M.R.O. 1—30,000—16-10-39.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 703 Press ~~Mis~~

386-387

Dated 16th March 1869

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
16th March 1869.

No. 386. Read the following letter from the Sub-Secretary to the Board of Revenue, to the Acting Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, dated Madras, 26th November 1868, No. 8,344 :—

With reference to Government Order, dated 18th February 1868, No. 457, communicating a Despatch from the Right Honorable the Secretary of State for India, and requesting the Board to state whether there remain any districts, or portions of districts, which require, a revision of the assessment on old well-lands similar to that effected in the Salem District, I am directed by the Board of Revenue to report, that, in compliance with two* special calls made by them on the subject of such revision, reports from all the districts have been from time to time received, and finally disposed of, except as regards South Arcot, Cuddapah, and Madras.

* Mis. Circular, No. XXXIV., dated 17th April 1863.
Do. ,, LXII., dated 12th June 1865.

2. No measures were called for in the Ganjam, Vizagapatam, Godavery, South Canara and Malabar Districts, as there are no lands in them, the assessment on which was originally fixed with any reference to the irrigation derived from old wells.

3. No special revision was necessary in Trichinopoly, where the new settlement has been completed ; or in Tinnevelly, where it is in active progress.

4. As regards the remaining twelve districts, the measures sanctioned for five of them, namely, Coimbatore, Bellary, Kurnool, North Arcot and Salem, were duly reported to the Right Honorable the Secretary of State, and approved by him, as appears from the Government Orders, dated 10th April 1865, No. 776, and 18th February 1868, No. 457.

5. In the Kistna District, the private well lands in the talooks into which the new settlement had not been introduced were re-classified, and the necessary reduction, amounting to Rupees 12,548-9-8, was ordered in January 1866.

Board's Proceedings, 25th January 1866, No. 593.

6. In Nellore, a reduction of assessment, from Rupees 46,539 to Rupees 20,415, on About 9,000 Acres of land in occupation, was sanctioned by Government Order, dated 3rd February 1865, No. 210. In May 1867, the Collector forwarded a Statement† shewing that the gross reduction of assessment on all old well lands was Rupees 1,28,656 on Acres 24,412, and that the actual present diminution of revenue was Rupees 64,717 on Acres 19,283 of occupied land ; and the Collector's proceedings were approved.

† Board's Procs, 29th May 1867, No. 3,334.
Do. 13th July 1867, No. 4,374.

7. In Tanjore, the Collector reported, in January 1866, that there were 4,377 Acres, bearing a Garden Assessment of Rupees 12,086 ; but as 72 Acres out of these assessed at Rupees 229 were situated under wells within the prohibited distance of a Government source of irrigation, the assessment on the remainder alone would be subjected to the reduction, and he estimated the amount at Rupees 6,565.

8. From his Settlement Report for Fusly 1275, it appears that he had reduced the assessment on all such lands except those in Kutguttagai villages held on a consolidated assessment, and that the loss of revenue had only amounted to

the

Rupees 5,461-9-4. No further report on the subject has been received; but the Board have no doubt that the reduction has been since carried out completely.

9. In the Board's Proceedings, dated 11th April 1866, the Collector of Madura was authorized to make the following reductions:—

		Existing Garden Assessment. Rs.
Ayacut, Acres 29,940		94,302
Proposed dry Assessment		63,131
		31,171
	Acres.	Garden Assessment. Rs.
Actual cultivation for Fusly 1274	24,998	78,653
Proposed dry tax		52,735
	Reduction	25,918

A few unimportant modifications were afterwards found necessary.

10. In the Board's Proceedings, dated 4th January 1864, No. 9, the Collector of South Arcot was authorized to make over twenty dilapidated private wells with an area of 38 cawnies of waste land depending on them, to the original owners or their representatives; and if no claimants could be found, to make the land available as punjah waste. The reduction of assessment was Rupees 108-14-0.

Board's Procs., 3rd March 1863, No. 1,477.

In March 1866, the Board finding that some confusion existed as to the scope of the Orders of the Home Government regarding existing holders of well-lands on which a special tax had been levied originally, furnished the Collector with clear instructions* on the subject, and directed him to give effect to them, and to report the financial result, which he accordingly has done in paragraphs 75 to 77 of his Jummahbundy Report, dated 25th September 1867, No. 271, for Fusly 1276. All additional charge under the name of Kasser or Teerwajasti, levied up to that time on Punjah lands watered by private wells, was remitted at a nominal loss to Government of Rupees 2,356; and, secondly the assessment on lands depending entirely on private wells, but which were classed and assessed as Nunjah, was reduced to the highest Punjah rate of the village, and involved a nominal loss to Government of Rupees 1,785. Of the total loss Rs. (2,356+1,785) 4,141, the amount of revenue actually relinquished on the area cultivated, was only Rupees 831-3-3.

* Board's Procs., 3rd March 1866, No. 1,477.

11. In Cuddapah, a remission of about Rupees 1,15,000, according to the accounts of Fusly 1274,(1864-65,) was sanctioned in paragraph 4 of Government Order, dated 14th January 1867, No. 113.

Board's Procs., 16th February 1867, No. 945.

In communicating this Order to the Collector, the Board desired him, before giving it effect, to report whether or not there was any evidence on record to show that any, or all of the wells on account of which the remission was to be

granted, were constructed at the cost of the State; and if not, to submit a Statement showing the actual results of the measure sanctioned. A reply* from the Acting Collector has been recently received, and is now under consideration.

* Letter dated 8th April 1868, 53.

12. The proposals of the Collector of Madras have been recently submitted with Board's Proceedings, dated 20th November 1868, No. 8,199A, for the orders of Government. The Board in these Proceedings remarked, that, "excluding the "extent of land under Government wells, there are 5,491 Acres, assessed at Ru- "pees 20,483, under the remaining 1,985 wells to which the reduced rates are "proposed to be applied. The reduction of assessment on the whole area amounts "to Rupees 9,602; but as only 2,873 Acres are cultivated, the amount of actual "revenue to be immediately relinquished is Rupees 5,336; while there will be still "available waste to the extent of 2,617 Acres, assessed at the reduced rates at "Rupees 5,403."

No. 387. ORDER THEREON, 16th March 1869, No. 703.

Land Revenue.

1. The Right Honorable the Governor in Council is glad to observe from the foregoing letter that the reduction of the assessment of land situated under old wells has been carried out in all the districts to which the measure was applicable, except in that of Cuddapah.

2. It appears that there are no lands on which the assessment was fixed with reference to the irrigation obtained from old wells in the districts of Ganjam, Vizagapatam, Godavery, South Canara and Malabar, and that in the Trichinopoly and Tinnevelly Districts the entire land assessments of which were being readjusted, it was not deemed necessary to introduce a partial measure of the description under reference.

3. In ten of the remaining twelve districts, the measure has been completed. In Madras it will be carried out during the settlement now in progress, and the same course should be followed in Cuddapah. The Collector of the latter district should at once be informed that no collections should be made in excess of the rates sanctioned in the G. O., under date 14th January 1867, and he should be required to submit at once the information called for in the Board's Proceedings, under date 8th August 1868, No. 5,750, recorded in G. O., 5th February 1869, No. 318.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) R. A. DALYELL,
Acting Secretary to Government.

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

Exd. G. A. Turton.

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Revenue Department

No. 703

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Under date the 16th March 1869.

Read the following letter from the Sub Secy. to the Board of Revenue.

Regarding Report regarding extent of remission of assessment on well lands } R. 26 Nov 1868, No 2344

The Right Honble the Governor in Council is glad to observe from the foregoing letter that the reduction of the assessment of land situated under old wells has been carried out in all the Districts to which the measure was applicable, except in that of Cuddapah.

2 It appears that there are lands in which the

the assessment was fixed with reference to the irrigation obtained from old wells in the Districts of Cuyaum, Vizagapatam, Godavery, South Canara & Malabar and that in the Trichinopoly & Tinnevelly Districts the entire land assessments of which were being re-adjusted, it was not deemed necessary to introduce on a partial system of the description under reference

In the 3rd of the remaining Districts, the measure has been completed & in Madras it will be carried out during the settlement now in progress, and the same course should be followed in Cuddapah. The Collector of the latter District should at once be informed that no collections should be made in excess of the rates sanctioned in the G.O. under date 14th January 1867 and he should be required to submit at once the information called for in the Board's Proceedings under date 8th August 1868. No 5750 recorded in G.O. 5th February 1869, P. 316.

14 Copies to the Chief Secretary
18 " " Secretary Revenue Board