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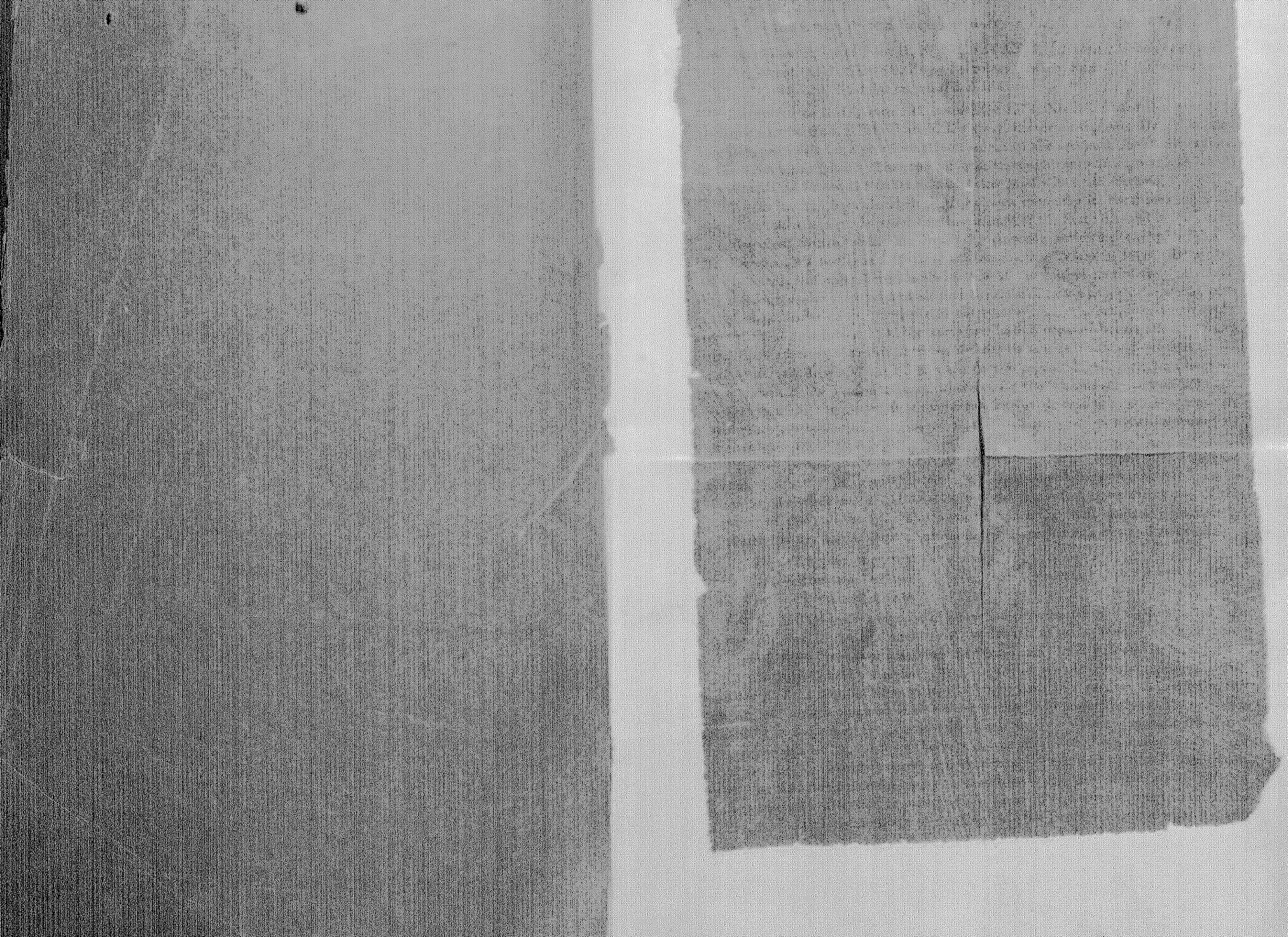
Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	1267	Yr Press Ms.
Dated	5-10	1874.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Settlement - Shri
Jaghu - Tr
- S. A.



ryot whose holding barely exceeded 1/2 lb. of a cavity had under the plough system to pay Rupees 10-8-0 which was exactly the amount paid by the Monaster or 20 cawnies. I would also call attention to Sri Bahad's remarks in Chapter II, paragraph 10, where he points out how this system conduces towards an inferior description of agriculture. The tax being on the implements, the ryot naturally uses as few as possible, and as the time for ploughing is limited, he hurries quickly over his farm with his one plough, and the land which, if it had borne an acreage assessment, would probably have been well tilled with several ploughs is merely scratched over in order that the owner might cultivate (if the word is permissible) as wide an area as possible under such disadvantageous conditions. The Deputy-Collector has dwelt at some length on the evils of the plough system in order to remove any impression that may exist as to its being popular with the agricultural classes. That the few who have battered on its abuse should cling to it, is not to be wondered at, but it has, I think, been satisfactorily shown that its abolition would be a great boon to the majority of the ryots, whilst at the same time the Government revenue would be materially benefited.

5. As regards the system known as "Amani" which prevails in a limited number of the villages, although not so objectionable as that referred to above, there are sufficient grounds for its being done away with, even though a trifling loss of revenue should be the immediate result. Under it the assessment, though regulated by the area of the holdings, is varied by the description of crop grown: a practice which has long ago been condemned.

6. The revenue system which obtains in connection with wet cultivation is known as "Waraputh" under which the State takes a share of the produce. Previous to the resumption of the Jaghira, the landlord's share was nominally 70 per cent., but the result of the Deputy-Collector's enquiries is that in point of fact this or a similar impost was evaded under the Jaghiredar's administration to an extent which left the landlord and ryot about equal sharers, and this is borne out by the fact that when the Estate was taken under Circular management in 1821, and a less lax supervision was exercised, the ryots were unable to meet the demand, and the irrigated area was almost entirely thrown up. In 1854 Mr. Hall raised the ryots' share to 50 per cent., but this concession had no perceptible effect, and the repressive tendency of the sharing system under existing rates may be inferred from the fact that at present nearly 83 per cent. of the Nangah ayacut is left waste or cultivated with dry crops under the plough system. This may be to some extent due to the ruinous condition of the irrigation works, but I am inclined to think that they were allowed to fall into this state of disrepair because the ryots were not interested in having them kept in order. This view is borne out by the fact that in the village of Reddipolliem where in 1868 two tanks were put in complete repair the ryots will not use the water as it pays them better to raise dry crops under the plough system than to have the produce of wet cultivation with the State. The direct loss to the revenue in this instance alone, the Deputy-Collector estimates at about Rupees 300. Barely Rupees 40 are realized on the wet ayacut in this village under the plough system, whereas according to the rates proposed by him (vide Appendix B, Enclosure X.) which, be it observed, are lower than those introduced by Mr. Ravenshaw

under various pretexts, and on to the reform is reduced by this as far as it remained in the district, and for Fashies 1248, 1249 and 1250 a new assessment superseded the plough and amani modes of Revenue administration. The financial results will be found in a marginal note to paragraph 18 of the Deputy-Collector's report, and it will be sufficient here to note that whilst in the amani villages the increase of revenue did not exceed 13 per cent., in the mixed villages where the amani and plough systems both obtained it rose to 34 per cent., and in the purely plough villages the beriz, calculated on the average of the three fashies during which the new system prevailed, more than doubled. In Fash 1251 Mr. Ashton having left the district, a return to the old system was ordered by Mr. Commissioner Dent, when the beriz fell to nearly its former amount. Mr. Hallet, who succeeded Mr. Ashton as Collector, strongly advocated his predecessor's rates, and proposed a new and reduced scale of rates. To this letter no reply was received from the Board of Revenue although Mr. Davis called attention to it when he took charge of the district. No further action was taken in connection with the Jaghire till 1854, when, at the suggestion of Mr. Hall, certain extra cesses and second crop assessment (fasaljasti) on dry lands were abolished. On the recommendation of this officer a cess of 1 rupee 7 paise per cawny on punjah garden land was imposed.

8. Next came the operations of the Survey Department in 1850 which, owing partly to the imperfect demarcation at the time, and partly to the settlement not following immediately on its track, proved to be practically useless, as shown in Mr. Banbury's letter, dated 14th September 1872, No. 1852-A-18, embodied in the Proceedings of Government now under reply. To this succeeded a so-called mensuration by the village officers, conducted during the time Mr. Rendu was Collector, but as the registers merely show the amounts actually estimated during the year, and as the rates imposed were purely arbitrary, the record of these operations was also valueless.

9. The record of Mr. Ashton's survey not being forthcoming, and that of subsequent operations not being of any practical use, the Deputy-Collector had to commence the work afresh. The result of his labours, his proposals for a revised settlement of wet, dry and garden land, will be found in paragraphs 23 to 42 of the report, and the Statements which accompany it.

10. Sri Balajah has divided the villages into three groups for dry land and two for wet (vide Statements VI and VII), and in classifying the soils into 1st and 2nd groups than Mr. Ravenshoe's scale, whilst for the 3rd group which comprises the hill villages, seven in number, special terms are proposed. For dry lands ten villages cultivated under the amani and mixed systems and four plough villages have been placed in the first class (vide Statement VI), in consequence of the advantages of position and soil lying at the foot of the hills where the soil is healthy, have been placed in the 2nd group, whilst the seven hill villages form

11. I need not here refer to the rates of assessment proposed for the dry lands in the 1st and 2nd group; they are those appropriate to the class of soil, and the details will be found in Statement IX, and the grounds on which a classification of the soil lower than that of adjacent settled villages was adopted will be found in paragraph 26 of the report. It remains then but to notice the proposals made with reference to the seven hill villages in the 3rd group.

12. The lands in these villages have been roughly divided into 1st and 2nd class. For the 1st class it is recommended that a rate of 1 rupee per cawny (the lowest dry rate in the district) be imposed, and a special rate of 8 Annas for the 2nd. The grounds for this indulgence are fully stated in paragraphs 27 and 28 of the Deputy-Collector's report and will, I am sure, commend themselves to the Board. The cultivation on hills and their immediate vicinity requires to be fostered; and it will be observed from the Statement which appears on the margin of paragraph 28 that in the villages which lie at the foot of the Chekkady Hills on the Salem side, a large extent of land is rated at less than a rupee, and in some instances the assessment is as low as 4 Annas. The loss of revenue involved in the adoption of this special rate amounts, as compared with the beriz of 1282 to Rupees 23-9-0 only.

13. Paragraph 29 must receive a brief notice. It treats of punjah garden lands watered from wells constructed at the ryots' own expense on which, as above stated, a special assessment of Rupees 7 per cawny was imposed by Mr. Hall in 1854. Since that time the impolicy of taxing the outlay of private capital on a ryot's holding has been fully recognized, and in Coimbatore, where these wells abound, old well land has, to the best of my recollection, been assessed as 1st class Punjah, whilst lands watered from wells constructed subsequent to the order abolishing the special tax are charged according to the class of soil. The latter proposal that in Chekkady the latter course should be adopted in the case of all well lands, and as this will merely involve a loss of revenue to the trifling extent of Rupees 31-4, I cordially support the proposal. It will be an encouragement to the people to dig wells which, from the nature of the soil, are much wanted in many parts of Chekkady.

14. As the same reasons which led the Deputy-Collector to rate the soils in the dry lands in a lower class than that fixed in the settled villages are also present in connection with the wet ayacut, he has followed a similar plan with regard to this description of cultivation. This, as pointed out by the Deputy-Collector, involves no real loss of revenue, as owing to the heavy Government demand under the existing system and the ruinous condition of the irrigation works, about 12 per cent. only of the area is under wet cultivation. If the rates proposed are adopted, and the irrigation works restored, there can, I think, be no room for doubt but that the Nangiah ayacut will be brought under wet cultivation in Chekkady as in other parts of the district. It will be seen on a reference to paragraph 16 of Sri Balajah's report that so far back as 1842 Mr. Hallet recommended that the excess of revenue collected under Mr. Ashton's unsanctioned scheme of field assessment should be devoted to the repairs of these works. In passing orders on the proposals now submitted, I hope that the Government will be pleased to direct the Department of

Public Works carefully to inspect the old irrigation works noted in the report and Statement, No. VIII., and to submit estimates for the repair of each of them as may be likely to yield a profitable return on the outlay. The Deputy-Collector estimates the cost of their restoration at Rupees 9,040, but this, I am inclined to think, is below the mark.

15. The proposals contained in paragraphs 33 and 34 having to do with the abolition of "Minahas" or deductions in favour of privileged classes and the classifying and rating of Inama lands, to save trouble in the possible event of their resumption and to facilitate the calculation of local cesses, payable under Act IV. of 1871, appear judicious and do not call for remark.

16. In paragraphs 35 to 42 inclusive, the Deputy-Collector explains the effect on the revenue which his proposals, if adopted, are likely to have, and it is satisfactory to observe that the redistribution of the assessment which the scheme embraces whilst materially relieving those ryots who are overburdened with taxation and imposing but an equitable and moderate demand on those who have hitherto not contributed a fair share is likely to result in a large percent augmentation of the public revenue, and ere long the extension of cultivation which is almost certain to follow the introduction of the new system will go to swell further the income of the State. From the Statement entered in the margin of paragraph 35 having reference to dry lands, it appears that the result of the introduction of the rates proposed will be a net increase of revenue to the amount of Rupees 4,911. In amani and hill villages where the burden of public taxation now presses the heaviest, there is a decrease of Rupees 314 as compared with the demand for Fash 1282, whilst in mixed villages there is a slight increase equal to about 2 per cent. in the plough villages an increase of Rupees 1,992 appears, or 63 per cent. more than the demand for the above fash under the plough system. This large increase is due to the simple fact that the ryots of these plough villages have hardly paid anything hitherto for the lands occupied by them. The Deputy-Collector points out that in only six villages the average assessment per cawny slightly exceeds Rupees 1, whilst in the others (exclusive of the seven hill villages) the average was less than 1 rupee, and in some "instances under 10 Annas per cawny. It will be observed from paragraph 37 that under the scale proposed, the average rate per cawny in Chekkady will be only Rupees 1-8-11, or less than the average of Tal-nomalai Taluq of which it forms a part, and considerably less than Mr. Ashton's rates. Had these been adopted, the increase would have been in dry revenue 63 per cent. whilst, according to the proposals under notice, it does not exceed 27 per cent. As Mr. Ashton has left on record that the assessment imposed by him was collected with ease, and that cultivation was extending under the settlement made by him, I think, that so far as the ryots are concerned, the more moderate proposals now submitted may be accepted without question. The rates will probably have to be raised hereafter, when the taluq is taken in hand by the Settlement Department, but I consider it very advantageous, having regard to the previous circumstances of the Estate, that this provisional and admittedly moderate settlement should have preceded the more exact operations of the regular department.

17. A reference to paragraph 38 will show how the hill villages will benefit by the introduction of the proposed system.

18. Alluding to the admittedly heavy demand of the ryot in the case of wet cultivation under the "Warupath" or sharing system, the Deputy-Collector points out that at present the average rate per cawny is close upon Rupees 2, whilst it ranges as high as Rupees 14, and as indicated in paragraph 6 of this letter this is not the full measure of the ryots actual payments. In lieu of this a scale of rates has been proposed (vide Statement No. X.) which gives an average of Rupees 6-0-0 per cawny. This is less than the average wet assessment in the settled portion of the taluq by Rupees 0-2-8, and may, I think, be fairly accepted. A reference to the table entered in the body of paragraph 40 will show a deficit in the demand of Fash 1282, on the area actually irrigated in that year to the extent of Rupees 111-4-3, but if that portion of the wet ayacut now actually occupied but cultivated with dry crops owing to the excessive rates leviable under the present system is under the proposed rates cultivated with wet crops the net increase will be Rupees 757-4-1. If the irrigation works on which these occupied lands depend are put in proper repair, there can be no reasonable doubt but that, under the proposed moderate rates, the ryots will avail themselves of the advantages of irrigation to the fullest extent.

19. The immediate benefits to the public revenue likely to result in the case of lands actually under occupation are given below :—

	Rs.
On dry lands	5,745
On wet lands	757
Total...	6,502

and if the culturable waste measured during the survey, but at present unoccupied is taken up, as it is likely to be, under the moderate terms proposed, a still further increase to the following extent will be brought to account :—

	Rs.
Dry	6,797
Wet	825
Total...	7,622

The Statement appended to paragraph 4 of Sri Baliah's report. From paragraph 42 the Board will observe that the measurements made under the supervision of the Deputy-Collector do not include 313 of the area measured by Mr. Ashton, so that there is a considerable margin left for an eventual extension of cultivation as the demand for land increases.

20. In paragraph 44 the Deputy-Collector submits a scheme for the revision of village establishments in the Jaghirc, the net financial results of which is an excess over present charges to the extent of Rupees 868, caused by the proposed entertainment of taliares and toties. No village has at present a taliary, and very few have any provision for the remuneration of toties. I quite agree with Sri Baliah that each "vuttam" or group of villages should have a toty and taliary.

21. I can find nothing in the proposals submitted to alter or modify, and in forwarding them, for the Board's consideration, I would suggest that if the scheme has their approval, Government should be moved to pass orders in view to effect of the new settlement being introduced in the coming fashi. It will be apparent to the Board that to ensure the benefits which the proposed settlement seems to hold out, so far as the wet cultivation is concerned, the submission of an early report on the condition of the irrigation works is essential, and I trust it may be found possible to depute a special officer for the purpose. One of the Department of Public Works Ranges in this district has been without an officer since May 1873, so that it would be impossible for the present staff to undertake the task with any hope of performing it satisfactorily within a reasonable time.

22. In conclusion, I beg to bring to the favourable notice of the Board the able manner in which, without any additional establishment, Sri Balah has performed the duty entrusted to him. He has, I know, given much anxious care and personal supervision to it, and has notwithstanding this extra call on his time, contrived to carry on his other work in a highly creditable manner. His division is admirably administered, nearly the whole of the revenue of 1282 was collected within the fashi; his correspondence file is free from arrears, and all information called for from his Office has been promptly supplied. It is with much pleasure that I avail myself of this opportunity just as I am about to leave the district, to leave on record a favourable opinion of the merits of this able and deserving officer, an opinion which I hope the Board of Revenue will feel themselves in a position to endorse.

Enclosure No. 1.

From C. SRI BALAH, Deputy Collector on General Duties, South Arcot, to H. D. SULLIVAN, Esq., Acting Collector, South Arcot, dated Triumalai, 13th December 1873, No. 231.

With reference to Government Order No. 38, dated 11th January 1873, and your letter No. 121, dated 12th February 1873, I have the honour to submit my proposals for the provisional settlement of Chekkady Jaghire, in Triumalai Taluk.

2. As a preliminary to the report, I beg to submit a few observations on the system adopted by

* The other four were subsequently settled by Mr. Ravenshaw on the principles of Mr. Ravenshaw's settlement.

Mr. Ravenshaw in settling six* of the ten Hoobles Taluqs in the year 1868, as the Government direct that the rates prevailing in the settled adjoining taluqs should be introduced into the Jaghire. As shown in the Enclosures I. and II., Mr. Ravenshaw divided the soils in the district into eighteen varieties for wet and twenty-six for dry. An estimate was then framed of the quantity of grain each different sort of soil would yield, and two or more varieties, whose productive power was assumed to be identical, because the estimated outturn was the same, were placed in one class; in this manner six classes were formed for wet and seven for dry; each class was then divided into three sorts, best, middling and lowest; but as the assessment imposed on the highest sort of one class was often the same as that imposed on the middling of the class immediately above it and on the lowest of the next higher class, the number of rates of assessment or *taxans* was only sixteen for wet and twelve for dry, inclusive of double crop, and doubtful of double crop lands. Of the estimated produce, which Mr. Ravenshaw himself admitted to be higher "than the lands yielded on an average," 50 per cent. was taken as the Government share, this was then commuted to money payments, at the rate of a pagoda for 5 Kallams.

Report to the Board of Revenue, dated 10th May 1868, paragraph 9.

There was a general reduction in the rates of assessment introduced in 1875, and the consolidated assessment on two crops was then swept away. The subjoined Statement gives the above particulars in one view.

Class or Taluk as per Estimated Mr. Ravenshaw's Settlement	Government share per Cany.	Government share.	Mo. or value of the Government share in 5 Kallams a pagoda.	Assessment as revised yearly.	Present Class.	Remarks.
			RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.		
	Kallams.*	Wet.				The first seven classes in wet were double crop and a substantial of
VIII.	40	224	15 12 0	11 15 0	VIII.	* Kallam is equal to double crop lands.
IX.	30	168	11 0 0	10 0 0	IX.	34 Mazas (muzzas), these were transferred to class X.
X.	50	280	18 0 0	9 0 0	X.	and Selections from Revenue No. XXII.
XI.	30	168	10 0 0	8 0 0	XI.	Papers relating to the revision of assessment in South Arcot. The above remarks apply to the 1st and 2nd class lands in dry also.
XII.	20	112	8 12 0	7 0 0	XII.	
XIII.	20	112	7 0 0	6 10 0	XIII.	
XIV.	10	56	5 0 0	4 0 0	XIV.	
XV.	10	56	4 0 0	3 0 0	XV.	
XVI.	5	28	1 12 0	1 0 0	XVI.	
		Dry.				
III.	20	112	10 0 0	4 4 0	2nd.	† The present 1st class in Dry is the old garden land which pays a special rate of assessment viz. Rupees 7 per cany.
IV.	25	140	12 0 0	5 0 0	3rd.	
V.	20	112	8 0 0	4 0 0	4th.	
VI.	15	84	6 0 0	3 0 0	5th.	
VII.	10	56	4 0 0	2 0 0	6th.	
II.	10	56	3 0 0	2 0 0	7th.	
I.	5	28	1 12 0	1 0 0	8th.	
0.	0	0	0 0 0	0 0 0	9th.	
1st.	4	22	1 0 0	1 0 0	10th.	

3. The particulars connected with Mr. Ravenshaw's settlement are to be found in the paper of instructions issued by him to the Survey Amine, of which a translation was submitted to the Board of Revenue by the Collector Mr. Hyde, with his letter No. 57, dated 2nd May 1868. Much was doubtless left to the discretion of the Amine in determining the extent of lands, and it would appear from paragraph 1 of the Rules for classing and settling waste lands, that they were assessed one and the same rate as the cultivated fields of the same description and quality. Hence the inequalities noticeable in the present rates of assessment: these inequalities are more apparent in dry fields, although this assessment would not have affected us in the case of wet lands, according to the nature of irrigation and the position of the lands in respect to it.

4. I have therefore thought it safer to test the soils in the fourteen settled villages surrounding the Jaghire to see if the rates prescribed in the instructions were actually imposed; I find a difference with a result on the whole favourable to the ryot. The rate on a particular soil is, on an average, that which, by the paper of instructions, should have been imposed on a soil two classes below in Dry and one class below in Wet. I do not think this is a rebuttable entirely to any subsequent change in the soil; for I have invariably examined the surface, about a foot below the surface. The rates in the settled villages have been examined, also with a view to obtain more satisfactory data for my calculations; for if they were based solely on the nature of the soil, the rates I should have to recommend for Chekkady would be higher than those prevailing in the surrounding villages; whereas there are special circumstances to be detailed hereafter, which require that the rates in the Chekkady Jaghire should be lower than those in the surrounding villages.

5. I wish to make a few remarks on one or two points connected with the present Revenue system which I find were not prominently noticed in the former correspondence on the subject. A reference to the enclosed Statement III. shows that the forty-four villages forming the Jaghire are held under three different systems of Revenue as regards Dry cultivation:—

(a.) In thirty-four villages,* the plough system prevails: i.e. the assessment is levied at the rate of 10 Rupees and 8 Annas for each plough and of 1 Rupee and 12 Annas for each axe, without any reference to the area cultivated;

* Plough villages.

in Company, and under the Orders of the Court communicated through the Government Order No. 17, dated 27th April 1821, the Jaghira was placed under the Collector's management and the villages were rented out, till the Jaghira was finally resumed by Government in 1823. The Government Order dated 30th January 1829, communicated with the Board's letter, dated 19th February 1823.

13. In paragraphs 9 to 13 of his Jamabundy Report for Fasli 1247, dated 25th December 1828, No. 89, the Collector, Mr. Ashton, reported that with a view to introduce a regular system of assessment from the year (Fasli 1248) in Chekkady and Senkarapuram Jaghira, he had introduced the ryots that they would be called upon to pay the Teerwah according to the area cultivated instead of the number of ploughs and axes. In their Proceedings, dated 19th July 1828, paragraphs 14 to 25, the Board of Revenue disapproved of the measure generally on the ground that, though it might be desirable to introduce one uniform system of assessment, sufficient reasons had not been adduced to prove that circumstances had so far altered as to justify such a change; more particularly that its adoption would render the ryots liable for a demand of Rupees 3-3-0, when previously they had paid only 1 Rupee a cawny.

On the 6th August 1839 Mr. Ashton explained the unequal and inconsistent operation of the old, the arbitrary exaction of it on no defined principle from the poor cultivators; that he never intended to state that each cawny was subjected to a payment of 1 Rupee or indeed any fixed rate, but that such amount only was brought to account; that it was natural that the powerful should endeavor to uphold such a system, and that he did not suppose the cultivating ryots objected to the change, that the rates established in the Jaghira on the whole extent of cultivation had been easily collected during the fasli; that it would be difficult to revert to the old system; that if the rates ordered by him were thought to be excessive, they could be reduced in any degree, provided the assessment were put on the extent of cultivation which he accordingly earnestly advised. Before the receipt of this letter the Government, in their Order, dated 20th August 1839, communicated with the Board's Order of the 2nd March 1840, concurred in the Board's view urging the necessity of a field survey prior to the introduction of money assessment. A copy of paragraph 8 of the Government Order is given below for easy reference:—

"The remarks of the Board of Revenue expressed in the paragraphs noted in the margin on the proposed position of Mr. Ashton to do this year which

17, 18, 19, 20 and 21.

"and in several villages of Senkarapuram Taluk of levying the demand not on the extent of cultivation

* Only so many were then under cultivation.

"or the special of ploughs, but on the number of ploughs and axes supposed to be required for the cultivation of the land, and to substitute in lieu of it an average Teerwah at the rate of 1/2 Rupees per cawny which he admits to be treble the amount of what the inhabitants have been accustomed to pay, are extremely pertinent and deserving of attention; and the inference to be drawn from the fact of a small proprietor being content with that mode of payment is by no means to be overlooked, and although the present system is far from being the best, or such as his Lordship in Council approves of, still as it is one to which the ryots of that part of the district have been long accustomed and which it would appear they are unwilling should be changed, he concurs with the Board of Revenue in thinking it inexpedient to subject the inhabitants at once to such a heavy tax, more especially as it does not appear upon what data Mr. Ashton has gone when he concludes 1 Rupee to be the average rate per cawny, and a sum which they can be reasonably called upon to pay, and approves of their order to him to suspend its collection. The attention of the Principal Collector is particularly directed to the other orders of the Board of Revenue, conveyed in paragraph 20 connected with this subject, with a view to their being carried into execution with as little delay as possible."

14. In his Jamabundy Report, dated 20th August 1840, for Fasli 1248, (the second year of the introduction of money rates) Mr. Ashton expressed the impracticability of reverting to the plough system in the middle of the fasli year, and reiterated his application for sanctioning the change; he had introduced, alleging that a much larger sum than that brought to account was collected by land and retained by the headman, who in consequence petitioned for the old practice, and that the rates introduced by him were not too high, as the soil was excellent, and under their imposition the cultivation

had extended. The Board repeated their former objection, in their Order, dated 19th April 1841, and in a few days after Mr. Ashton left the district.

15. In the mean while, the third year of the introduction of money rates passed away, and orders were given for the return to the old system from Fasli 1251 by the Commissioner, Mr. Dent, on the 15th June 1841. He also gave orders for the preparation of a Comparative Statement showing the excess paid by the ryots under the change introduced by Mr. Ashton.

16. In reporting on Board's petition (No. 249 of 1842) and in reference to a letter from the Board, Mr. Hallet, in his letter No. 95, dated 26th November 1842, explained all that had taken place. The excess collected in the three years of the change was Rupees 7,937.12.0 which Mr. Hallet recommended should be reserved as a fund to be expended on the repairs of Aulcots and other irrigation works in the Chekkady Jaghira when the lands are taken up on a fieldwar assessment. He at the same time in concurrence with the views of Mr. Ashton, urged the necessity of introducing money rates. I will give his remarks which it would appear were passed by him after he had tested the survey made by Mr. Ashton.

Paragraph 11.—"Chekkady, till lately was a terra incognita, it was assumed in 1829 but Mr. Ashton was the first Collector who ever visited the country. I know that Mr. Ashton was struck with the richness of its soil and its evident capacity. During last September, I took means to judge for myself. I was surprised at the fertility, the superiority of the cattle, and openness of the country compared with what I had expected. In the latter respect, the Taluqs of Chingut, Telonahai, Tri-Palar and Kalkurahi are not superior to it. I therefore do not hesitate to affirm that the time has arrived when Chekkady together with the whole of the Jaghira of which it is a part, should be assessed like the remainder of South Arcot; the necessity instead of which the Government and Board have acknowledged provided a survey be first concluded."

Paragraph 12.—"I find it very advisable as the country is for ever assumed by our Government to propose to introduce into the whole Jaghira of Senkarapuram (of which Chekkady forms a taluq) the system of taxation prevailing in the remainder of the South Arcot, and for reasons previously expressed I do not intend to recommend any favor to be shown towards Chekkady."

Paragraph 13.—"The late Principal Collector undertook the survey desired by the Board; he conducted it free of all additional expense to Government, entirely by Taluq and Muzar servants, and I am able to state that owing to his exertions and increasing attention, it was finished in a manner superior to the ordinary execution of such undertakings by extra temporary officers."

For wet lands.	
7 Rupees for land where there is a channel only for irrigation.	
24 Rupees for land where there is a tank supplied only by rain.	
10 Rupees for land where there is a tank supplied by rain and river channel.	
For dry lands.	
5 Rupees for inferior quality and unimprovable waste.	
24 Rupees for medium and waste within 10 years.	
5 Rupees for the best and on special lands.	

evidently never copied on paper, as no effect had been given to the survey.

15. The Statement in the margin gives in one view the basis of the Jaghira villages under cultivation in the three years of Mr. Ashton's change,

System.	No. of villages.	No. of ryots.	Basis in Taksils under the change.			Per cent. Fasli 1251.
			1248	1249	1250	
Arable...	5	408	503	500	500	28
Mixed...	5	2,381	3,003	3,003	3,375	1,230
Plough...	25	1,020	1,055	4,321	2,900	2,102
Total...	35	4,609	7,654	8,816	7,775	5,709

and in the year antecedent as well as subsequent to it. As I have already had occasion to remark, that the area under cultivation in plough system villages is not recorded, and it is likely that the increase in the basis of the villages in the first year of the change (Fasli 1248,) is not entirely attributable to the introduction of high rates alone. But the cultivation could not have materially improved in one year in the thinly peopled and jungly tract, and the increase is, in my

"It is desirable no doubt that Obokandy villages together with the rest of Kalim 17,400 Khan's Jaghirc have been incorporated with the three lands, that one uniform system of assessment

V. The mischief done to crops by wild beasts has also to be considered. It involves additional labour on, and loss to, the cultivator.

Per Wat.
Bays 4, 5, 3 and 2.
Per Dry.
Bays 2, 1, 3 1 and 3 Annex.

VI. The country is unhealthy, hilly, jungly, and thinly populated; far removed from any markets and with no roads to get to them.

27. From the Appendix A showing the dry area of each class of soil in the villages and how Mr.

Enclosure VI. is an abstract of Appendix A.

Ravenshaw assessed the soils in the Madras Taluqs you will observe that in the case of the villages in the first group, the rates proposed are lower by two classes than those indicated in the instructions of Mr. Ravenshaw, and lower by three classes in the villages in the second group. As regards the villages in the third group, they require to be treated more indulgently in my opinion. Mr. Ravenshaw was fully alive to the necessity of an exceptional indulgence in favour of the hill ryots generally. He directs as follows in paragraph 16 of his rules:—

"The lands cultivated upon hills and its environs shall also be assessed according to their nature, and they shall be described as such in the accounts in order that a special rate may be fixed thereon" and I do not think more than 1 rupee a cawny for the best lands on the hills would be fair. While the ryots on the plains profit by the plough system, those on the hills were sufferers under it. From the peculiarity of their position, their cultivation was necessarily limited, but the amount of assessment per plough or aro was the same as in the villages below the hills.

A hill ryot cultivating ½ of a cawny with his hard manual labour (for hillside cannot be worked on the slopes) paid Rupees 1.12.0, while the ryot on the plain paid the same for a cultivation of four or five times as much area and with much less trouble.

28. A reference to the Statement below specifying the rates in force in a few of the villages in Salem District which lie at the foot of the Chakkady Hills on the other side, shows that the rates of assessment there are very light compared to those in force in this district. There are three rates in those villages of the Salem District which are less than 1 Rupee, the lowest rate of assessment in this district.

Statement showing the rates of dry assessment in the undermentioned villages of Chingachari Taluq, Salem District.

No.	Names of the Villages.	Rates of assessment per acre.	Area under each rate.	Total amount.	Assessment per cawny.
182	Chikalar	na. a. p.			
		0 8 0	290 95	145 7 0	0 10 4
		0 12 0	332 79	397 15 0	0 15 10
			623 74	543 0 0	
175	Narippalli	0 4 0	30 8	9 12 0	0 3 3
		0 8 0	238 84	129 7 0	0 10 6
		0 12 0	325 95	244 10 0	0 15 10
		1 0 0	18 65	19 11 0	1 3 1
		1 4 0	28 71	35 14 0	1 10 4
			671 23	438 6 0	
173	Vira Naikempatti	0 4 0	114 58	27 14 0	0 5 3
		0 8 0	1,524 26	762 2 0	0 10 6
		0 12 0	582 58	437 2 0	0 15 10
		1 0 0	172 49	172 8 0	1 5 1
			2,390 91	1,399 10 0	
180	Mantlikolampatti	0 8 0	22 75	11 6 0	0 10 6
		0 12 0	862 57	272 1 0	0 15 10
			585 32	283 7 0	
176	Periappatti	0 8 0	94 10	47 1 0	0 10 6
		0 12 0	287 65	215 13 0	0 15 10
			381 75	262 14 0	

I do not, however, recommend that the minimum rate should be less than 1 Rupee in the villages at the foot of the Hills. There the ryots have under the plough system paid as much as 1 Rupee or a little less a cawny, and they do not ask for or expect a lower rate of assessment. But the villages on the hills have to be exceptionally treated in view of their peculiar position, and this recommendation receives additional strength from the fact, as above shown, of the villages on the plain (that in Salem District) having been very lightly assessed. I have, therefore, divided the soils in the Hill Villages into but two classes, and charged the 1st class lands with the last rate (1 Rupee) obtaining in the district.

Cultivation in 1252.	Area as assessed.	
	At 1 Rupee.	At 8 As.
103 9 1	57 7 0	51 2 1

Loss by the adoption of lower rate Rupees 25 9 0.

29. *Garden.*—The *Parad* Garden lands pay Rupees 7, per cawny, as I have already shown, but there is no reason why this special rate should be continued irrespective of the nature of the soil.

The *Tottakal* lands in *Madras* villages continue to pay Rupees 7 a cawny, but they have the advantage of being invariably around the village sites, but in *Chakkady*, this special assessment is levied on any land, be it near the village site or far removed from it, provided the ryot took the trouble to sink a well on it and raise garden crop. Supposing the special rate is to be continued on the lands so cultivated in 1252, the year adopted for comparison, the unequal pressure of this taxation would be evident when the owner of the adjoining land, paying probably 1 Rupee or Rupees 1.2.0 a cawny converts it into garden just after the money rates are introduced. I have, therefore, assessed the lands under *Dry* according to their soil alone, irrespective of the improvements made by the ryot. The

* Area of <i>Parad</i> Garden lands cultivated in 1252.	68 1 0
Assessment thereon.	Rupees 475 14 0
Deficit to Government in the order of Rupees.	105 9 1

Difference or loss Rupees 314 13 11

financial result of this is a deficit of the small sum of Rupees 314.13.11 on the basis of the year 1282. I must here remark that this special rate of Rupees 7 a cawny is in existence in the highly assessed *ammi* and mixed villages alone, while in the plough villages the most valuable garden crop on a cawny hardly pays a rupee. In these latter, the garden cultivation is more extensive than in the limited number of the former, and to deny the indulgence to the over-assessed ryots while their neighbours have always enjoyed it and are able to enjoy it, would be unfair and inequitable.

30. *Saravathi* or *wet lands*.—These lands are limited in area and lie in fifteen villages. The wet area in five of them has not been under cultivation within the memory of the present generation. In one of them, viz. *Vijayanagar* the entire wet *Ayast* was recently transferred to certain ryots at Rupees 2.5.0 an acre, and the truck was made over to them under the rates for the restoration of ruined tanks, contained in Standing Order No. 125.

In the Village of *Reddipallam*, already noticed in paragraph 2, the lands are cultivated with dry crops although the two tanks were completely restored in the year 1865 and there is sufficiency of water for wet cultivation. The water has never been used, for the ryots do not like to raise wet crops on account of the hard bargain Government drives with them in insisting on an equal division of the crop, and although there is plenty of water available for wet cultivation, the ryots prefer to pay for the lands at the plough rate and to raise dry crops. The *ayast* viz., 50 cawnies, taking 13½ cawnies per plough, (the average in this village) hardly pays Rupees 10 under the plough system, while the wet assessment payable on it would amount to Rupees 318.2.3 according to the rates proposed.

As several of the reasons in favour of a light rate of assessment for dry lands detailed in paragraph 25 above, fully apply to the wet cultivation also, I have classed the wet lands one rate or two lower (according as the village belongs to the first or second group) than those they would bear under

† For Details, See Appendix B.

Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada

These findings are in line with previous research that suggests that the use of a single, unidimensional measure of self-esteem may be insufficient to capture the complexity of self-esteem. The use of a multidimensional measure, such as the one used in this study, may provide a more comprehensive understanding of the relationship between self-esteem and mental health outcomes.

I have done so as the medals are purely or wholly in silver, and except one or two specimens, none have been issued within the last fifty or sixty years. I fear of opinion that the introduction of money having a metal base would lead to an extension of their circulation among the tribes, and to the consequent deterioration of the metal condition, and I believe the Government are loathe to give some attention to the matter. The series of the Great collection of Rapaes, 7,267-12-1 by the Collector, Mr. Ashby, which should have been introduced, has apparently been retained as a reserve to be expended on trifling objects, as the introduction of money rates are introduced. Several of the tasks are called up and others are projected, but progress having been executed for several years except to a few of them in the last year 1890.

32. **Second Charge**.—I would here remark that the assessment payable on a second crop, if raised on the wet lands by means of Government water, does not enter into the present consideration, and is part of the neglected condition and the inferior capacity of the new tenants in villages. I do not anticipate any increase of revenue on this head except in very favourable years.

24. **TIAM.**—The Statement below shows the area of Iam lands, under Dry and Wet, the nature of their tenure, and also the proposed assessment on them. I have thought it advisable to fix the assessment on Iam lands also, to avoid any inconvenience in calculating the land area, and in subjecting them to their full assessment should the occasion ever arise for their resumption.

Nature.	Dry.			Wet.			Total.					
	Extent.	Assessment.		Extent.	Assessment.		Extent.	Assessment.				
Unfranchised personal	11	0 0	14	10 0	5	6 0	28	16 0	18	0 0	43	7 0
Religious	7	12 1	20	7 0	7	7 3	45	11 4	15	4 0	60	15 4
Total	4	10 3	10	14 2	0	0 0	0	0 0	4	10 3	10	14 2
Calendar Brahmins	1	0 0	3	3 0	1	4 1	7	13 11	2	4 1	10	13 11
Vedavarchi	0	0 0	0	0 0	1	0 0	7	0 0	1	0 0	7	0 0
Total	24	7 0	49	2 2	15	4 0	89	5 3	39	11 0	128	7 3

Description of Youngs		1966 1967 1968	1969 1970 1971	Increase Decrease	
Assets		\$5,215	\$5,332	\$117	0
Liabilities		7,104	7,730	626	0
Equity		7,431	12,335	4,904	0
Total		200	83	117	0
Total		37,624	37,754	130	0

表 1 1990—1994 年中国人口出生率、死亡率、自然增长率		1990—1994 年中国人口出生率、死亡率、自然增长率	
年份	出生率(‰)	死亡率(‰)	自然增长率(‰)
1990	21.42	6.87	14.55
1991	20.84	6.72	14.12
1992	20.26	6.57	13.69
1993	19.68	6.42	13.26
1994	19.10	6.27	12.83

The total increase of Dry Restone is only 27 per cent. against 33 per cent. under the rates of Mr. Ashton already referred to.

Class.				Assessment per Cawny.			Area.		
				Ry.	A.	S.	C.	A.	S.
4th	...	...	...	3	3	0	127	12	0
5th	...	...	...	2	10	0	545	2	2
6th	...	...	...	2	7	0	2473	11	3
7th	...	...	...	1	15	0	1815	12	0
8th	...	...	...	1	8	0	4723	10	3
9th	...	...	...	1	0	0	4552	4	1
							12,953	5	1

Classes.	Percentage of Area.
1st	1
2nd	8
3rd	16
4th	13
5th	31
6th	31
Total	100

37. The average assessment per acre in the Taluk of Trinmalai is Rupees 1-10-2 under Dry and the average for Chikhalu is less viz., 1-8-11. It has to be borne in mind that far higher rates than those now recommended were proposed for the Jaghira by Messrs. Ashton and Hallet. The minimum rate was not below Rupees 1½ or 2, and there is the recorded testimony of Mr. Ashton that the increased revenue was collected easily and that cultivation had extended under it.

There is therefore no reason to fear that by the action proposed the demand would be rendered too heavy or that the present cultivation would diminish in consequence. The fact that some of the villages have already begun to cultivate in irrigated fields, and the suggestion that the proposed measures would lead to a positive increase of revenue at the present time, and to the fact that the demand would be the extent of their individual holdings according to their own resources, the crops of irrigated fields with a disproportionately heavy assessment on one hand and of unirrigated fields with a comparatively light assessment on the other, would gradually disappear. I am inclined to think that the present rates have been more in favour of the ryots than of the revenue and any further reduction of the rates, as I submit, certainly not called for. You will observe further that the rates proposed are not as high as those of Messrs. Ashton and Hallett would appear to be, nor are they as low as those proposed by Mr. Hallett, and as the average is less than in the several villages of the Taluk, the rates of which I have taken as a part, it is reasonable to hope that the rates proposed will be acceptable to the ryots in general and will conduce to their increased cultivation and to increased revenue.

VILLAGES.	ASHTON'S RATES.				REMARKS.
	P. 43.		P. 43.		
	Extent.	Assessment.	Extent.	Assessment.	
Arenthi ...	3 8 0	4 19 8	3 8 0	4 19 8	
Nattampalli ...	1 0 0	1 11 4	1 0 0	1 11 4	
Akkampalli ...	3 0 1	3 11 8	3 0 1	3 11 8	
Moinnampalli ...	3 0 8	3 19 4	3 0 8	3 19 4	
Bannikul ...	...	...	...	...	

39. My remarks on the wet revenue assessment are as follows. The wet cultivation is very limited in area for the main reason that the ryots have been obliged to leave a large part of the entire produce.

* 2 Muzals a cawny credited to Government Revenue. From the present position, the Muzals a cawny are worth as little as 1/20th of the value of the land. The average assessment per cawny under the proposed rates is 1/20th of the value of the land, and the average cultivation for ten years.

An examination of the Villages and average shows that the assessment is not as high as 1/20th of the value of the land, a rate of assessment higher than that paid by the ryots in the settled or Hoolas Taluqs. Nearly 12 per cent. of the entire area is under wet cultivation, and should the irrigation works be improved, there is no reason to doubt that with the money proposed introduced, most of the area will be brought under cultivation within a very short time.

It is also worthy of note that the average wet assessment is 1/20th of the value of the land, or 1/20th of the value of the land, or 1/20th of the value of the land.

40. Annexed is a Statement showing the wet revenue under the proposed rates compared with the demand for Fash 1293.

Particulars.	Demand in 1292.	Revenue as proposed.	Decrease.	Increase.
Wet cultivation ...	Rs. 4,115 5 8	Rs. 3,113 1 8	Rs. 1,002 4 0	Rs. 4,115 5 8
Dry Do. ...	Rs. 854 11 11	Rs. 1,323 4 8	Rs. 468 12 7	Rs. 854 11 11
Total ...	Rs. 4,970 6 19	Rs. 4,436 6 12	Rs. 534 0 7	Rs. 4,970 6 19
Net Increase ...				Rs. 534 0 7

The net increase of revenue is 55 per cent. on the wet area under cultivation. The Dry cultivation on wet pays a fixed rate of 1/20th of the value of the land, and the amount so obtained is set off against the demand for Fash 1293.

been taken into account in striking the average rate per cawny. Of the wet area under cultivation viz. 390 cawnies, 85 per cent. is cultivated with dry crops. The remainder (49 cawnies) formed the wet cultivation proper in Fash 1292 and the revenue derived was Rupees 423 or Rupees 2.13.0 a cawny.

41. The annexed Memorandum gives in one view the extent including the uncultivated cultivable waste, as well as the occupied area, and the maximum revenue derivable on the entire area measured both dry and wet.

Description.	Occupied.		Uncultivated Cultivable Waste.		Total.	
	Extent.	Assessment.	Extent.	Assessment.	Extent.	Assessment.
	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
Dry ...	14,109 6 2	22,534 10 11	4,734 3 2	6,796 7 9	18,844 12 0	29,331 2 3
Wet ...	390 1 0	2,135 5 8	78 0 2	325 3 3	468 1 2	2,460 9 0
Total ...	14,499 7 2	24,670 0 7	4,812 6 0	7,121 11 2	19,312 13 2	31,791 11 9

42. That the revenue is susceptible of still further improvement in course of time will be evident from the large area covered with jungles which have not now been measured in consequence. The total area including Paramukals measured in Mr. Ashton's survey was measured 27,691 as the Statement furnished to the Board of Revenue by the Collector Mr. Hallett, in his letter, No. 95, dated 28th November 1842 shows, and the area now measured is hardly 60 per cent. of it, and the inference is obvious that no lands that ought to be brought under cultivation at any distance of time were omitted in that survey, and calculating the assessment payable in the unmeasured area at 1 Rupee a Cawny, the lowest rate in the district, the Government demand when the entire area is occupied, would be a little more than double the revenue now derived as shown below.

1. Demand in Fash 1292	Rs. 12,900
2. Assessment on the area now settled	Rs. 31,791
3. Do. on the unmeasured area	Rs. 8,448
Total of Items 2 & 3	Rs. 40,239

43. To prevent further correspondence and delay, should the proposed rates be still deemed too high, which I can hardly think they will be, I beg to annex a Statement showing the revenue derivable on the occupied area should the land in the several classes (Wet and Dry) be assessed one class or Paramukals. The increase would be Rupees 1,885 compared with the result of the rates already recommended, and the increase on the revenue in Fash 1292, Rupees 783 or only 4 per cent.

Particulars.	Demand in 1292.	Assessment on the occupied area.		Difference between Columns.	
		As proposed.	As per alternative recommendation in P. 43.	3 and 4.	4 and 2.
	1.	2.	3.	5.	6.
Wet ...	Rs. 1,371	Rs. 2,135	Rs. 1,674	Rs. 461	Rs. 296
Dry ...	17,627	22,534	18,110	4,424	487
Total ...	19,000	24,669	19,784	4,885	783

4. The Land Revenue systems which prevailed throughout this Jaghire were various and for the most part highly unsatisfactory, the Deputy Collector characterizes some of them as "barbarous," and it seems to have been the wish of every Collector to set matters on a more satisfactory footing. This desire was effected long since in the case of Paliencottah which was surveyed by Colonel Priestley in 1854, and soon after classified and settled with very good results by Mr. Hall. Similarly Kollymally was next surveyed by Colonel Priestley and settled with the rest of the Chillumbrum Taluq by the Special Department in 1858. But the remaining divisions, probably owing to their remote situation, have, notwithstanding attempts

at amelioration, continued up to the present time under the system so often condemned, and although Chekkady will now soon be improved, Senkrapuram yet remains to be dealt with.

5. The system now prevailing in the Chekkady villages may be thus briefly described. 1st, as regards dry lands. There are three different modes of realizing the revenue. (1). By the "plough and axe system" which prevails in thirty-four villages, and which the Deputy-Collector and Collector both prove to be ruinous to the poor, unduly favourable to the influential, and sadly detrimental to the interests of Government. The cess of Rupees 10-8-0 per plough and Rupees 1-1-2 per axe is levied irrespectively of area, so that the rich man tills, say 12 Cawmes, for precisely the same assessment that his poorer neighbour pays for only 3. Mr. Hallett seems to have been of opinion that originally this method was merely a specie of cowle to enable ryots to clear jungle, but the present working of the cess produces apparently nothing but hardship to the deserving, and loss to the State. (2). By the "Amam" System. This is not very clearly explained, and the term seems hardly to be used in its ordinary acceptance. The Deputy-Collector states that the assessment varied according to the crops grown, so that "Pareh dittam" would seem to be the more appropriate term. There must have been some rough paymash, and the lands must have been annually examined in order that each crop might be taxed according to the "Dittam," or regulated rate fixed thereon. (3.) The mixed system or combination of the "plough" and "amam" which exists in the remaining five villages, and which results in lands of the same quality situated side by side, being assessed at three times as much under the "plough tenure" as they are under the "amam."

6. 2nd.—As regards wet. Here the practice is uniform, it is termed "Wamputh" and consists of the actual produce being equally divided between the Government and the ryot after certain deductions have been made from gross outturn.

This now almost obsolete practice has been so often condemned that the Board need only remark that the delays in measuring the crop when ready for the sickle cause such serious loss to the ryots that they prefer growing dry crops to wet, and thus 85 per cent. of the wet cultivated area is under "Poonjah produce."

7. As clearly shown in the letters now under review, the attempts to rectify matters in Chekkady have been numerous, although not hitherto successful, and

* G. O., dated 11th January 1878, No. 93.

Government appear to have certainly had good grounds for saying "there must be some old paymash" as two schemes

have already been submitted for the Board's consideration. The first of these was a well matured measure introduced by Mr. Ashton in Fasli 1248 by which a field assessment for dry lands was to take the place of the plough and axe systems. The Board and Government objected to the change, apparently being under the impression that no field survey had been made, whereas this essential preliminary seems to have been carefully conducted. Finally although Mr. Ashton's settlement worked very satisfactorily for three years† and although the increase

† Faslis 1248, 1249, 1250.

in revenue was large and easily paid, orders were issued for its discontinuance by Mr. Dent in 1841 when he was appointed as Commissioner, and the beriz then again fell to nearly its former standard. In his letter to the Board, dated 23rd November 1844, Mr. Ashton's successor, Mr. Hallett, after a personal inspection and deliberation, and further recommended that the sum of Rupees 7,397-12-0 being reserved as a fund for the repairs of the irrigation works in this special tract. But no orders were received through Mr. Dent the next Collector called attention to the matter.

8. The next step of importance was the survey of these villages by Colonel Priestley. This was undertaken when the department was young, and owing to its having to face considerable difficulties before experience had shown how they were to be met, the result was very different from what it would be now. There was no demonstration held by him, the theodolite stations can, in many instances be no longer found, and the face of the country has become so altered that it was at last reluctantly resolved to abandon the attempt at refilling the survey of 1841.

9. In 1845 Mr. Reade's attention was called to the necessity for remedial measures, and consequently in Fasli 1272 he drew up and introduced a scheme, apparently without the Board's sanction which at once reduced the beriz 59 per cent. This scheme Mr. Reade abandoned the following year. The work seems to have been executed on a very rough and ready plan, to have been executed by the village officers without supervision and to have applied only both as regards measurement and assessment to lands in occupation during that year. It was consequently not approved of, and after some correspondence* as to the feasibility of restoring Colonel Priestley's survey, as already explained, the task of revising the assessment was entrusted to Sri Haliah.

10. From the foregoing it will be gathered that there have now been no less than four surveys of this tract. The first by Mr. Ashton which seems to have been exceptionally good, but which is useless except to the records having apparently been destroyed; 2nd. That executed by Colonel Priestley; 3rd. Mr. Reade's which extended only to the lands in actual occupation; 4th. The one now carried out by Sri Haliah. The letters before the Board do not show how the latter has been conducted, but it is presumed that it is similar to that adopted by Mr. Ravenshaw, with rectangular measurements by twenty-four foot pole. It seems that no use whatever, not even apparently of the existing boundary marks was made of Colonel Priestley's work during this last survey, but Mr. Reade's measurements as far as they went seem to have been utilized. Sri Haliah's survey extends over the entire area† excluding hills, jungles and otherwise uncultivable lands. The following brief return shows the area under occupation, and that falling under unoccupied cultivable waste by the recent measurements:—

	Occupied.	Unoccupied.	Total.
Dry	14,100	4,794	18,894
Wet	330	78	408
Total	14,430	4,872	19,302

11. The classification has been conducted according to the principles followed by Mr. Ravenshaw when he made his settlement of the Ho-lea taluqs of South Arcot in 1838. The soils by this scheme are divided into eighteen descriptions, or wet and twelve for dry, grain valuations being affixed to each; but as many of these valuations are identical, the several descriptions fall into six classes for wet, and seven for dry. These for wet are now given as an example.---

No.	Soils.	Estimated produce per acre in Tarams				Tarams assessed at		Remarks	
		Class.	Wet	Middling	Lowest	Wet	Dry		
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
1	Land having black earth and sand mixed	1st	45	40	35	35	45	8	The first seven classes or Tarams do not appear as they were consolidated into two crop assessments levied on double crop, and doubtful of double crop lands.
2	Land with mud out of the village						40	9	
3	Do. the fifth and sixth of a large tank						30	11	
4	Do. do. do. of a river						25	12	
5	Do. having white earth and sand mixed	2nd	40	35	30	25	13		
6	Land having black earth and clay mixed					20	13		
7	Do. red earth and sand do.					15	14		
8	Do. having a fifth and sixth of a small tank	3rd	35	30	25	10	15		
9	Do. having red earth and clay mixed					5	16		
10	Do. do. white do. and do.	4th	30	25	20				
11	Do. having black and sterile earth mixed								
12	Do. red and do. do.	5th	25	20	15				
13	Do. white and do. do.								
14	Do. abounded with sand	6th	15	10	5				
15	Do. with lime-stones								
16	Sterile land								
17	Barren								
18	Sandy of an iron colour								

12. It will be seen that these "classes" are sub-divided into "best," "middling" and "lowest," and that, owing again to the valuations often being identical, the final tarams, or rates of assessment, stand at nine for wet. For dry there are also nine. Previous to Mr. Edward Maltby's revision in 1855, there were sixteen for wet and twelve for dry, but the higher rates then all disappeared, and the original scheme is now reduced to nine for both dry and wet, as shown hereafter. The estimated produce was computed at the rate of 70 Rupees per garce,

and half of this taken as the Government share. The rates thus resulting stand as follows, after deducting as just explained the higher gradations swept away by Mr. Maltby.---

Taram.	Dry.			Taram.	Wet.		
	Rs.	S.	P.		Rs.	S.	P.
1	7	0	0	8	11	13	0
2	4	4	0	9	10	3	0
3	3	12	0	10	9	3	0
4	3	5	0	11	8	7	0
5	2	10	0	12	7	0	0
6	2	7	0	13	5	10	0
7	1	15	0	14	4	4	0
8	1	8	0	15	2	13	0
9	1	0	0	16	1	7	0

By this plan the money rates were first ascertained and then fixed upon the land rates for all, a far more expeditious course, than that at present, in vogue in the Settlement Department where the classification comes first, and the money rates are imposed long afterwards.

13. Before beginning work the Deputy-Collector examined some of the neighbouring villages and found that at the time of the old settlement the lands had in reality been more liberally treated on the field than on paper, and that dry lands had been apparently reduced two tarams and wet land one taram below the established standard. It will be seen immediately that Sri Baliah has adopted similar means for averting undue pressure upon the ryots.

14. The villages have now been formed into three groups.

1st. Fourteen villages possessing the best soil and the most permanent cultivation.

2nd. Twenty-three villages at the Hill-foot where the country is more hilly, the climate less healthy, and the population thinner.

3rd. Seven villages on the Hills which from their isolated position deserve special treatment. Considering that the Chetkady tract has been always lightly assessed; that many of the cultivators consist of Lambadies, and others who would again resort to their wandering life on the least provocation; that the country is unhealthy, and infested with large game which plays havoc with the crops, the Deputy-Collector following Mr. Ravenshaw's method of alleviation has reduced the first group villages two tarams, and the second group three tarams below the rates they would otherwise have borne. Still following Mr. Ravenshaw's footsteps, the Deputy-Collector arranged that, for the third group comprising the Hill villages "a small rent should be affixed thereon," at 1 Rupee per carny for the best lands, and at $\frac{1}{2}$ a Rupee for the interior.

The result of these measures as regards each description of soil cannot be ascertained from the reports, but the extent of land falling under each taram in each group is herewith given.

Description of land.	Proposed taram.	1st Group.	2nd Group.	3rd Group.	Total.
		Extent.	Extent.	Extent.	Extent.
1	2	3	4	5	6
Dry.	4	C. A. P. 127 12 0	C. A. P.	C. A. P.	C. A. P. 127 12 0
	5	545 2 2	....	....	545 2 2
	6	1,938 1 3	210 10 0	....	2,178 11 3
	7	1,333 1 2	482 10 2	....	1,815 12 0
	8	2,619 4 2	2,114 6 1	....	4,733 10 3
	9	1,525 2 3	3,027 1 2	57 7 0	4,609 11 1
	10	....	....	51 2 1	51 2 1
	Total...	8,088 9 0	5,864 12 1	108 9 1	14,061 14 2
	Area transferred from wet to dry on light rate of assessment under Standing Order, No. 125 ...	38 8 0	....	....	38 8 0
	Total dry...	8,127 1 0	5,864 12 1	108 9 1	14,100 6 2
Wet.	11	56 5 1	....	....	56 5 1
	12	156 15 2	....	....	156 15 2
	13	53 4 0	6 15 2	....	59 19 2
	14	39 1 0	16 13 3	....	55 14 3
	15	6 10 0	....	....	6 10 0
	Total wet...	312 3 3	17 13 1	....	330 1 0
	Grand total...	8,376 6 1	5,882 9 2	108 9 1	14,430 7 2

14. The garden lands appear to have been leniently treated, as they have been assessed as dry according to the quality of the soil with the extra alleviation of two or three tarans below the proper valuation. The "old well lands" in the Hoolos Taluqs, pay apparently 7 Rupees per cawny, and it appears to the Board that it would have been correct to classify the Chekkady "old well lands," i.e., those constructed before 1854, at their proper and legitimate dry rates without bringing them arbitrarily down in the scale. The Deputy-Collector urges that if they are not all classed like ordinary dry lands, a ryot who now digs a well will be better off than his neighbour who dug one thirty years ago. But the mere fact of digging a well can hardly be said to change ordinary "dry" land into "garden," as these original "well lands" embrace as a rule, the most favoured spots, and the most favoured soils, and which, owing to these fortuitous circumstances were long ago fixed upon for occupation, and taken up wherever available.

15. By the mode of classification adopted, the falling off in revenue in the Amani and mixed villages will be Rupees 314-13-11, as shown in paragraph 29 of the Deputy-Collector's letter. There are however 105 cawnies of "Garden" in the plough villages which "hardly pay a Rupee" a cawny, so that on these lands there will be an increase, although to what extent cannot be gathered, as all has been merged under the head of Dry.

16. Owing to the unpopularity and stringent nature of the Waraputh system the area under wet cultivation is very circumscribed, being only 330 acres, the classification has been made in the same manner as regards the reductions below the correct standard rates as in the case of dry. The result is an increase of Rupees 757-4-1 over the assessment now paid. This may seem high but a few words of explanation will show that it is not so really. Only 12 per cent. of the wet area is under wet cultivation, the ryots preferring to grow dry crops on the "Nangh ayant," but in the comparison now made the dry rates paid for such crops are taken against the wet rates now fixed, so that the increase is as it were fictitious, and more a matter of account. Sri Babiah's wet rates never exceed Rupees 8-7-0 per acre, whereas the old gradations run up to 14 Rupees, so that in the case of the regularly cultivated wet lands the proposals show a decrease of Rupees 111-4-3—this paragraph 40 of the Deputy-Collector's report. The present average is less than that paid throughout the rest of the taluq, and comes to Rupees 6-0-5 or 4-3-0 per acre which seems sufficient and fair. It is moreover anticipated that under the rates now advocated, and with improvements to the irrigation works, the wet system will no longer be mainly under dry crops, but turned to its legitimate use.

17. From Appendix A, it will be seen that the increase in the dry assessment comes on the whole to Rupees 4,711 which falls mainly upon the plough villages in which as fully explained, the lands were held at unduly low rates owing to the lax system which allowed the rich and influential to cultivate a fictitiously large area, under the assumption that it was all tilled by "one plough." In the Amani villages the rates fell by Rupees 710. Including the hill villages which, as already stated, have been assessed at only two rates, viz., 1 Rupee and $\frac{1}{2}$ Rupee per acre the total increase in the dry demand comes to 27 per cent.; the average per cawny being 1-5-11 or 1-2-11 per acre which is as in the case of wet below that of the taluq at large.

18. Appendix B, shows the extent of occupied dry land falling under each average rate by the scheme now submitted. It will be noted that the run of the classification is lenient, one half of the area falling under the lower gradations. In fact the two lowest rates embrace 60 per cent. of the whole area.

Considering that both Mr. Ashton and Mr. Hallett were struck with the fertility of the Chekkady villages; that the present rates proposed are lower than those advocated by the above Collectors, when prices were lower and roads were fewer; that that they are less than those now paid in the villages of the rest of the taluq and considerably below those levied during Mr. Ashton's temporary settlement when they are said to have been collected with ease; and that Mr. Sullivan not only approved of them, but even thinks that they must eventually be raised, the Board consider that they may be safely introduced, and request that orders may be passed so that the introduction may be carried into effect during the ensuing fasli. The total increase on both "dry" and "wet" will as shown in Appendix "A" be Rupees 5,668 or 27 per cent.; but in this is included an area of cawnies 125 being increase by the recent survey, and by new cultivation.

19. Appendix C. shows that even by the present paymash which excludes large quantities of cultivable land situated in remote localities, and which embraces nearly 8,000 cawnies less than that made by Mr. Ashton, there is a breadth of 4,734

cawnies of dry land assessed at Rupees 6,796 and of 78 cawnies of wet assessed at Rupees 325 hereafter available for cultivation. Under Mr. Hall's settlement in Paliemoottah already referred to, that part of the Jaghire improved considerably and cultivation greatly increased, the Board consequently see no reason why the same satisfactory results should not soon be apparent in Chekkady. It is quite clear that to give this tract a fair chance under the new régime, attention must be at once paid to the irrigation works, which have been allowed to go to decay, most probably because owing to the withering warapath system the ryots did not care to grow wet crops. Now that this incubus has been removed, special care should be taken to set the means of supply in order, as there would appear to be no lack of the supply itself. The Board, therefore, advocate that, if possible, a special officer be deputed for the restoration of the irrigation works; estimating first for those which are likely to yield the most profitable return.

20. The report states that there is likely to be but little second crop raised; but when it is raised the charge must be half the first crop assessment as has lately been arranged for the Hoolos Taluqs. The "Minahas" or favorable allowances to Brahmins and others should disappear as recommended. They were swept away at the time of Mr. Maltby's revision which is in fact the basis of the present settlement. Mr. Garstin must submit a detailed scheme for the reorganization of the village establishment in Chekkady, as the Act permits the introduction within a portion of the district. With the 6½ per cent. in lieu of the fees now paid, with the abolition of the Notakars who will be no longer needed, and with the sum which Government may be disposed to grant as an equivalent for the payments they now entirely make, it is hoped that the funds available may suffice.

21. It only remains for the Board to express their entire concurrence with Mr. Sullivan as regards the able and satisfactory manner in which this long pending task has been performed by Sri Balaiah. It has moreover been brought to a successful termination without extra hands, and without hindrance to current work. The Board hope soon to have before them the report on the Senkrapuram villages.

(True Copies and Extract.)

Secretary.

To the Acting Secretary to Government, Revenue Department,
with Appendices A. B. and C., and eleven original Statements
the Collector of South Arcot.

Copy to the Officiating Director of Revenue Settlement,
to the Superintendent of Revenue Survey.

Ed. G. A. Turton.

Comparative Statement showing the present and proposed Assessment for the Taluqs of South Arcot District.

Description of land.		As per Revenue Accounts of 1872										As per Revenue Accounts of 1873										As per Revenue Accounts of 1874										As per Revenue Accounts of 1875										As per Revenue Accounts of 1876										As per Revenue Accounts of 1877										As per Revenue Accounts of 1878										As per Revenue Accounts of 1879										As per Revenue Accounts of 1880										As per Revenue Accounts of 1881										As per Revenue Accounts of 1882										As per Revenue Accounts of 1883										As per Revenue Accounts of 1884										As per Revenue Accounts of 1885										As per Revenue Accounts of 1886										As per Revenue Accounts of 1887										As per Revenue Accounts of 1888										As per Revenue Accounts of 1889										As per Revenue Accounts of 1890										As per Revenue Accounts of 1891										As per Revenue Accounts of 1892										As per Revenue Accounts of 1893										As per Revenue Accounts of 1894										As per Revenue Accounts of 1895										As per Revenue Accounts of 1896										As per Revenue Accounts of 1897										As per Revenue Accounts of 1898										As per Revenue Accounts of 1899										As per Revenue Accounts of 1900										As per Revenue Accounts of 1901										As per Revenue Accounts of 1902										As per Revenue Accounts of 1903										As per Revenue Accounts of 1904										As per Revenue Accounts of 1905										As per Revenue Accounts of 1906										As per Revenue Accounts of 1907										As per Revenue Accounts of 1908										As per Revenue Accounts of 1909										As per Revenue Accounts of 1910										As per Revenue Accounts of 1911										As per Revenue Accounts of 1912										As per Revenue Accounts of 1913										As per Revenue Accounts of 1914										As per Revenue Accounts of 1915										As per Revenue Accounts of 1916										As per Revenue Accounts of 1917										As per Revenue Accounts of 1918										As per Revenue Accounts of 1919										As per Revenue Accounts of 1920										As per Revenue Accounts of 1921										As per Revenue Accounts of 1922										As per Revenue Accounts of 1923										As per Revenue Accounts of 1924										As per Revenue Accounts of 1925										As per Revenue Accounts of 1926										As per Revenue Accounts of 1927										As per Revenue Accounts of 1928										As per Revenue Accounts of 1929										As per Revenue Accounts of 1930										As per Revenue Accounts of 1931										As per Revenue Accounts of 1932										As per Revenue Accounts of 1933										As per Revenue Accounts of 1934										As per Revenue Accounts of 1935										As per Revenue Accounts of 1936										As per Revenue Accounts of 1937										As per Revenue Accounts of 1938										As per Revenue Accounts of 1939										As per Revenue Accounts of 1940										As per Revenue Accounts of 1941										As per Revenue Accounts of 1942										As per Revenue Accounts of 1943										As per Revenue Accounts of 1944										As 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B.

Statement showing the financial results of dry and wet occupied lands in each group of the Chokkady Jaghira villages of South Arcot District.

Description of land.	Proposed class.	Rate of Assessment per Cawny.	1st Group.			2nd Group.			3rd Group.			Total.		
			Extent.		Assessment.	Extent.		Assessment.	Extent.		Assessment.	Extent.		Assessment.
			4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11				
1	2	3												
			Es. A. P.	Es. A. P.	Es. A. P.	Es. A. P.	Es. A. P.	Es. A. P.	Es. A. P.	Es. A. P.	Es. A. P.	Es. A. P.	Es. A. P.	Es. A. P.
	4	5	8 8 0	127 12 0	407 3 3	127 12 0	407 3 3	127 12 0	407 3 3	127 12 0	407 3 3	127 12 0	407 3 3	127 12 0
	6	7	2 10 0	545 2 2	1,431 0 7	545 2 2	1,431 0 7	545 2 2	1,431 0 7	545 2 2	1,431 0 7	545 2 2	1,431 0 7	545 2 2
	6	7	2 7 0	1,938 1 3	4,721 2 4	249 10 0	586 8 2	249 10 0	586 8 2	249 10 0	586 8 2	249 10 0	586 8 2	249 10 0
	7	8	1 15 0	1,333 1 2	2,582 12 11	482 19 2	925 2 5	482 19 2	925 2 5	482 19 2	925 2 5	482 19 2	925 2 5	482 19 2
	8	9	1 8 0	2,619 4 2	3,928 14 8	2,114 6 1	3,171 9 3	2,114 6 1	3,171 9 3	2,114 6 1	3,171 9 3	2,114 6 1	3,171 9 3	2,114 6 1
	9	10	1 0 0	1,345 2 9	3,545 2 9	3,027 1 6	3,927 1 6	3,027 1 6	3,927 1 6	3,027 1 6	3,927 1 6	3,027 1 6	3,927 1 6	3,027 1 6
	10		0 8 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	Total..		.....	8,938 9 0	14,599 5 6	5,854 12 1	7,730 5 4	108 9 1	83 0 1	14,061 14 2	22,402 10 11	14,061 14 2	22,402 10 11	14,061 14 2
	Area transferred from wet to dry on light rate of Assessment, under Standing Order, No. 125		.....	38 6 0	132 0 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	38 6 0	132 0 0	38 6 0	132 0 0	38 6 0
	Total Dry..		.....	8,977 1 0	14,731 5 6	5,964 12 1	7,720 5 4	108 9 1	83 0 1	14,100 6 2	22,534 10 11	14,100 6 2	22,534 10 11	14,100 6 2
	11		8 7 0	53 6 1	475 4 4	.....	.....	.....	.....	53 6 1	475 4 4	53 6 1	475 4 4	53 6 1
	12		7 0 0	136 15 2	1,098 12 6	.....	.....	.....	.....	136 15 2	1,098 12 6	136 15 2	1,098 12 6	136 15 2
	13		5 10 0	52 4 0	294 8 8	0 13 2	5 7 3	.....	.....	52 4 0	294 8 8	52 4 0	294 8 8	52 4 0
	14		4 4 0	33 1 0	161 0 4	18 15 4	71 10 6	.....	.....	33 1 0	161 0 4	33 1 0	161 0 4	33 1 0
	15		2 13 0	0 10 0	18 10 2	.....	.....	.....	.....	0 10 0	18 10 2	0 10 0	18 10 2	0 10 0
	Total Wet		.....	302 3 3	2,658 4 0	17 13 1	77 1 8	.....	.....	302 3 3	2,658 4 0	302 3 3	2,658 4 0	302 3 3
	Grand Total..		.....	9,376 6 1	17,450 9 6	5,982 9 2	7,797 7 0	108 9 1	83 0 1	14,450 7 2	24,670 0 7	14,450 7 2	24,670 0 7	14,450 7 2

Read the following
of the Board of Education

Nothing is said on subjects
of Weight, Height, or the habit
for permanent settlement of
married Quakers, residing
in Circumstances, being, both
And Proved.

These papers relate
the introduction of an im-
proved system of collecting
the land revenue of the
village of Beahagry, British
India, 1801. But this paper
was resumed in 1809 and
incorporated with Governor
Canal's but the system of
assessing revenue has
since with occasional change
been the same that existed
during the days of the
Mughl empire. The soils of the
country

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132077

1874

Board of Governors,
MADRAS.

RECOMMENDS, THE JULY 1874, NO. 1, 682.

Wm. H. Wood

Encl. 2

Oct 12.5 Cal. Ber
1879

1122

JULY,
No. 1, 682.

Settlement, Provisional.—of resumed Clerk-
kay Jephry, in Pinnomial Tiding South
Anot District. Orders passed on proposals of
Deputy-Collector Sri Baliah for:—

system are too lucidly explained by the local officers and the Board of Revenue to require repetition here.

2. The necessity for completely altering the revenue administration of the villages did not fail to receive the consideration of former Collectors but their proposals did not meet with the approval of the higher authorities for some reason or other. This

tract of country received however, the special notice of Mr. W. Robinson when he was deputed in 1868 to report on the condition and prospects of the District. Mr. Robinson remarked

Para 12 of Memorandum of 7th March 1868 recorded in the Proc. of Govt. of 31st March 1868. No. 834.

that it was an ancient system which was never improved before it expired. The old system of settlements has continued, and little improvement in administration seems to have been since the system was reorganised. As far as I can learn, no public expenditure has been extended to the out-of-the-way corner of the district. There is no road, and the tracks are in wretched condition. There are but 235 acres of wet land, of which two acres only were put down to rice crops this year. Not that there is not a good deal of land which once was, or might be converted into wet land.

but the means of water
storage have been neglected,
and the miserable native
system of sharing rice crops
equally between Govern-
ment and the cultivator
stifles the interest of the
people in the wet lands,
& discourages them from
providing by wells on wet
lands against such seasons
as the present, and forces
them to put down inferior
dry crops where rich rice crops
might be grown". Mr. Robinson
promised to address the Council
and Board separately about
the introduction of a sound
system of Revenue Settlement
into the jaghirc, but no
such communication appears
to have been laid before Government.

His

J. B. St. Louis
Oct 10, 1884.
p. 116.

Dry - 10,344
Wet - 400
Total 10,744

Dry - 10,100
Wet - 330
Total 10,430

The remarks already noticed
have shown indirectly the
desire the Board to apply
a stop to the existing
satisfactory state of things
and the reports now submitted
are the result of the inquiries
the commission has made by
them.

The jaghirc consists
of 4 villages comprising
cannies 1,542 each being
hills, jungles and otherwise
uncultivable lands of
which cannies 14,430 are
occupied and cannies 4,012
left waste. The present
revenue under the
crude system of taxing
ploughs and herds
and sharing the wet
crops between the
rulers

Myot and Government
is Rs. 19,000. The
sum expected to be
realized under the
proposed system of
many rates as in other
parts of the District
is Rupees 2,16,70
~~at the average~~ and
there is besides this
increase of Rupees
5668 the cultivable
waste to the extent
of 4,812 is
assessed at
Rupees 7,122.

At

At first sight it may
appear that the proposed rates
are high. But the incidence
of the tax was hitherto very
unequal. The Board remark
that the rate of Rs. 10-8-0
per plough and Rs. 1-12-0
per acre is levied irrespec-
tively of area, so that the
rich man tills, say 12 bannies
for precisely the same assess-
ment that his poorer neigh-
bour pays for only 3 and
the "working of the cess
produces apparently nothing
but hardship to the farming
and loss to the State". The
Board also remark as re-
gards the "warpeth" or
sharing system that "the
delays in measuring the
crop when ready for the
sickle

sickle, cause such serious loss to the ryots that they prefer growing dry crops to wet, and thus 85 per cent of the wet cultivated area is under "Boangah produce". Besides in consideration of the peculiar circumstances of the people described in para 13 of the Board's Prop. very moderate rates of assessment are proposed. While the maximum rates in the other parts of the Taluq are Rs 7 for dry and Rs 11-13 for wet, the rates now proposed for the Jayhira do not exceed Rs 3-3-0 for dry and Rs 8-7-0 for wet.

5. The Board state that the rates proposed are lower than

than those actually levied by the late collectors Messrs Ashton and Hallett at a time when prices were lower and roads were fewer, that (as already pointed out) they are less than those now paid in the villages of the rest of the Taluq and considerably below those levied during Mr. Ashton's temporary settlement when they are said to have been collected with ease, and request that orders may be given for the introduction of the new rates in the current fasli. The proposed settlement is according to

accordingly sanctioned
as a provisional arrange-
ment pending the re-
survey and settlement of
the District generally.

The Board will issue
the necessary instructions.

The special at-
tention of the Public

Works Department will be
requested to the latter part

of para 19 of the Board's
Proceedings, and early orders

will be issued from that
Dept. for the restoration

and repair of the long
neglected irrigation works

in the jaghira.

The Government notice

with pleasure the testi-
mony borne by the
Collector to the ability
and care with which
Srihalaksh the Deputy
Collector conducted the
special work entrusted
to him.

14 To the Board of Revenue
21 - The B. & P. Dept.
100 - The Dy. Commr. S.

009L

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Go 1267 Rev
5.10.1874

41-42.

W. R. 5.10.1874