommendation of Mr Samuell, but Mr Pelly did not support it. The reason for selling the land is that it is the absolute property of Government, and, as it is in most cases very valuable, there is no reason why it should be given to one person more than to another merely because he was last in possession thereof. On the other hand, where the inamdar has been enjoying the inam for years and has improved it by his labour and money, it may be wrong to deprive him of the occupancy right. The Dy Collector will therefore require proof of possession for twelve years. This appears to me to be right so far as it goes; but it does not go far enough. I would say that if a person has been in possession of the land for three years, he ought not to be disturbed. Even when the possession has been for less than this period, if the land was for many years in the enjoyment of the inamdar's family, he should be allowed to retain the occupancy right.

5. If the Commissioner agrees with me, it is unnecessary to discuss the other questions, as the inamdars will be placed on a par with Government ryots and there will be full freedom for transfer from wet to dry and from double-cropped to single-cropped, if the change is called for by insufficiency of water-supply. The rules for composition for second crop will also apply. The only difference between these inam lands and ordinary ryotwar lands will be that the assessment on the former according to their present classification will be credited to the Village Service fund. It appears to me that if this amount can be definitely settled for each taluk and if it can be credited in the taluk account to the village Service fund every year, even this distinction may be abolished.

6. I regret that owing to pressure of work these letters have been delayed for some time.

I have etc
(Sd) E. Turner
Collr

(True Copy)

Inam Dy. Collector's Office,
Dindigal

No. 160. Dated 3rd July 1888.

From,
The Inam Dy: Collector
Madura,

To,
The Inam Commissioner,
Madras
Thro' the Collector of
Madura,

Sir,

1. Nāttanmaigār
2. Karnam
3. Shroff
4. Tandalkaran
5. Tōti or Nādāri
6. Nīrkatti, Nīrmaniyam, Nīrānikkan or Kudumban
7. Jōsiam
8. Kāvalgar.

I have the honor to report that the marginally noted village servants have been found by me to be rendering service and enjoying Inams in this District. Of them Nos 2, 3, 5 and 8 are self-explanatory and do not call for a special description. Nos 1, 4 & 6 need a little explanation on account of the peculiar names by which they are known in the District and answer to the Monegar, the Talayari, and the Nirgunti respectively of the North Arcot District.

2. No. 7 has been found by me only in the village of Tengarai in the Periyakulam Taluk. On a reference to the glossary appended to Mr. Blair's report on Inam Tenures, I find

that

that the service he is expected to do is of a military character; the service he now renders is however, anything but military in its character. He is now the collector of revenue in the village and enjoys also the Inam attached to the Tandal office. I think his Inam, may, like that of the Kavalgar, be enfranchised at half the assessment. The Inams enjoyed by the other 6 kinds of village servants in this District may in my opinion be resumed and fully assessed if I can take Periyakulam as a representative

Taluk and generalise from the experience gained by me there.

3 In that Taluk the Inams enjoyed by the village servants are of two sorts which may for the purpose of this report be designated as Land Inams or Nila maniyams and Tirva Inams or Tirva maniyams. Land Inams:- These are lands which were either in Fasli 1212 or Fasli 1228 or sometime later granted to office-holders out of the Government waste lands as remuneration for the service they

they render and are transferable and as a matter of fact transferred from one office holder to another whenever a change in the incumbency occurs. It is to these lands that Regulation VI of 1831 is properly applicable and it is these that are inalienable as they are strictly Government property and cannot change hands at the will of the enjoyer whose ~~will~~ control over them is very restricted and limited only to the period during which he renders faithful service to Government.

The Inamdars are aware of this and if evidence is wanted to prove this one has only to observe the quiet, willing and ungrudging manner in which these lands are in the majority of cases surrendered. to the in-coming office-holder not only when he is a permanent incumbent but also when he is a gumasta. It is only in a small minority of cases that the Regulation II of 1831 is resorted to, to secure possession of these lands by the new-comer.

It

Vide page 805 Part II of Mr. Pelly's correspondence about the revision of Village Establishment.

4. It is perhaps to this kind of Inam lands that Mr. Levinge referred in para 28 of his letter No 407 of 23d June 1862 to Mr. Pelly where he reported that "the service lands are the property of Government; if sold in auction, subject to the net assessment instead of being simply made over on puttah to the present holders they would probably yield more than a lac of Rupees"!

5. I shall here make a few Extracts from his other letters to Mr. Pelly on the same subject:—

Extract from his letter No + 159 dated 7th August 1860. + Page 795

"If the above reform is "approved of, Inam lands "can be incorporated with "ayen lands and the Kudivaram "right thereof where it is "transferable with the office "should be sold."

Extract from his letter No 1067 of 23rd June 1862. Page 802

"I am decidedly of opinion "that there is no necessity "whatever to enfranchise the "Inams at any sum lower "than the net proper assess-"ment. The lands are strictly

hereditary

"hereditary office lands and "are attached to the office whoever "holds it." From statement No 3, you will observe that a greater portion of the Inam is in possession of the office-holders. The Co-sharers or the ryots who enjoyed the remainder give to the office-bearers mélvaram in some places and Teerva in others."

6. With regard to the resumption of these lands Mr Pelly also agreed with Mr Levinge (vide para 16 of his letter to Government Page 810 No + 1361 dated 18th August 1862 in which he said "The Inams

Con

"(or rent free grants of land)
"which constitute the present
"emoluments of the offices
"are to be resumed at their
"full assessment. The local
"officers are quite clear that
"there is no necessity whatever
"in Madura to enfranchise
"those Inams at 5/8ths or any other
"reduced assessment below
"their net proper assessment"
The lands are strictly hereditary
office lands and are attached
to the office whoever holds
it. It is generally in the
actual possession of the
office-holder

office holder and where this
"is not the case, the co-sharer
"or other ryot holding the Inam
"pays to the office-bearer the
"Government share or the proper
"rent of the land."

7. With regard to selling them
in auction he did not support
Mr. Levinge (vide para 27 of his
letter). He thought such a step
would cause hardship to such
of them as have held the Inam
for many years in their family.
The prescriptive right of occupancy
can only be accrued by an
uninterrupted enjoyment of
the

the lands for not less than 12 years and ~~they~~ there will, in my opinion, be no hardship if Mr Levinge's suggestion be adopted with regard to such lands as have been in the possession of the present enjoyers for less than 12 years. Mr Levinge's suggestion is none the less valuable on account of the quarter of a century that has since elapsed.

On the other hand the almost fancy prices that are now given to the wet lands in

this

this District greatly enhance its significance and render it more deserving of serious consideration

8. Tirwa Inams:— The Government Revenue on certain Puttah lands was formerly assigned to village servants as remuneration for the service they render and it is these assignments of revenue that are designated Tirwa manyams. It is obvious that the right of occupancy of land in these cases is vested in the original puttadar and that the office-holder is

entitled only to the melvaram or the Government revenue claimable on the lands.

These maniyams are invariably enjoyed by the man that renders service whether he is a circar gumasta or a gumasta on behalf of a minor or a temporary office-holder or a locum tenens of another.

The registered office-holders enjoy them only when they are not minors or females or incompetent men and render service themselves; a few phaisal mirasidars

not

not thinking it worthwhile for them to do duty themselves for the sake of these assessment-maniyams resigned their offices while a few others, more prudent and calculating than those mentioned above, resigned the offices in favor of their minor sons and got gumastahs appointed to do duty and enjoy these inams. The authorities in this District have as apparently thought it proper to permit such conditional resignations of offices. There are also some cases in the

Periyakulam Taluk in which a few Totie, Madaries and Tandalkarans refused to do duty for the assessment-Inams given them and claimed monthly cash payments as remuneration. In the minds of all, the belief has taken deep root that the assessment assigned is the wages for the work done and that, when the monthly cash payment system is substituted, the old state of things will be restored and the assigned revenue secured by puttahs,

collected and credited to Government.

9 Reason for the reduction now shown:

The reason for these Inams being Enfranchised at less than the full assessment is, so far as I know, to be found in paras 13 and 14 of G.O. No 673 dated 22nd March 1861 and in G.O. No 939 of 26th April 1861.

Page 174 & 179 of Part I.

Page 258 of Part I

In the felicitous language of G.O. No 2926 of 28th November 1865 it is 'the fact of the Inams having been extensively subdivided in times past and being now in great measure alienated from the office and freed by long prescription from the condition of service.

I now beg to submit that this reason has no applicability to either class of village service Inams in this District. The sub-divisions or alienations or freedom from the condition of service of either the one sort or the other sort of the Inams in this District ~~or~~ are hardly worth mentioning. With regard to the Tirva maniyams I have further to state that the people do not expect a

reduction

reduction in assessment and it is, I submit, not necessary to show them a concession which they do not expect, at the expence of the village service Fund.

With regard to the Land maniyams too I find the people caring more for the occupancy right than for the assessment. Indeed it cannot be otherwise, considering that the lands especially the wet lands in this District command fancy prices. I may also add that by resuming them we save a lot of additional litigation to which our present practice of granting Title-deeds for Tirva is sure to lead in this already litigious District.

10. These are my reasons for proposing to fully assess the Inams in this District.

11. I further propose that the suggestion of Mr Levinge, contained in para 4 supra, of selling the occupancy right (which has a considerable market value) in auction wherever it belongs to Government, be carried out at least to the extent hinted in the last clause thereof viz, in those cases in which no person has had an un-

interrupted

uninterrupted enjoyment of the land for 12 years or more. I make the proposal as I am not disposed to throw away the 'unearned increment' of such lands to the man who may at the present moment chance to hold them.

If necessary a very convenient sop may be offered to the villagers in the shape of granting an Inam puttah in full assessment in the case of such lands. I say convenient because we can then easily find out from the accounts which lands are village service lands and which not.

12. I recommend an Inam puttah for these lands for the following reasons:—

1. Because they will then be redeemable at 20 years' purchase.
2. Because people can even then continue to designate them and look upon them as Inam lands.
3. The income to the village service fund will then be greater, as their redeemable character making people set an increased value upon them.
4. Because with a large general Fund at our disposal, the rate of village cess to be imposed can be reduced and the incidence of the new

tax

tax rendered less burdensome to the people.

13. Should the proposals made above be accepted my inquiry will only have to be directed to finding out whether a person has been enjoying the Inam for more or less than 12 years and if less than 12 years whether it was originally a land grant or a Jiwa grant.

14. I have ventured to make this proposal which at first sight appears to be subversive of what has already been done in some ~~of~~ of the other Districts

as I find that Messrs Levinge and Pelly have made similar proposals in days gone by with regard to this District.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
(Signed) S. Venkataramadas.
Inam Deputy Collector.

86

(True copy)

S. Venkataramadas
Inam Dy: Collector

Madura.
11th Oct.

My dear Hutchins,

I send you copies of letters relating to enfranchisement of village Service Inams at $\frac{5}{8}$ of the assessment.

Yours sincerely
G. Turner.

Dear Stokes

Please look over these papers & if you think there is ground to question Whiteside's decision to remit $\frac{3}{8}$ of the loan on Tivey drains you might call for the papers from the Board. It seems very like throwing money away.

Yrs
PHH
13 Oct

Dear [illegible]

[illegible] Order [illegible] these are cases [illegible] the doubtful [illegible] whether [illegible] certainly [illegible]

Yrs [illegible]

NOTE FOR THE SECRETARY.

C. No. 7275

The Circular is simply issued as I am doubtful whether the remark suggested by the ninth member is necessary in spite of G.O. 4th Oct/87 No. 967. In the cases referred to by the ninth member the Inams will certainly be fully accounted for under the orders quoted.

2. The correspondence regarding V. S. Inams in Coimbatore to which the ninth member alludes will be found in the packet tied with red tape. A.
30/7

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Current No. 7275

From Board of Revenue (Land Rev.)

Dated 20th. October 1888.

FOR ORDERS.

The papers forwarded with these Procs. relate to the Enfranchisement of Village Service Inams in the Madura District. The Inam Deputy Collector states that the Village Service Inams in this District are of two sorts, namely, Land Inams & Jeeva Inams, that they need not be enfranchised at 5/8ths of their assessment because the reasons which led to this course in other Districts do not apply to Madura; and that they should be fully assessed and that, further, the occupancy right in the case of Land Inams, whereas it belongs to Government, should be sold in auction. It is to be noted that the Deputy Collector admittedly bases his proposals on his experience of a single Taluk. The Inam & the Landlords Commissioners do not approve the Dy Collector's proposals. They observe that the village Service Inams dealt with in all the Southern Districts are of the two sorts specified by the Deputy Collector and that they have all been enfranchised at 5/8ths of the assessment.

2. The Deputy Collector states that as the village Service Inams in other Districts had been subdivided & alienated from the Offices, it was necessary to enfranchise them at a favorable rate, but as this is not the case in Madura there is no need to follow the same

to be no doubt that the Village Service Inams in Madura are generally attached to the Office and not shared by co-sharers not doing duty; but this circumstance alone is not, it is submitted, sufficient to refuse to the Inamdars of this District the indulgence shown to similar Inamdars elsewhere. On reference to para 23 of Mr. Kelly's letter at page 235 of the Vol., Part I, it will be seen that the subdivision and alienation of the Inams from the offices were found to be serious obstacles in the way of taking the lands away from the co-sharers and restoring them to the single office holders as at first contemplated. Hence it was determined to leave the lands with the co-sharers and to take from them only [illegible] But there were no similar difficulties in the way of fully assessing the Inams. The Government, however, did not choose to do this, but, as an act of leniency, decided upon enfranchising the Inams at a favorable rate. In the words of Mr. Pelly, this course was adopted 'in order to make the measure of virtual confiscation fall as lightly as possible upon the ancient co-sharers & as a compensation to them (for long enjoyment).' Such of the Inamdars in Madura as may be thrown out of employment by amalgamation of villages during the revision would be in the same predicament as the co-sharers referred to by Mr. Pelly & should, in fairness, be shown the same indulgence. In fact this has been put

FOR ORDERS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Current No.

From

Dated 188 .

FOR ORDERS.

*Kistna — p. 159, Pelly's vol. Part II para 34 of Mr. Pelly's letter

Nellore — p. 228 do. para 13 do.

Madras & Chingleput } p. 558 " " 15 "

North Arcot — 579 " " 5 "

for enfranchising all the Village Service Inams at 5/8ths of the Assessment in the marginally-noted Districts.*

3. Again there would appear to be no peculiarity in the Village Service Inams of Madura to justify a departure from the policy adopted elsewhere. They appear to be of the same nature as those found elsewhere, notably in Tinnevelly * & Coimbatore where also Mr. Pelly, in consultation with the Local Officers, originally proposed to fully assess the Inams. In all these Districts the Village

*Tinnevelly — Pelly's vol, Part II, p. 843, para 17.

Coimbatore — D° " " 884 " 5

Service Inams are of the two kinds mentioned by the Deputy Collector. In Madura, at least, the Inams would appear to have been subdivided[*] to a certain extent, but in the other ~~two~~[¶] Districts there has been no subdivision at all. Yet in ~~these~~ the Village Service Inams have been enfranchised at 5/8ths of the Assessment. There appears to be, therefore, no reason why similar Inams in Madura should be dealt with differently.

4. As regards the classification of the Inams into Land & Tirva maniems, it is submitted ~~that~~, as observed by the Commissioner of Revenue Settlement in his Proc. dated 29th Oct/88 No. 603 there is no fundamental

[*] Madura – Village Vol., Part II, p. 772 para 2

[¶] Tinnevelly – Do – – p. 843 para 17
Do .. .. .. 877 .. 4
Coimbatore – Do .. – .. 850 .. 2

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Current No.

From

Dated 188 .

FOR ORDERS.

difference between a Tirva inam and an ordinary inam. In both cases the inam, so far as the Government is concerned, consists only of the assignment of the land revenue, and it is the revenue alone that is recovered when the inam is resumed. The Government has lately recognized this principle and declared that the Assessment on the land and not the land itself should be re-paid regarded as the Emolument of Village Offices (G.O. dated 8th Jany 1885 No 18). The principles of Enfranchisement applied to the one kind of inam, therefore, should, it is submitted, be adopted also with regard to the other. It would seem, however, that if any Concession is shown at all on account of long possession, it should be to the Tirva Inamdars more ~~to the~~ than the Land Inamdars, inasmuch as the former would be absolutely deprived of what he had long enjoyed if his Inam was fully assessed, whereas

How so? [illegible] in the case of the Land [illegible] [illegible]

the latter would at least continue to enjoy the Kudivaram.

5. It is thus shown

(1) that the reasons for the Enfranchisement of the inams at 5/8ths of the assessment apply ~~also~~ to Madras;

(2) that the village service inams there are exactly of the same nature as those in Tinnevelly and Coimbatore where they have been Enfranchised at 5/8ths of the assessment;

(3) that the distinction between Land & Tirva inams is hypothetical so far as the Government is concerned, that this principle has

FOR ORDER

been recognized in G.O. 8th Jany 1885 No. 18, and that there is consequently no ground for treating them differently at enfranchisement.

In these circumstances it does not appear that there are sufficient grounds for adopting a different course with respect to the Village Service Inams in Madura from that adopted elsewhere. It has also to be remembered that the settlement of these Inams has already been completed, or will soon

be, in all the Districts o the Presidency except Vizag-apatam, and it seems inexpedient, for the sake o a single District, to rever the policy recognized almost throughout the Presidency

As an additional reason in support of his proposals, th Deputy Collector states ~~that~~ the Inamdars in Madura, more particula the [illegible] Inamdars, do not expect a reduction in asses-ment – In regard to this it need only be said

(1) that in the first place he his experience was confined to a single Taluk when he made his proposals &

(2) in the next place, the question for decision is, no what the people expect in the matter, but whether the nature of the Inams in Madura presents any peculiar features calling for special

treatment.

6. The Deputy Collector's proposal to sell the occupancy right is, it is submitted, obviously inadmissible. In the words* of the Board of Revenue, "the paramount "power in this country has "never claimed an absolute "property in the land, & "the British Government "has frequently repudiated "such a claim. It therefore "inevitably follows that "exemption from assess-"ment in whole or in "part was the only gift "the State could confer". The fancy prices that the lands are ~~stated~~ now to command and which apparently the Deputy Collector adduces as an argument in favour of selling them are, it is submitted, mainly due to the improvements effected

FOR ORDERS.

* Vide para 4 of the Draft Rep. in G.O. dated 8th Feby/75 No. 197

I agree that there is not suffi-cient reason to depart from the favourable enfranchisement system in Madura, it having been rightly or wrongly — probably the latter — allowed in all other districts of the Presidency; and I would make no difference between the so called Land & [illegible] inams. But I don't see any reason for extending it to cases where the remuneration for the office con-sists merely of the assignment of assessment on land which at the time of enfranchisement is in the possession of a [illegible] i.e. neither an office holder or a [illegible]. In such case, I think there should be

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Current No.

From

Dated 188 .

FOR ORDERS.

no enfranchisement proceedings at all; but the whole of the assess-ment should be continued as an asset of the village service fund by way of being deduction. In fact I don't understand what enfranchisement comes to in such cases. It can't mean the payment of the 5/8 to the ex-office holder; and if it means a re-mission to the payer of the assess-ment, there is no sense in it. There were a lot of such cases in Coimbatore - how they were dealt with in enfranchisement we have never succeeded in eliciting from the Board.

H.C.
24 July.

The papers might be recorded with a remark in the same [illegible] to above.

by the holder since the grant was made. If the lands were in their original state, i.e., waste, they could not command the prices that they now do.

There was undoubtedly a needless sacrifice of Revenue in the matter of the [illegible] of the village service fund when it was decided to enfranchise the Inams at 5/8ths; the [illegible] would have been reserved in full, but it is I think too late now to reconsider the question; the Inams in Tinnevelly & similar districts of a similar character having already been enfranchised, Madura cannot now be treated exceptionally. The proposal to sell the occupancy right is of course quite inadmissible. The papers may be simply recorded. They were called for at the instance [illegible]

FOR ORDERS.

Village Service Inams, Madu

13° September 1888.

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue

(Land Revenue).

Dated 13th September 1888.

No. 5461 Mis:

READ Endorsement of the Inam Commissioner, dated 10th August 1888, No. 304 on letter from the Collector of Madura, dated 25th July 1888, No. 109.

Resolution:-

The Board agree with the Inam Commissioner.

(True Extract)

To The Inam Commr. (Sd) H. A. Lum.
Copy to Collr of Madura. Ag Secretary

(True Copy)

Ag Secretary.

3
Acr. 7275/88

1888.

Board of Revenue

(Land Revenue),

MADRAS.

~~4~~

Copy of Board's

Proceedings, dated 13th September 1888,
No. 5461 Mis. ~~Routine~~ Enclosures.

Subject.

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue

(Land Revenue).

Dated 20th October 1888.

No. 3085 Routine.

READ endorsement of the Inam Commissioner, dated 18th October 1888, No. 398 transferring to this office for disposal official memorandum from the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, dated 15th October 1888, No. 140 requesting to submit the correspondence regarding the enfranchisement of Village Service Inams in the District of Madura

Resolution:-

Ordered accordingly.

(True Extract)

Ag Secretary.

To

The Secy to Govt. R.D. with the Inam Commr's letter of 10th August 1888, No. 304 and its enclosure in original to be returned and copy of Bd's Pro: of 13th September 1888, Mis: No. 5461.

Read again Dec. [illegible] 15th Oct/[illegible]
No. 140.

Misc. f.o.

Recorded with the remark that enfranchisement should not be conducted to cases in which the remuneration for the office consists merely of the assignment of assessment on land which at the time of enfranchisement is in the possession of a stranger, as is held in this [illegible] vide G.O. 4 Dec/87 No. 967. In such cases ~~there~~ should be no enfranchisement but the value of the assignment should be continued as an asset of the Village Service Fund by way of [illegible] being deducted.

[illegible]

Send reminder to the Govt with reference to para 2 of G.O. 19 Oct/88 923.

3097 To the Commr. of Land Rev.
" Inam Commr.

Revenue 1888.

Board of Revenue

(Land Revenue)

MADRAS.

To

DISPOSED OF BY G.O.
Mis. No.
Date

The Secretary to
Government R. D.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS
22 OCT 88
REVENUE DEPARTMENT

Reg 22 Oct.

Proceedings, dated 20th Octr. 1888.

No. 3085 ~~Mis.~~ Routine. Enclosures.

Subject.

Submitting to Govt. the correspondence regarding the enfranchisement of Village Service Inams in the District of Madura.

P. T. O.

MISCELLANEOUS SER

Revenue Department.

G.O., dated 2d August 1889.

No. 4879

When given for copying

[Despatch Abstract.]

Records, with remarks, correspondence regarding the enfranchisement of Village servants in Madura dist.

MISCELLANEOUS SER

Revenue Department.

G.O., dated 1889.

No.

19-1-18

When given for copying

[Despatch Abstract.]