M.R.O. 14—10,000—21-4-22

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 249 — Press / ~~Mis.~~

499-500

Dated 31-1-1861.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
31st January 1861.

No. 499. Read the following letter from R. P. HARRISON, Esq., Accountant General, to J. D. SIM, Esq., Acting Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Fort Saint George, dated 18th December 1860, No. 321:—

SIR,

1. I have the honor to forward for transmission to the Secretary of State for India, the Revenue Statements* in duplicate for Fasli 1268 (A. D. 1858-59), prepared with reference to the instructions conveyed in the Despatch from the late Honorable Court of Directors dated 22nd May 1818.

* *From Nos.* 1 *to* 13.

2. The differences† found to exist between the Statements of Demand, Collection and Balances of Land Revenue, &c., furnished by Collectors to this Office, and those furnished to the Board of Revenue, have for the most part been adjusted and steps taken for ensuring agreement in future Statements to be furnished by Collectors to the two Offices.

† *Noticed in the Extract Minutes of Consultation, dated 3rd March* 1859, *No.* 268.

3. The differences which still remain unadjusted all owing to errors in the Statements furnished by Collectors to the Board, these errors are in the balances outstanding at the close of Fasli 1268 (1858-59) of the Districts of Madura, Kurnool, Madras and Tanjore. The causes thereof have been discovered in the first mentioned three Districts, and a Memorandum of the same, with my explanation, was forwarded to the Board of Revenue on the 4th instant, requesting them to adopt the necessary measures for rectifying the errors in the Statements furnished to them.

4. As regards the discrepancy in Tanjore, the Collector has been written to under dates the 2nd March and 15th November 1860, but no reply has been as yet received, he will be again addressed on the subject.

No. 500. ORDER THEREON, 31st January 1861, No. 249.

1. With his letter above recorded the Accountant General submits the usual Annual Revenue Returns for Fasli 1268, for transmission to the Secretary of State.

2. In their Order of 23rd August 1858, No. 1,168, the Government noticed certain discrepancies between the Returns for Fasli 1266, and the Statement of Collections furnished by the Board of Revenue for the same period; and called on the Accountant General to explain the discrepancies and to state how the two sets of account might be made to tally. Mr. Prendergast suggested that the Returns received by the Board for June of each year should be sent to him for comparison, and promised to carry out the plan from Fasli 1268 as it would not be possible to correct the Statements of past years without considerable labor. The Government approved the proposal and forwarded the Returns for Fasli 1266 to the Home Government, expressing their confidence that under the new arrangement the Returns would be more correct from Fasli 1268.

3. The Government now observe that the object has not been fully attained; there are still discrepancies between the two sets of Returns, some of which are shown in the subjoined table.

of Collections furnished

Land Revenue Collections (Current).

Districts.	As given by the Board.	As given by the Accountant General.
Kurnool...	13,43,598	13,43,664
North Arcot.....	18,78,956	18,75,405
Tinnevelly... ...	29,34,410	29,26,151
Salem...	17,75,888	17,78,175
Madras.....	68,952	1,02,859

Abstract of Collections under all heads.

Items.	As given by the Board.	As given by the Accountant General.
Land Revenue.		
Current.....	374,27,347	374,51,799
Arrears...	36,31,256	36,29,519
Total...	410,58,603	410,81,318
Extra Sources.		
Abkarry.....	28,29,692	28,29,393
Salt.....	59,98,202	59,96,132
Sea Customs.....	14,45,163	14,46,003
Moturpha.....	10,98,823	10,98,305
Stamps.....	8,13,428	8,13,000
Sayer.....	1,99,375	1,99,370
Total extra sources....	123,84,683	123,82,203
Grand Total.....	534,43,286	534,63,521

Mr. Harrison mentions "that the differences which still remain unadjusted are owing to errors "in the Statements furnished by Collectors to the "Board, and that these errors are in the balances "outstanding at the close of Fasli 1268" in certain Districts. It is seen, however, in the table above given, that there are errors also in the amounts of the Collections, as reported to the Board and to the Accountant General. The aggregate result of the difference in the Collections in 1266 was Rupees 56,149; in 1268 it is found to have been Rupees 20,239.

Fasli 1266.	
Total Collections as per Board's Return.....	498,20,864
Do. as given by the Accountant General.....	497,64,715
Difference...	56,149
Fasli 1268.	
Total Collections as given by the Accountant General.....	534,63,521
Do. as per Board's Return... ...	534,43,282
Difference...	20,239

4. The continuance of such discrepancies is disappointing, especially after the very long delay that has occurred in submitting the Statements, which must be supposed to be due in part to attempts made to correct them. The Government trust that such endeavours will be more successful with the Returns for Fasli 1269. In addition to the means of correction adopted, as above noticed, on Mr. Prendergast's suggestion, which almost necessarily led to much delay, it occurs to the Government that one cause of error would be removed if the Board of Revenue and the Accountant General were systematically to communicate to each other any corrections which they may respectively find it necessary to make from time to time in the Collector's Monthly Returns of Demand, Collection and Balance. The Collectors should be directed also to take special care to prepare their Returns to both Offices on the same principles and from the same materials.

5. The Government resolve to call the special attention of the Accountant General to the excessive delay which has occurred in the submission of these Returns. Such documents coming up eighteen months after the close of the period to which they refer, can have no use for present information, though they may be useful for purposes of comparison in future years. It is hoped that much more promptitude may be found practicable for the future.

6. The Returns for Fasli 1268 now before Government will be forwarded to the Secretary of State with copy of the Accountant General's letter and of this Order.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
31st January 1861.

7. The Accountant General will be furnished with copies of the Proceedings noted in the margin, prescribing the order in which the several Collectorates are to be entered in all Revenue and Public Works Returns, with a request that he will adopt and carefully follow the same arrangement in all the Statements compiled in his Office. Such uniformity of arrangement greatly facilitates business, and the absence of it causes needless difficulty and loss of time.

Ex. Mins. Cons. 13*th February* 1856, *No.* 221, *para.* 7, *P. W. D.*
Proceedings 26*th July* 1859, ,, 1,801, *do.* 7, *do.*
Do. 23*rd June* 1860, ,, 1,033, *Rev. Department.*

(Signed) J. D. BOURDILLON,
Secretary to Government.

Revenue Dept.

N° 249

Proceedings of the Madras Government

Under date the 31st January 1861

Read the following letter

from the Accountant

General—

Forwards for
transmission to the Secretary
of State for India the Revenue
Statements in duplicate from
N° 1 to 13 for Fusly 1268/1858-59

(Were enter 18th Decr Nº 321)

With two letter abovementioned the Accountant

General submits ~~the~~ the
~~two letter above recorded~~ annual
Revenue Returns for
Fusly 1268, for transmis-
sion to the Secretary of
State.

~~The Government~~

2 In their order of 23d Augt
1858 N° 1168 the Govt noticed certain
discrepancies between the
~~similar~~ returns for Fusly
1266, and the Statement
of Collections furnished
by

by the Board of Revenue
for the same period, and
called on the ~~them~~ Accountt
General to explain the discre
~~adopt measures~~ pancies and to state how
~~to make~~ the two sets
might be made to
of accounts tally. Mr
Prendergast suggested
that the returns received
by the Board for June
of each year should be
sent to him for compa-
rison, and promised to
carry out the plan from
Fusly 1268 as it would
not be possible to correct
the statements of past
years without considerable
labor. The Govt approved
the proposal and forwarded
the returns for Fusly 1266
to the Home Govt, expressing
that under
their confidence ~~on~~ the
new arrangement, ~~to make~~
the

2 4

the returns would be more correct
from Fusly 1268.

3 The Govern-
ment now observe that the
object has not been
fully attained. There
are still discrepancies between
the two sets of Returns,
and some of which are
shewn in the subjoined
table.

Land Revenue Collections (Current) Abstract of Collections under all heads

Districts	As given by the Board	As given by the Govt Genl
Tinnevelly	134,3598	134,3664
North Arcot	1878956	1875405
Tinnevelly	2934410	2926157
Salem	1775888	1778175
Madras	68952	102859

Items	As given by the Board	As given by the Govt Genl
Land Revenue		
Current	374,27,347	374,51,799
arrears	36,31,256	36,29,519
Total	4,10,58,603	4,10,81,318
Extra Sources		
abkarry	2829692	2829393
Salt	5998202	5996132
Sea Customs	1445163	1446003
Moturpha	1098823	1098305
Stamps	813428	813000
Sayer	199375	199370
Total extra Sources	12,38,4683	12,38,2203
Grand Total	53,48,3284	53,46,3521

Mr Harrison mentions "that
the differences which still
remain

remain unadjusted are owing to errors in the statements furnished by Collectors to the Board, and that these errors are in the balances outstanding at the close of Fusly 1268" in certain Districts. It is seen, however, in the table above given, ~~it is seen~~ that there are errors also in the amounts of the collections, as reported to the Board and the Accountant General. The aggregate result of the differences in the collections in 1266 was Rs 56,149; in 1268 it is found to have been Rupees 20,239.

Fusly 1266

Total Collections as per Board's returns — 49820864
do as given by the Acct General — 49764715

Difference 56149.

Fusly 1268

Total collections as given by the Acct Genl's — 53463521
do as per Bd's return — 53443282

Difference 20239

4 The continuance of such discrepancies is disappointing, especially after the very long delay that has occurred in submitting the Statements, which must be supposed to be due in part to attempts made to correct them. The Government trust that such endeavours will be more successful with the Returns for Fusly 1269. In addition to the means of correction adopted, as above noticed, on Mr. Prendergasts suggestion, which almost necessarily led to much delay, it occurs to the Govt. that one cause of error would be removed if the Board of Revenue and the Accountant General were systematically to communicate to each other any corrections which they may respectively find it necessary to make from time to time in the Collectors monthly Returns of Demand, Collection, and Balance. The Collectors should be directed also to take special care to prepare their Returns to both offices on

Exe M: Cons: 13th Feb 56: N° 221 Pty P. W. D.
Pro ——— 26th July 59 " 1801 Pty. P. W. D.
Pro ——— 23d June 60 " 1033 Rev: Dept.

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6. The returns for Fusly 1268 now before Government will be forwarded to the Secretary of State with copy of the Accountant General's letter and of this Order.

7. The Accountant General will be furnished with copies of the Proceedings noted in the margin prescribing the order in which the several Collectorates are to be entered in all Revenue and Public Works returns, with a request that he will adopt and carefully follow the same arrangement in all the statements compiled in his office. Such uniformity of arrangement greatly facilitates business, and the absence of it causes needless difficulty and loss of time.

13 Copies
Board of Revenue
3 " Acc't General

Revenue 1865 Dept.
Pro. of Govt for January
Jany.

No 269.

Pro: of the Madras Govt
Dy 31st January 65

From Secrett Govt Dy 8th Sept 64 Cr 2128
rec'd from 17th Sept No. 1838.

Passing orders on a letter from the Accountt. Genl forwarding the Revenue Statements for Fasly 1268 for transmission to the Home Government.

Revenue Statements for Fasly 1268

Letter to England
Dy 31st January 65 No 25.

1268-1285

No 499 to 500-

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