M.R.O. 1—89,000—16-10-20.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1083 Press Mis.

166-47
Dated 16-7-1920 IX .

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 146. Read the following letter from the Superintendent of Revenue Survey, to the Acting Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, dated Chepauk, 18th June 1870, No. 1,560-38 :—

REFERRING to the Orders of Government as per margin I have the honour to forward copy of a letter, No. 1,431-50, of the 9th instant, addressed to the Board of Revenue in reply to a call from them for a scheme for measuring undemarcated lands in the Kurnool and Godavery Districts.

No. 1,218 of 22nd May 1866.
„ 1,300 of 10th „ 1869.

2. I much regret the great delay that has occurred in replying to the Orders above quoted. It will be observed from my letter that I have been as yet unable to ascertain, with any certainty, the extent of unsurveyed land annually taken up, or to fix definitely the establishment required for the purpose.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From the Superintendent of Revenue Survey, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Chepauk, 9th June 1870, No. 1,431-50.

IN their Proceedings, dated 5th and 16th March 1870, Nos. 1,558 and 1,812, (enclosed), the Board call on the Director of Revenue Settlement and Superintendent of Revenue Survey to state what course they would propose for measuring undemarcated lands in the Kurnool and Godavery Districts. To this Mr. Banbury replies in his letter, dated 23rd April 1870, No. 3,523, (enclosed), recorded in the Board's Proceedings of the 23rd May 1870.

2. In March 1866 a proposal by Major Hessey, then Acting Superintendent of Revenue Survey, for a Survey Establishment in each completed district was submitted to Government, who inquired whether sufficiently accurate returns had been received on which to base this proposal. Since then I have been in communication with the Director of Revenue Settlement and the Collectors of districts hitherto surveyed, with a view to ascertain the probable extent of unsurveyed land taken up each year ; but I regret to say that as yet I have been unable to fix, with any certainty, the area yearly to be operated on.

G. O. No. 1,218, of 22nd May 1866.

3. Mr. Banbury shows that in Godavery the variation in occupation actually results in a loss to Government ; at the same time the statement opposite paragraph 5 of his letter exhibits an excess in the extent of land taken up in Godavery of acres 70,391 and in Kurnool of acres 53,000 during five years. He states that in Nellore land taken up for grazing was neither demarcated nor surveyed but assessed in the block. In Trichinopoly, as Collector, he employed some lowly-paid officials in the Cutcherry to measure and demarcate tracts newly required for agriculture, and believes that the system answered the purpose.

4. The plan thus advocated, I submit, is neither more nor less than returning to the old system, to get rid of which is, I was under the impression, one of the objects of the Survey and Settlement. That the future occupants were willing to pay batta, and the lowly-paid servants nothing loath to receive it I can quite understand ; but I cannot help thinking that it must have given openings to fraud. The same may, I should say, be expected of the grazing lands assessed in the block. We need go no farther than the letter of the Collector of Godavery to discover the probable consequences of entrusting the duties abovementioned to the class of men available in a district altogether unchecked by professional Survey and European supervision.

5. It is possible I may over-rate the advantages of this work being performed by men under the control of persons whose special business it is to see that accurate and trustworthy measurement

is turned out. I must, nevertheless, confess that I should regret seeing work, such as may be expected from Natives, unchecked, and employed frequently in remote places, incorporated with that of the Revenue Survey. The errors that may be expected to creep in would, after the lapse of a few years, cause discredit to be thrown on the whole work of the department, and create a distrust in its accuracy, which might eventually lead to a state of affairs similar to that in which they were when the Survey was first commenced.

6. After giving the subject the most careful consideration, I can, however, devise no arrangement that will not be, to a certain degree, expensive. It is for the Board to determine whether the outlay is worth the end to be attained. I would propose that all unsurveyed land of whatever kind taken up by ryots for the first time should be substantially demarcated and measured as accurately as the means at hand permit, and that at intervals of a few years as convenience dictates a small efficient Party of Surveyors, under a trustworthy upper-subordinate, should district-by district verify these provisional measurements, compute, and plot them in the Village Map. The strength of this small Party must be fixed at first arbitrarily, but there is doubtless at present work sufficient to occupy one of the strength set down in the margin capable of annually turning out from 100 to 150 square-miles according as the lands to be surveyed are scattered or concentrated for some time to come in the completed districts of the Northern Division. I would provide for their inspection at intervals by myself whenever on a tour that took me within a reasonable distance of their work, and at other times by detaching an officer from the nearest Survey Party. Their work would be checked in the Central Office in the same way as that of the District Establishments.

	Rs.	Rs.
1 Sub-Assistant	250	250
2 Surveyors	70, 50	120
20 Ameens	16	320
2 Draughtsmen	30, 25	55
2 Writers and Computors	20, 35	55
Total		800
Per annum		9,600
Travelling expense		1,000
Peons, Measurers, and Contingencies		1,300
Total per annum		11,900

No. 147. ORDER THEREON, 14th July 1870, No. 1,083.

Land Revenue.

THE Government will await the Revenue Board's report on the subject which it is requested may be submitted at an early date.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) H. E. STOKES,
Under-Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.
,, the Director of Revenue Settlement.
,, the Superintendent of Revenue Survey.

Ed. F. R. Bantleman.

Govt. of 1870 Madras.

REVENUE.

To

THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

&c., &c., &c.

Dated July, 14th.

Recd. Encl.

G. O., 14th July 1870, No. 1,033.

VER 7760/84

JULY.

Nos. 146-147.

Scheme for measuring undemarcated lands in the Kurnool and Godavery Districts.— Revenue Board's report on the subject awaited.

Statement shewing the extent of land taken up for cultivation after the completion of the Survey of the District

Districts	Land taken up Acres	Land taken up square Miles	Remarks
	Northern Division		
Godavery ×	70391	110	Vide Pro: Board Revenue A°. 3523 dated 23d May 1870 Land taken up 342630 acres given up 272239 " Diff × 70391
Kistna	87680	137	Vide letter A°. 688/14 dated 27th May 1869 from the Director Revenue Settlement
Kurnool *	53000	83	Vide Pro: Board Revenue A°. 3523 dated 23d May 1870 Land taken up 396523 acres given up 243523 " Diff * 53000 "
Nellore	20480	32	Vide letter A°. 688/14 dated 27th May 1869 from the Director Revenue Settlement
Total	231551	362	
	Southern Division		
Trichinopoly	43851	69	Vide letter A°. 6 dated 28th March 1870 from the Collector
South Arcot (Chedambaram) Taluk	15177	24	Vide letter A°. 1167/31 dated 21st August 69 from the Director Revenue Settlement
Total	59028	93	Rev: Survey office (Signed) J. Priestley Lt Col Chepauk Superintendent Survey 9th June 1870 (True copy) J. Priestley Lt Col Superintendent Survey

Rev: Survey office
Chepauk
Comp'd J.P. 13th June 1870

Govt. of 1870 Madras.

REVENUE.

To

THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

&c., &c., &c.

Dated July, 14th.

Recd. Encl.

G. O., 14th July 1870, No. 1,033.

VER 7760/84

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Rev: Survey office
Chepauk
Comp'd J.P. 13th June 1870

Enclosure to letter
No. 1560/38 of the 18th June
1870.

R 6/1870/71

Fro. 11 July 1870 Le Lelièvre

	13	4	13	4	51	9
	30	"	1	6		6
	60	"	1	58	3	15 2
	132	"	9	70	2	6 2
	30	"	2	40	4	10 6
	100	"	23	84	107	1 6
	60	"	28	34	61	9 8
	34	15	34	15	65	13 "
	21	84	1	86	5	" 6
	15	25	3	25	9	12 "
	10	"	"	"	"	"
	60	"	10	9	68	212 3
	20	"	8	"	144	9 7

	25	"	14	32	24	4 3
	90	"	25	68	57	15 3
	12	"	"	"	"	5
	5	"	3	93	7	5 8
	12	"	1	28	11	5
	52	"	11	28	51	3
	36	"	9	34	17	1 7
	2	"	2	"	1	"
	20	49	15	59	33	9 5
	3	"	3	"	3	"
	20	"	5	8	4	18 15 4
	1	"	1	12	"	10 "
	5	"	1	25	5	14 2
	15	"	9	59	18	5 "

15		180	37	13	36	28	4	6
16		21	36	6	46	10	3	"
17		66	53	36	75	91	14	1
18		155	76	15	8	32	11	2
19		82	15	26	67	40	"	3
20		1	74					
21		273	26	162	57	242	2	3
22		195	53	88	44	132	11	11
23		68	54	31	20	54	6	8
24		207	48	7	53	11	4	3
25		177	80	20	74	31	3	7
26		312	53	66	47	90	9	9
27		22	3/4	85	58	28	5	8
28		115	30	7	131	44	"	10
29		20	12	"	"	"	"	"
30		39	5	3	10	435	7	11
31		166	5	100	56	248	1	10
32		29	4	5	65	11	10	10
33		15	4	4	26	116	12	"
34		78	9	8	31	12	6	4
35		80	96	1	83	8	7	1
36		2	56	2	56	9	14	7
37		"	10	"	10	"	8	11
38		20	"	2	33	3	13	7
39		80	60	26	50	49	15	5
40		103	85	4	46	6	11	"
41		1	2	1	2	2	4	2
42		89	84	6	94	27	12	7
		15177	8	3728	92	6260	6	11

1869

/Signed/ M. Krishnasawmy Row.
Sheristadar.

/Signed/ P. Venugopal
Tahsildar.

(True Copy)

Asst. Sur. of Revenue Settlement.

Revenue Settlement Office.
Madras.
21st August 1869.

No 1164/131

From R. E. Master Esqre
Director of Revenue Settlement
To Colonel J. J. B. Priestley
Superintendent of Revenue Survey.

Sir,

In continuation of my letter of the 21st June last No 826, I have the honor to forward copy of a letter and enclosure from the Collector of South Arcot shewing the extent of unsurveyed land taken up for Cultivation in the Chellambaram taluk of South Arcot since the original Survey.

I have the honorable
Sir
Your most obedient servant
R. Master
Director of Revenue Settlement

18th August 1869 No 736

Comp'd Ltrs

Letter from the Collector of South Arcot to the Director of Revenue Settlement, dated 18th August 1869 No 730.

As requested in your letter of the 21st May last No 663/78, I have the honor to forward a Statement in original shewing the extent of land in the Chedambaram Taluk not originally demarkated and surveyed in detail but taken up for Cultivation since the survey, and to state that the information required in the latter part of your letter will be found in the Statement in the Column of remarks—

I have &c

Collector of South Arcot

Director of Revenue Settlement &c

No 088
11

Revenue Settlement Office
Madras
27th May 1869.

From R. C. Master Esqre
Director of Revenue Settlement

To Colonel J. J. B. Priestley
Superintendent of
Revenue Survey

Sir

I am requested to forward for the information of the Board of Revenue the Map of the 11th instant No 920. shewing the boundaries of the Godavery District.

District	Year	area demarcated
		Sq. Miles
Godavery	1866	6
	1867	23
		29
Kistna	1866	55
	1867	41
	1868	34
	1869 1st quarter	7
		137
Nellore	1868	21
	1869 1st qr	11
		32

I am Sir
Your most obedient Servant
Director of Revenue Settlement

Received 31st May 1869
Superintendent Revenue Survey

SUPERINTENDENT REVENUE SURVEY 31 MAY 1869

Forwarded to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue
Superintendent Revenue Survey
31st May 1869

The Secretary to the Board of Revenue
Fort St George

Sir

I have the honor to forward herewith the Map of the Godavery District as requested in your letter No 1566 dated 28th instant.

I am Sir
Your most obedient Servant
Superintendent Revenue Survey

Survey in the three Districts of Godavery Krishna and Nellore in the years named. New demarcation was also executed in the Godavery District in the years 1864 and 1865, but the particulars not being at hand, I am unable to state the exact area. I will ascertain it as soon as possible and in the meantime send you such information as is immediately available. It may be stated generally that the bulk of the new demarcation is of a very scattered nature, and that tracts of any size in contiguous localities will rarely be met with.

I

2. I regret that I have no information as to the extent of New Cultivation in lands that previously Surveyed in the South Arcot, Trichinopoly and Tinnevelly Districts. I have applied to the several Collectors for the necessary particulars and will communicate them to you as soon as received.

I have the honorable
Sir
Your most obedient Servant
[illegible]
Director of Revenue Settlement

Statement showing the Extent of Intervening Sales Demised, Excess made for Deficiencies during Years ended 31st March 1875 to 1878 inclusive Differentiated according to Districts.

Years.	Plantations		Abandoned		Total
	Extent. Decrease.	Extent. Increase.	Extent. Decrease.	Extent. Increase.	Extent. Increase.
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
1874	12518. 16.	12090. 3.	27. 98.	2611. 12.	1257[illegible] 114.
1875	7856. 8.	8821. 12.	18. 17.	57. 12.	1871. 25.
1876	10263. 80.	9061. 13.	15. 73.	149. 8.	10279. 53.
1877	6997. 85.	9713. 11.	2. 52.	11. 2.	7000. 37.
1878	6115. 28.	4225. 15.	2. 83.	7. 15.	6121. 13.
Total	43954. 17.	39916. 6.	97. 25.	391. 1.	43851. 12.

Turton.

Edwd. Ellis.

Chief Commissioner.

21.

7. Rev. Sec. C 18
of Rev. N. 1431
29 June 50 70

7. Rev. Sec. C Sett. 2
N. 1560 of 18
38
June 1870.

From
The Secretary
Board of Revenue
To The Chief
Secretary
Dated 27th
Rec'd 3 May
1869
No 688
14.

SUPERINTENDENT
1869
28 5
REVENUE SURVEY

Giving information regarding the Area of new demarcation executed by the Settlement Dept to meet the demand caused by extension of cultivation in certain Districts and promising further particulars.

Nuddea Collectors Office
28th March 1870.

No. 6.

From,
W. M Cadell Esq.
Collector of Nuddea

To,
The Superintendent
of Revenue Survey
Madras

Sir,

As requested in your letter No. 280/51 of the 4th February last, I have the honor to forward herewith a Statement shewing the extent of unassessed land taken up for cultivation in this District from July 1874 to July 1875.

I have the honor to be,
Sir
Your most obedt Servt

W. M Cadell
Asst Collector.

G. A. Turton.

No. 946.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 9th February 1870.

Read the following letter from Colonel F. J. B. PRIESTLEY, Superintendent, Revenue Survey, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Chepauk, 24th January 1870, No. 143-9.

UNDER paragraph 9 of Durkhast Rules, appended to No. 150 of the Board's Standing Circular, it is incumbent on all applicants to place boundary marks round the land applied for in such manner as may be required by the Village authorities, but no provision appears to have been made for collecting from Durkhastdars, the cost of demarcation of fields marked out at the expense of Government, previous to the receipt of applications for them.

2. Agreeably to Section 8, of Act XXVIII. of 1860, such unoccupied lands as are likely to be brought under cultivation within the next few years, are demarcated into convenient fields and the cost debited to Government. In the Madras and Ganjam Districts, moreover, owing to several ryots whose fields were in the first instance marked out under Sections 6 and 7 of the Act, having relinquished them subsequent to demarcation, the lands have reverted to Government, as no persons bid for them at public auction. The money expended thus remains uncollected, and the amount advanced cannot be fully adjusted unless the value of the stones used for demarcating these fields is recovered in Contingent bills.

3. I beg, therefore, to propose that when lands already demarcated into fields, etc., are taken on puttah, the Puttahdars should be called up to pay all the expenses of demarcation.

4. On receipt of orders of the Board of Revenue approving of the proposal, instructions will be issued to officers in charge of demarcation to furnish the Tahsildars of the talooks of which the demarcation is completed, with a memorandum of cost of demarcation of each Survey field demarcated in unoccupied land.

FORWARDED for the observations of the Director of Revenue Settlement.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) A. MACGREGOR,
Acting Secretary.

To the Director of Revenue Settlement.

Copy to the Superintendent of Revenue Survey.

Exd. G. A. Turton.

1870.

Board of Revenue,

MADRAS.

PROCEEDINGS, 9TH FEBRUARY 1870, No. 946.

Received 19 FEB 1870 SUPERINTENDENT REVENUE SURVEY

Encl.

FEBRUARY.

No. 946.

Lands demarcated into fields, &c.—Letter from Superintendent of Revenue Survey proposing that, when such lands are taken on puttah, puttahdars should be called upon to pay all expenses of demarcation, forwarded to Director of Revenue Settlement, for his observations.

No. 1,558.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 5th March 1870.

Read the following letter from T. A. N. CHASE, Esq., Collector of Kurnool, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 7th January 1870, No. 4:—

I HAVE the honour to inform you that there is a large extent of land, both cultivated and waste, which requires demarcation, assessment, and measurement in the several talooks of this district. The Director of Revenue Settlement informs me that the Demarcation party hitherto working in this district is engaged in a remote corner of the Cuddapah District, and cannot be spared; and he suggests the advisability of entertaining a separate temporary establishment for the purpose. I have the honour, therefore, to request that sanction may be obtained for the entertainment of the establishment as per margin for a period of four years, at a monthly cost of 63 rupees. A statement of the lands requiring to be demarcated and assessed is annexed.

	Rs.
3 Goomastahs at 15 rupees each ...	45
3 Peons at 6 rupees each	18
Total cost per mensem...	63

2. I find that Government have, in their Order of 8th April 1863, No. 958, accorded their sanction to a similar arrangement in the Godavery District.

Statement showing the extent of land requiring demarcation and measurement in the Kurnool District.

Talooks.	Total extent of Land unsurveyed and undemarcated.		Extent thereof under cultivation.		Extent culturable.	Remarks.
	Numbers.	Extent.	Extent.	Assessment.		
1	2	3	5	6	7	8
		Acs. cts.	Acs. cts.	Rs. A. P.	Acs. cts.	
1. Patticonda	833	29,421 0	2,017 15	947 0 11	5,334 85	
2. Ramalkotta	3,730	53,281 89	3,230 0	1,668 15 11	862 0	
3. Nundikotkur	666	88,155 89	3,310 51	2,664 2 0	8,221 4	
4. Nundial	1,112	1,25,263 15	9,884 47	4,385 12 9	13,305 58	
5. Koilkuntla	412	17,862 19	1,676 48	622 5 11	1,122 12	
6. Siwell	312	52,245 87	1,628 88	685 10 9	2,461 87	
7. Cumbum	3,659	1,37,232 77	2,634 33	1,173 5 8	4,454 58	
8. Markapur	2,057	1,15,944 55	3,668 34	1,420 1 8	10,911 75	
	12,781	6,19,406 42	27,450 16	13,570 7 7	46,673 79	

(Signed) T. A. N. CHASE,
Collector.

In this letter the Collector of Kurnool reports that a large area of land cultivated and waste has been left by the department unsurveyed and undemarcated, and apparently not classified and valued for assessment purposes, and he recommends that he be allowed to entertain a temporary establishment, costing Rupees 756 a year for four years to carry out these measures.

2. The statement shows that Acres 6,19,406 have not been surveyed, etc., of which 27,450 (assessed at Rupees 13,570,) are actually under cultivation, and Acres 46,674 are capable of being cultivated; in all Acres 74,124 or little short of 116 square miles.

3. Before submitting the matter to Government the Director of Revenue Settlement and the Superintendent of Revenue Survey are requested to state why this large area was omitted from these operations, and what they advise in the matter.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) A. MACGREGOR,
Acting Secretary.

To the Director of Revenue Settlement.
,, the Superintendent of Revenue Survey.

Copy to the Collector of Kurnool.

Exd. J. Tulloch.

Board of Revenue
MADRAS.
1870.
PROCEEDINGS, 5TH MARCH 1870, No. 1,558.
Encl.
Received
SUPERINTENDENT OF SURVEY
17. 3.
1070

MARCH.
No. 1,558.

Establishment—for carrying out demarcation and survey of certain cultivated and waste lands in Kurnool District,—Letter from Collector requesting sanction for entertainment of, for 4 years, at a cost of Rupees 756 a year, forwarded to Director of Revenue Settlement and to Superintendent of Revenue Survey, with request to report why these lands have been left undemarcated and unsurveyed, and what they would propose in matter.

No. 1,812.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 16th March 1870.

Read the following letter from J. FRASER, Esq., Collector of the Godavery District, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Cocanada, 12th February 1870, No. 38:—

IN many villages of the upland Talooks of Peddapur, Rajahmundry, Yernagudem and Ellore, most of the Zirayati lands have been demarcated in large blocks and surveyed by Compass. No detail survey was made, because greater portion of these blocks are covered with jungles and hills. Ryots generally cultivate some portions of these lands and use the others for grazing. The area of each of such fields varies from 50 to 1,000 acres and above.

2. Several ryots apply to the Tahsildars at so many acres each, for many of the fields, and occupy for cultivation or for grazing. The land occupied by each ryot in various places of each field is measured by Curnums and Revenue Inspectors, and an account presented at the time of Jummahbundy for fixing assessment thereon. As these lands were not classified by the Settlement Department, Revenue Inspectors cannot possibly measure all such lands, they being numerous in their respective ranges. The Curnums' accounts are not trustworthy.

3. While I was making the Jummahbundy of the Rajahmundry Talook in December last, I found in the village of Palacherla, that 110 acres of land occupied by ryots were not included in the account prepared by the Curnum.

4. This account was signed by the Revenue Inspector and Tahsildar and presented as a correct one. It was discovered afterwards that the Revenue Inspector did not measure the lands at all. Rupees 160 are fixed on the above land in addition to that, viz., Rupees 643, demanded on the area incorrectly entered in the account given at the time of Jummahbundy. It is difficult to detect the errors in all other villages, nor is it possible for the Tahsildar to do so. Only the Curnums' returns must be depended upon.

5. I have, therefore, directed that in future, those who would take such lands, should apply for the whole Survey fields at suitable annual assessment, whether they cultivate the whole land, or use it for pasture or not without any measurement or interference by the Curnums. Many lands in many villages have been in like manner applied for by ryots for the next year; but in some villages a few survey fields consist of village sites and hills, etc., quite unfit even for grazing. These fields as well as others of large sizes should be sub-divided and surveyed into blocks of not less than 50 acres each. There are no competent surveyors here to do the work.

6. I have, therefore, the honour to request that the Board will be pleased to make some arrangement on the subject, should there be no probability of the Survey establishment being introduced shortly in this district.

IN this letter, the Collector of Godavery brings to notice a very important matter, which in all districts already surveyed, presses for decision.

2. Much unoccupied land had been left in a great measure unsurveyed or demarcated. For such must be deemed to be the condition of a tract where large blocks varying from 50 acres to 1,000 are left without any Survey division or marks. The land has not been classified and assessed by the Settlement Department.

3. There is a large and increasing demand for this land and the Collector expresses his inability to ascertain the accurate measurement and assess it properly.

4. At present the Curnums and Revenue Inspectors measure the portions for which offers (Durkhasts) are made and the assessment is determined at the Jummahbundy. But serious mistakes or misrepresentation occur, and the Collector does not consider the Curnums' returns trustworthy.

5. The Collector has issued orders that entire blocks only shall be granted. It is obvious that under present circumstances, any such order must seriously obstruct occupation, and deprive some ryots of suitable holdings and saddle others with land which they cannot cultivate.

6. The order must, therefore, be cancelled, until the larger blocks can be surveyed and the fields reduced to convenient size, as he recommends.

7. In the meantime the blocks given off should be durably demarcated, leaving the survey until a more convenient time.

8. The Director of Revenue Settlement and Superintendent of Revenue Survey, are requested to state what course they would propose for measuring the interstitial fields in the Godavery District.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) A. MACGREGOR,
Acting Secretary.

To the Collector of the Godavery District.
,, the Director of Revenue Settlement.
,, the Superintendent Revenue Survey.

Exd. G. A. Turton.

Board of Revenue,
1870.
MADRAS.

PROCEEDINGS, 16TH MARCH 1870, No. 1,812.

Received 29 MAR 1870 SUPERINTENDENT REVENUE SURVEY

Encl.

MARCH.
No. 1,812.

Unoccupied lands—in Godavery District, which have been demarcated in large blocks, and of which no detail survey has been made.—Collector's order that applicants for, should be granted entire blocks only, to be cancelled, and blocks already granted, to be durably demarcated.—Director of Revenue Settlement and Superintendent of Revenue Survey requested to state what course they would propose for measuring interstitial fields in District.

No. 3,523.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 23rd May 1870.

Read the following letter from G. BANBURY, Esq., Acting Director of Revenue Settlement, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Madras, 23rd April 1870, No. 587-13:—

IN reading over Board's Proceedings, dated 5th March 1870, No. 1,558, and also those dated 16th March 1870, No. 1,812, I find that each communication touches upon the same subject, the demarcation and survey of waste in districts already settled by this Department. I have, therefore, the honour to answer both Proceedings in this letter.

2. The only apparent remedy for the evils complained of by the Collectors of Godavery and Kurnool, is the retention of a small Special establishment for dealing with these newly taken up tracts. But as the Board doubtless remember, this measure has not only been previously advocated, but was submitted to Government, in Board's Proceedings, dated 15th March 1866, No. 1,813, in paragraph 4 of which it is recorded as follows:—

"The Board fully concur in opinion with Major Hessey that, for some time to come, an establishment of the nature proposed* will be necessary, in order to keep the Survey abreast of the extension of cultivation in as perfectly an accurate a manner as in the case of that land which has been already scientifically surveyed in detail. It would be very short-sighted economy to entrust such work to inefficient men, and to leave it without professional supervision. "The Government in passing orders† upon the above Proceedings, wished to know whether Major Hessey has received such returns as enable him to judge whether "such an amount of unsurveyed land had been taken up in sufficiently contiguous "localities as will make it worth the while of Government to survey it regularly as he proposes, "or whether the better plan is to accept the less accurate measurements of the Revenue officers "until this is the case." I cannot find that any answer was sent to Government by the Superintendent of Survey to this requisition, and the question having thus remained in abeyance is no doubt the cause of the present references from Godavery and Kurnool, regarding which the Board have asked for an expression of my opinion.

* *For one district.*

	Rs.
Establishment	562
One-third of Special Assistant's salary and allowances	200
	762

†Dated 22nd May 1866.

3. As respects the Godavery District, it would appear that a small temporary Survey establishment was sanctioned by orders of Government, dated 8th April 1868, and unless this has been done away with, these special employés would, I should have imagined, be engaged in mitigating the evils Mr. Fraser now complains of; again, I cannot quite understand how it is that in Godavery "there are no competent surveyors to do the work." Generally in a district upon which the survey have been engaged, there are to be found numerous hands well up in all survey details, and only too willing to take employment near their own homes; in fact, it often happens, that the Ameens and others have left the Survey owing to their native district being finished, and to their being unwilling to depart for new work in a distant province. The Uncovenanted Assistant in the Kistna says, however, "If there are no competent hands in the Godavery, there "can be no difficulty in getting them here" so that should the Board think proper to recommend the entertainment in the Godavery of any of these late employés they can easily be selected and sent from Guntoor.

4. As long as the settlement is in progress in a district, we carry out the work now under discussion, and this is the case at present in Guntoor, Nellore, Cuddapah and Salem. It sadly delays our legitimate progress, but still as Collectors have always wished it, we have always done it. The Demarcators are able to survey, and their work being checked, it is no doubt for Revenue purposes sufficiently accurate. I may mention that Mr. Rundall in Nellore seems to have organised a very satisfactory system for measuring and assessing these new occupations under his own immediate supervision.

5. It being universally admitted that an extra establishment *must* be maintained for dealing with these newly occupied tracts, the question to be settled is, its cost and quality. No doubt Major Hessey's scheme of a well trained office, working under proper supervision, and keeping Survey maps up to date in each Province, must be admitted to be the most suitable and the really correct mode of procedure; but then comes the counter-balancing outlay. According to Major Hessey's scheme, the cost would be Rupees 9,144 per annum for each district, and in an unfavourable season, the increase in Revenue from newly taken up dry lands, would not certainly pay the cost of these extra employés. Again it is, I think, to be considered, when calculating cost, how much of this new occupation is likely to be permanent; and whether a considerable portion of the unsurveyed tracts in Kurnool and the Godavery, are not about to be required for mere transient and desultory cultivation. I cannot help thinking that much of the jungle waste is taken up in scattered patches for two or three years, on account of the good return to be reaped from the virgin soil, and relinquished subsequently, in favour of other waste; in fact pursuing a system something like the old form of "Koomery" on the western coast. Mr. Cox, the Deputy Director in Cuddapah and Kurnool, when speaking of these new occupancies in the latter district, says "In many places I think "they will be found to be lands not taken up "permanently, but merely whenever there has "been an unusually favourable season, and "cultivated once in three or four years, after "which they are again thrown up in favour of "other similar lands." It appears altogether, that a system of fallows is organized, and the land thrown up when its owner finds it wants rest. The former mitigation of assessment on account of "padoogal" or fallows is now no longer admitted; thus the ryots relinquish with one hand and take up with the other. This view of the case, more especially as regards the Kurnool District, is supported by a Statement kindly supplied me from the Board's Office, and which I here annex. Considering that these lands are often situated in isolated portions of jungle, difficult of access, the demarcation and survey must necessarily be expensive. Moreover, it is very probable, that some portion of these waste tracts now asked for, are required for grazing, and it would be manifestly fruitless, to undergo the outlay of demarcating these ranges into survey fields; moreover, if on the other hand we asked the would-be owners to undergo the outlay in jungle clearing and chain line cutting, they would in all probability decline manifesting any further interest in the matter.

Fuslies.	Kurnool.				Godavery.				Remarks.
	Lands given up.		Lands taken up.		Lands given up.		Lands taken up.		
	Acres.	Assessment.	Acres.	Assessment.	Acres.	Assessment.	Acres.	Assessment.	
		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.	* The chief causes for the lands given up in the Godavery are the following— Acres. Asst.
1274	38,509	27,153	75,119	78,922	20,362	35,253	26,218	1,12,809	The conversion of dry into wet 33,049 1,32,829
1275	75,119	78,922	70,923	82,617	19,041	47,353	18,212	89,954	The transfers of villages under joint-rent into single rent, and the latter into Miscellaneous... 66,918 2,09,760
1276	70,923	82,617			1,70,927*	6,15,062	1,81,361	1,89,256	Lands actually resigned... 97,565 1,76,930
1277	60,021	53,679			12,425	16,741	87,630	1,14,254	also a portion of Acres 39,225, assessed at Rupees 3,82,822, was given up by the adoption of new survey and assessment rates.
1278	51,051	37,329			43,854	1,11,311	29,209	93,374	
		Lands given up.		Lands taken up.					
		Acres.	Assessment.	Acres.	Assessment.				
			Rs.		Rs.				
		38,509	27,153	75,119	78,922				
		75,119	78,922	70,923	82,617				
		70,923	82,617						
		60,021	53,679						
		51,051	37,329						
		Lands given up.		Lands taken up.					
		Acres.	Assessment.	Acres.	Assessment.				
			Rs.		Rs.				
		18,895	11,250	18,895	11,250				
		67,611	60,030	67,611	60,030				
		55,649	47,766	55,649	47,766				
		54,373	55,876	54,373	55,876				
		47,006	38,614	47,006	38,614				

* The chief causes for the lands given up in the Godavery are the following—

	Acres.	Asst.
The conversion of dry into wet	33,049	1,32,829
The transfers of villages under joint-rent into single rent, and the latter into Miscellaneous...	66,918	2,09,760
Lands actually resigned...	97,565	1,76,930
also a portion of Acres	39,225,	assessed at

Rupees 3,82,822, was given up by the adoption of new survey and assessment rates.

I find that such was the case in Nellore, and that Mr. Rundall, consequently recommended, that these grazing grounds should be assessed in the block and not demarcated or surveyed in detail. To this arrangement Mr. Master, accordingly consented.

6. Taking the above facts into consideration, I think that an establishment of the strength* proposed in paragraph 7 of the Board's Proceedings, dated 11th October 1865, No. 6,444, should be sanctioned, with discretion allowed to the Collector to add one or more clerks with attendant peon or peons when the interests of Government thus demanded. In Trichinopoly there were two or three lowly paid officials in the Huzoor Cutcherry, well up in survey details, and I used to depute these men to measure and demarcate tracts newly required for agriculture. I found that, as a rule, the future occupants were as willing to pay batta to these employés as the latter were to go into the field and earn it. To the lands thus measured were allotted the last consecutive number in the Kundum or Village, and they were duly recorded in the Adungul account; the system might have been rough and ready, but it was practical and answered its purpose.

	Rs.
* One Surveyor	70
One Clerk...	20
Two Peons, at 7 Rupees each..	14
Total...	104

7. It has yet to be decided whether the ryots are to pay the cost of this new demarcation by the levy of a moderate fee, or whether Government are merely to be recouped by the permanent occupation of these newly acquired properties. I note that the Board† are averse to levying any fee when unsurveyed lands are taken up by the ryots. I have, however, reported‡ to the Board my views upon this subject, when answering their Proceedings, dated 9th February 1870, No. 946, so that I need not again touch thereon.

† *Vide* Proceedings, dated 4th July 1866, No. 4,530.

‡ Dated 16th March 1870, No. 393.

8. In the Proceedings under reply, the Board ask why such large areas of cultivable waste were omitted from our operations? The expense was doutless the main cause of these extensive ranges being left untouched. According to the Boundary Act and the Demarcation Rules, the outlay in marking out, jungle clearing, and chain line cutting, would have to be borne by the State, and as there was then no apparent prospect of these tracts being sought after by the ryots, the outlay was naturally not incurred.

THE Board await the reply of the Superintendent of Revenue Survey to their Proceedings of the 16th March 1870, No. 1812, before passing orders on this subject.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) J. GROSE,
Acting Secretary.

To the Superintendent of Revenue Survey.

Copy to the Director of Revenue Settlement.
" " Collector of the Godavery District.
" " Collector of Kurnool.

Exd. G. A. Turton.

1870.

Board of Revenue.

MADRAS.

PROCEEDINGS, 23RD MAY 1870, No. 3,523.

Received 3 · 6 1870 SUPERINTENDENT SURVEY REVENUE

Encl.

MAY.

No. 3,523.

Interstitial fields—in Godavery District,—Reply of Superintendent of Revenue Survey to Board's Proceedings, dated 16th March 1870, No. 1,812, requesting to know what course should be adopted for measuring, awaited.

No. 3,645.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 27th May 1870.

Read the following letter from G. BANBURY, Esq., Acting Director of Revenue Settlement, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 16th March 1870, No. 393-8:—

I HAVE the honour to offer the following observations as requested in Board's Proceedings, dated 9th ultimo, upon the proposal to charge cost of lands already demarcated to those ryots hereafter occupying them.

2. The proposal may be said to contain two provisions:—

1*st*.—As regards charge for demarcation upon lands waste when the marks were assigned and duly fixed.

2*nd*.—As regards lands in occupation at the time of marking out, but whose holders have thrown them up without paying the charges thereon, thus becoming in fact demarcation defaulters.

3. It seems to me that we should be proceeding in opposition to the spirit of the Boundary Act were we to charge those fields comprised under the first provision. Thus, Section 8, Act XXVIII. of 1860, provides that "in the case of *unoccupied* fields, the cost of marks for such fields "shall be charged to Government." There is, moreover, nothing in this Act whereby we could legally levy the demand were we to impose it. In fact, it would almost seem that the Act virtually tells us not to make any demand of the kind.

4. Concerning the second provision, I do not think Sections 5 and 6* can be construed so as to embrace subsequent occupants. It refers merely to persons in occupation at the time the Survey is in progress. Colonel Priestley doubtless deems that as the demarcation is a legal charge upon the property, we can hold the land responsible for this charge irrespectively of any change in occupancy. But the subsequent holders might most reasonably plead that they had received no "notices," as enacted, "whilst the Survey is in progress" to "set up such boundary marks as may be required," and that consequently the demand was incorrect and inapplicable to their case. I apprehend, however, that there would be but few cases in which this charge would be made even if it were authorized, for if the lands are so inferior that the former holders threw them up, and no one could be found to bid for them at auction, it is not probable that many of them would be taken up for cultivation when weighted with this cost for former demarcation. As regards the recovery of the cost from the real defaulters, their personal property is liable to be attached under Act II. of 1864, as the demarcation charge "shall be levied in the same manner as arrears of land revenue."

* Act XXVIII. of 1860.

5. I may remark that paragraph 9 of the Durkhast Rules referred to by Colonel Priestley commences with the stipulation—"If there are no boundary marks;" thereby implying that if, as in the present instances, there are marks already on the ground, applicants are not to be troubled about them.

6. Although, however, the legal aspect may be contrary to Colonel Priestley's views, I see no objection to our making a stipulation with Durkhastdars, and saying "you are at liberty to the "waste you seek to acquire, provided you pay for the cost of demarcation which Government "have already undergone." Where waste is scarce or competition keen, this condition would not tend to diminish the spread of new culture, but in other instances it might act as a bar, and thus the discretion to levy or not to levy should be left with the Collector. In settling a Durkhast the expression of willingness to pay this charge might be deemed a point in the assenter's favour and give him priority over other applicants; but then the Durkhast Rules would need modification on this point.

7. While upon this topic, I may state that Colonel Priestley's plan of charging for demarcation of waste might be very advantageously adopted in cases where ryots are desirous of newly taking up portions of an undivided tract or khandum, the exterior boundaries of which are alone defined. I found in Trichinopoly that the applicants were often only too willing to pay the cost

of demarcating that portion of the waste tract they were desirous of holding, and that as Mr. Puckle had left persons in Trichinopoly well up in all the necessary details, I had no difficulty in carrying out this desirable arrangement. This plan should, I think, be adopted wherever practicable, and I find Collectors are constantly applying to this department to mark out and measure the undefined portions of khandums now about to be tilled; we do it, but our work is hindered thereby, and it is precisely the task upon which the small Survey* establishment proposed to be given to Collectors might be employed, and for executing which the would-be occupants are very frequently only too willing to pay.

* *Vide* Board's Proceedings, dated 15th March 1866, No. 1,813.

8. To summarize—I think the legal aspect of Colonel Priestley's propositions prevents their being authoritatively brought into operation, but that Collectors should carry out the required conditions wherever the would-be occupant is willing to accede to them, and that in those cases where portions of undemarcated tracts are required for new cultivation, the cost of marking out and measuring them into fields should be defrayed by the successful applicants.

COMMUNICATED to the Superintendent of Revenue Survey, with reference to his letter, dated 24th January 1870, No. 143-9, embodied in Board's Proceedings of 9th February, No. 946.

2. A Circular Order will be issued (supplementary to the Board's Standing Order No. 150) in which the suggestions contained in paragraph 6 of Mr. Banbury's letter will be embodied.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) J. GROSE,
Acting Secretary.

To the Superintendent of Revenue Survey.

Copy to the Director of Revenue Settlement.

Exd. T. Cartledge.

1870.

Proceedings of Board of Revenue

MADRAS.

PROCEEDINGS, 27TH MAY 1870, No. 3,645.

Encl.

Received

SUPERINTENDENT REVENUE SURVEY 8 · 6 1870

MAY.

No. 3,645.

Demarcated lands.—Observations of Director of Revenue Settlement on proposal of Superintendent of Revenue Survey that when such lands are taken on puttah, puttahdar should be called upon to pay all expenses of demarcation, communicated to latter officer.—A Circular Order, to be issued, embodying suggestions of Director on this subject.

Rev = 1870. No 1183

From P. 1836.

To The Superintendent Rev. Survey

The Secretary to Govern: Revenue Board

Dated 18th instant Rev. Depte

Despatched 20th June

Received 20th

Enclosure No. 61

General No. 1560

Departmental No. 38.

Subject.

~~REFERENCE~~

No 1183 14 July 1870.

Forwards Copy of a letter No. 1431/50 of the 9th Instant addressed to the Board of Revenue in reply to a call from them for a scheme for measuring undemarcated lands in the Kistnah & Godavery Districts.

No 1183 14 July 1870

The Govt will observe

The Board of Revenue

The subject

on

Pte Puckle Despatch

13 Oct 1866

13 Oct 1866

Supt Rev Survey