M.R.O. 14-5,459)—29-10-25.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 1	Press Mis.
1-2	
Dated 3-1-	1867.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 3rd January 1867.

No. 1. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 4th December 1866, No. 8,646.

Read again the following:—

Proceedings of Government, dated 19th May 1866, No. 1,199.

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 10th September 1866, No. 6,463.

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 20th September 1866, No. 6,758.

Read also the following letter from the Inspector General of Police, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Madras, 18th September 1866, No. 1,556, General Department.

1. With reference to the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 10th September 1866, No. 6,463, I beg to state that I agree with Mr. Ballard in respect to the expediency of keeping the number of Amshoms in Malabar below the ghaut intact, and of doubling the number in Wynaad above the ghaut.

2. As remarked by Mr. Ballard, things are working fairly well as they now are. A separate Amshom Police Establishment is not, therefore, at present called for, and would be costly. The law sufficiently lays down the position of the Amshom Cavilgar as a Police Officer, and, in practice, we find it best to leave village watchers entirely to their village heads or adhigaris, who as *quasi*-Magistrates are in sufficiently near relation with the Police for all practical purposes.

3. I quite agree with Mr. Ballard in regard to the expediency of improving the remuneration of all members of the Amshom Establishment *if* funds are really available from the Imperial Fisc, or can be raised locally for the purpose. The rates he proposes are reasonable.

4. But I would strongly recommend, with reference to the differential rates proposed, that the Board require the Amshoms to be classified according to area, population, revenue, circumstances, and responsibilities, &c., and assign a fixed rate to each Amshom with reference to these obvious and tangible matters, and not leave so important a point to be determined, as each vacancy occurs, by personal and uncertain considerations. Intrigue, contention, and corruption ever have been rife enough in Malabar in respect of village appointments, without introducing this additional incentive. Moreover, all Amshom appointments are strictly hereditary under Mr. Græme's Sunnuds, a matter to which the Board have very frequently been obliged to recall the attention of the Collector.

5. I venture to doubt whether funds are available from Imperial Fisc for the purpose contemplated by the Collector, from the sources which this letter indicates. The Board has not favored me with the previous correspondence on the subject, and I have only a general impression of what has taken place. I must, therefore, apologize to the Board and Collector for raising a question which may perhaps not strictly belong to my department, and on which I am unable, under my present circumstance, to give any precise information, or do more than suggest further inquiry.

6. I find credit taken for Rupees 70,700, or five per cent. on 14,14,000 Rupees alleged "to have been in by-gone days wrongly appropriated to the general "revenues."

7. I entertain grave doubts whether it is strictly correct to limit the ten per cent. on the collection of South Malabar to Amshom Establishment, or to call it an "Amshom Service Fund." I believe it to have been intended to meet all costs of collection under the settlement of South Malabar. I am not now certain that the ten per cent. on the revenue demand *to meet the cost of collection* was not part of Arshed Beg's settlement, but I think that it was first introduced when the attempt was made in 1793, 1794, and 1795 to frame a permanent settlement with the Malabar Jenmies. Ten (10) per cent. on the gross demand was then first allowed, or was continued from Arshed Beg's settlement, to cover all cost of collection by the Zemindars. The attempted permanent settlement, however, proved abortive, and the collection of the revenues of Malabar, including the ten per cent., was undertaken by the Collector and Public establishments, whose pay, &c., became, from that date, debitable, as well as the Hobly (afterwards Amshom) Establishment, to this fund for the cost of collection.

8. Notwithstanding various surveys, the Revenue Settlement of South Malabar has not been materially altered, and the Revenue Accounts probably still distinguished between the revenue demand and the cost of collection. In North Malabar the Settlement underwent more recent revision; and as the collections were already in the hands of the Government servants, no separate deduction or addition, for the cost of collection, appears in the accounts of these talooks.

9. If my surmises be correct, I doubt whether there would be any balance of account against the State when all cost of collection in the Southern Talooks is set off against the ten per cent.

10. It has been usual to look on the ten per cent., as the fund from which the whole wages of the Amshom Establishment of both North and South Malabar is defrayed, and practically it amounts to a sum very nearly equal to the wages so distributed. But, when it becomes a question of adding £1,41,400 to the debt, and £7,000, annual charge on the Imperial revenue in behalf of an exceptionably prosperous and lightly assessed district, I think it would be desirable to remove all doubt on this score.

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1. These papers relate to the revision of the Village Establishments in Malabar, which it is now proposed to improve, simply by giving the servants a more liberal and adequate remuneration. It is proper to call them rather Amshom, than Village Establishments, as the village system, as known in other districts, does not exist in Malabar. The subject for consideration may be divided into two parts, the required establishment, and the funds available for its payment. In respect of the first, there is little difference of opinion; in the second, a question is raised by the Inspector General of Police, as to whether funds, to be derived from certain sources, are really available for the purpose contemplated, as supposed by the Collector and the Board.

2. THE ESTABLISHMENT.—In the last paragraph of the Order of Government, dated 19th May 1866, No. 1,199, Mr. Pelly (or as it should have been the Board) was directed, "in communication with the Collector, to submit a complete scheme

"for improving the position of all the village officers in Malabar, on the understand-
"ing that the number of Amshoms is not reduced, that a fair sum is reserved for
"village Police, and that the total
"expense does not exceed the present
"cess (ten per cent. on the revenues of
"South Malabar) *plus* five per cent. on the accumulated capital of that Fund."

NOTE.—The four Northern Talooks are not subject to the payment of this cess.

3. In the Board's Proceedings of 10th September last, quoted at the head of this paper, will be found the Collector of Malabar's letter of 12th June, in which he submits his proposals in accordance with the above Order of Government. Mr. Ballard observes that, in some respects, the work of the Amshom servants is lessened; but as in an advancing state if some duties are simplified and eased others are imposed, and the balance is fairly maintained, and as experience shews that the present establishments and arrangements are, as a general rule, fairly suited to the Amshom requirements and limits, he rejoices that no general alteration in their limits is to be made.

4. In the Wynaad Talook, however, he proposes a general change of Amshom limits. There are at present in this large talook, comprising an area of 1,160 square-miles, only sixteen Amshoms, giving an average of 72½ square-miles to each Amshom. But, as Mr. Ballard points out, this average is not altogether a trustworthy index, and he bases his requisition for increasing the number of Amshoms in this talook on the serious inconvenience which is felt by the unwieldy size of the existing Amshoms. He, therefore, proposes to double the number in this talook, dividing it into thirty-two, instead of, as at present, sixteen Amshoms. In this proposition the Inspector General of Police agrees, as also in the expediency of keeping the number in Malabar below the ghauts intact. The Board beg to recommend that this change in the Amshoms of Wynaad be sanctioned.

5. Mr. Ballard, in reference to the establishments, deprecates any general change in the present establishments, and especially deprecates the abstraction of any portion of the funds now at disposal for the introduction of a separate Village Police on a system unknown to the district and the people. He maintains that the present Police Constabulary system working with the Amshom Establishments does well, and he "believes that to place an additional number of men, who would "receive individually very low pay, under the direct superintendence of the "Superintendents of Police, would simply hamper the whole department." He is of opinion that the introduction of a separate Village Police is, at present, undesirable in Malabar.

6. In Malabar there has never, it would seem, been a distinct Village Police. The Amshom Establishment was a Joint Revenue and Police Establishment, consisting of, for each Amshom,

1 Adhigari or Headman,
1 Menon or Kurnum,
2 Peons, or, as Mr. Robinson styles them, "Kavilgars."

When the Inspector General re-organized the Police of Malabar, he provided at a large expense for an efficient Constabulary, consisting of 32 Inspectors, and 1,653

Constables, at a cost of 1,86,060 Rupees per annum. This force he proposed should also be supplemented by a new Village Police. The arrangement proposed by Mr. Robinson was to divide the district into 268 village circles of an average area of 23·6 square-miles, and population of 6,191. To each circle was to be appointed a Village Inspector or Police Adhigari on 50 Rupees per annum, and from two to four Kavilgars on 3½ Rs. each per month. The total cost being 44,916 Rupees. This Police Amshom Establishment was to be in addition to, and distinct from, the Revenue Amshom Establishment, which, however, itwas supposed, at the time, would be reduced, and thus place a proportion of their cost at the credit of the Police.

See Proceedings of Government, Judicial Department, 30th May 1860, No. 672.

7. The Police arrangements recommended by Mr. Robinson were sanctioned by Government in May 1860; but as regards the Village or Amshom portion of the arrangement, it has not yet been introduced, and it is to the introduction of this new Village Police that Mr. Ballard strongly objects, especially if it is to be paid out of the funds which he would devote to the improvement of the Revenue Amshom Establishments.

8. Before the Board could decide anything on the subject of the Amshom Establishment, it was necessary to ascertain the present views of Mr. Robinson as to the Village Police of Malabar. The Inspector General's opinion is in accordance with Mr. Ballard's on the subject. He, it will be seen, in paragraph 2 of his letter of 18th September, entered above, observes as follows:—"As remarked by Mr. "Ballard, things are working fairly well as they now are. A separate Amshom "Police Establishment is not, therefore, at present called for, and would be costly. "The law sufficiently lays down the position of the Amshom Kavilgar as a Police "Officer, and, in practice, we find it best to leave village watchers entirely to their "village heads or adhigaris, who, as *quasi*-Magistrates, are in sufficiently near "relation with the Police for all practical purposes."

9. The Inspector General, therefore, abandons, for the present at least, the proposed scheme of a separate Village Police Establishment for Malabar, the present system being found to work better than the one proposed would be likely to do. The sum of about 45,000 Rupees estimated for the separate system of Police will not be required, and need not, therefore, be provided for.

10. Mr. Robinson also quite agrees with Mr. Ballard in the expediency of improving the remuneration of all the Amshom Establishment, *if* funds are really available or can be raised locally for the purpose, and he considers the rates proposed by Mr. Ballard to be reasonable; but he disapproves, as do also the Board, of the proposition of the Collector to have different rates, the higher rate attaching to persons rather than to places, as explained in paragraphs 9 and 10 of Mr. Ballard's letter of 12th June. The Adhigaris, Menons, and Peons of the larger and more important Amshoms, may properly be better paid than those belonging to the smaller and less important Amshom; but it is not expedient to raise the pay of those in the smaller Amshoms on vacancies occurring in the larger, and at the expense of the more important Amshoms. The salaries should all be fixed for the office of each Amshom.

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11. The number of Amshoms, including the sixteen extra for Wynaad, will be 448; and the Collector's proposal is as follows:—

				RS.
224	Adhigaris,	at 10 Rupees	each	2,240
224	Do.	at 8 ,,	,, ...	1,792
224	Menons	at 10 ,,	,, ...	2,240
224	Do.	at 8 ,,	,, ...	1,792
448	Peons	at 5 ,,	,, ...	2,240
448	Do.	at 4 ,,	,, ...	1,792
			Total per mensem ..	12,096
			Per annum ..	1,45,152

There will still be a surplus of available funds estimated at 13,035 Rupees, to provide a third Peon for those Amshoms most requiring another Peon.

12. At present the salaries of all the Adhigaris are, with five* exceptions, the same, viz., 5½ Rupees each per mensem. The Menons have one rate of six Rupees throughout; and the Peons, with two† exceptions, are paid two and a half Rupees each. The Board think the Collector may find it unnecessary to allow so much as eight Rupees to the Adhigari and Menon of some of the very small Amshoms, but the Board will be prepared to consider any modifications in detail, if the measure now proposed generally meets with the approval of Government. It is one which commends itself to the Board, as much needed for the improvement of these establishments. With regard to the pay recommended for the Amshom Peons, viz., four Rupees and five Rupees, the Board note that Mr. Pelly recommended only three and a half Rupees or four Rupees at most for these men, and that the Government‡ considered three and a half Rupees reasonable. But the Collector considers that sum insufficient, and as the Peons will perform both Revenue and Police duties, and as funds are available, the Board have not altered Mr. Ballard's scale of four Rupees and five Rupees supported as it also is by the Inspector General of Police. The higher rate should, however, be allowed only in those Amshoms where the work is heavy.

* 1 at 8 Rupees.
1 at 6 ,,
3 at 4½ ,,
5

† 2 at 3 Rupees.

‡ Government Order, 26th June 1865, No. 1,437.

13. Funds.—The question, however, of available funds has now to be considered. The Amshom Establishments have hitherto been paid out of the general revenues of the district; but a distinct cess of ten per cent. on certain revenues was collected for this purpose, and originally carried to the credit of a separate head, but subsequently merged with the general revenues, so that in fact this cess is the source from which these establishments derive their remuneration. The origin and nature of this cess has been noticed in the papers marginally referred to. It was levied on the rice lands in the six Southern Talooks of Malabar by Hyder's Officers, in addition to the general revenues, and for the express purpose of meeting the charges of collection. The

Letter from Inspector General of Police to Government, Judicial Dept., 21st May 1860.
Proceedings of Government, Judicial Department, 30th May 1860, No. 672.
Proceedings of Government, Revenue Department, 18th September 1862, No. 2,028.
Do. do. 26th June 1865, No. 1,437.
Do. do. 19th May 1866, ,, 1,199.

four Northern Talooks were not mad liable to the payment of this ten per cent. additional cess. But it has been the practice to pay the Amshom Establishments of that portion of the district also ou of the cess leviable only in the Southern Talooks. The Government, when the question of extending the cess to the Northern Talooks was discussed, decided

Order of Government, 18th September 186 No. 2,028.

that the existing arrangement should ot be disturbed.

14. But the whole amount of th ten per cent. cess has not been expended in the payment of the Amshom Establish ents; there has always been a yearly surplus which has been improperly absorbe in the general revenues of the country.

Order of Government, 26th June 1865, No. 1, 7.
Do. do. 19th May 1866, ,, 1,1 9.

The Government accordingly resolved to avail themselves of this surplus for improving the condition of these establishments, by applying the inter t of the accumulated surplus to this purpose. This surplus it was ascertained amou ed (without interest) to 14,14,000, the annual interest on which at five per cent. w uld be Rupees 70,700. This sum, and the annual collections of the ten per cent. ess now estimated for Fusly 1274, at 87,487, (but in a previous communication, s Proceedings of Government, dated 26th June 1865, No. 1,437, at 90,069,) will form the fund for payment of the establishment, and, as now recommended by t Collector, will be ample for that purpose.

			Rs.
Interest at five per cent. on	14,14,000	...	70,700
Collections of ten per cent. i	Fusly 1274	...	87,487
	Total	...	1,58,187
Cost of establishment, as now	estimated ...	...	1,45,152
Excess of funds			13,035, available for

increasing the number of Peons.

15. But with regard to the question which has been raised by Mr. Robinson, whether in reality there are any surplus accumulations of the ten per cent. cess on which it is relied to meet the present charge, the Board request attention to Mr. Robinson's letter, 18th September 1866, at the head of these Proceedings. Mr. Robinson "entertains grave doubts whether it is strictly correct to limit the ten "per cent. on the collection of South Malabar to Amshom Establishment, or to call "it an Amshom Service Fund. He believes it to have been intended to meet all "costs of collection under the settlement of South Malabar, &c. The collection of "the revenues of Malabar, including the ten per cent., was undertaken by the "Collector and Public establishments, whose pay, &c., became from that date "debitable, as well as the Hobly (afterwards Amshom) Establishment, to this fund "for the cost of collection."

16. The Board have carefully considered the question raised by Mr. Robinson, and are of opinion that the ten per cent. collection, added to the general assessment on the lands in South Malabar to meet the cost of collection, has always been

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appropriated to the payment of the Amshom Establishments only. Mr. Ballard speaks of this fund, as the Amshom *Revenue Collection* Service Fund, and even deprecates any portion of it being applied for the payment of a separate Village *Police*. And even Mr. Robinson himself seems clearly to have held the opinion that the ten per cent. additional demand on the people was made to meet the cost of the Amshom Establishment, as is evident from his letter to Government, dated 21st May 1860, paragraph 10, and he proposed to take a portion of this money for the payment of the new Amshom Police Establishment. And again, in his letter to Government, dated 26th August 1861, paragraph 9, he alludes to this ten per cent. on the revenue as a sum paid by the people for the local institutions.

Letter dated 12th June 1866, p. 7, and P. S. p. 3.

See Proceedings of Government, Judicial Department, 30th May 1860, No. 672, paragraph 21.

17. In the early records of the district, the Board find some reference made to this additional levy on the people of South Malabar. In the Report of the Joint Commission for Bengal and Bombay in 1793, allusion is made to this item of ten per cent., as a fund whence to defray the charges of collection. But in Mr. Warden's Report of 19th March 1801, we obtain a full and clear statement of the immediate purposes for which this fund was created, and to which it has ever since apparently been strictly applied, and a perusal of this leaves no doubt, that the fund is properly and solely appropriated to the payment of the Amshom Establishments, and that Mr. Robinson's surmise that the salaries of the Collector and public establishments generally was debitable to this fund, is not correct. An extract, paragraphs 27 and 28 from this Report, is appended, and it will be seen that Mr. Warden, at the beginning of this century, very clearly explained, that the additional ten per cent. was imposed upon each ryot's revenue to defray the expenses of the Parbutty, the Menon, and Kolkars, corresponding to the Adhigari, Menon, and Peons of the present Amshom Establishment. "The amount was collected separate from the Jumma under a distinct head, and "was originally designed solely for the defrayment of the expenses attendant in "making the collections incurred in the employment of the three descriptions of "officers above-mentioned. The other charges of the district, he distinctly says, "viz., Police, Revenue, and Judicial, were paid immediately from Jumma collections."

See Volume "Reports on the Province of Malabar," Report dated 11th October 1793, paragraphs 108, 197, 463, and 569, at pages 76, 129, 270, and 333.

18. The Board believe that this solution of the question raised by the Inspector General will suffice to shew that the source, from whence it is now proposed to defray the expense, consequent on the improvement so much needed in the condition of the Amshom Establishment, is one that may very legitimately be made use of for the purpose. They accordingly beg to recommend that Mr. Ballard's proposals be sanctioned.

Extract from a Report of Mr. Thomas Warden, dated 19th March 1801.

27. To return now to the subject of your more particular inquiries, respecting "the existing settlements, and measures taken for realising the revenues, &c., &c.," as expressed in the second

paragraph of your Secretary's letter, I have to inform your Board, that no kind of written settlement with a Zemindar, or any other person, has been made in these districts since the quinquennial one which expired with the Malabar year 974. Since that period the management of the collections has been conducted by different gentlemen, appointed to the local charge of separate districts, who selected such officers for that purpose called "*Parbuttics*," as he deemed worthy of the trust, chosen generally from amongst the most respectable of the inhabitants, to whom one or more villages called "*Deshums*" were entrusted, according to their situation with respect to character and property. This is the system of collecting now in existence. The ryot has a fixed revenue to pay which he discharges at stated instalments to the Parbutty, who passes a written acknowledgment to him for every sum that he so receives, and he again, on every seven, ten, or fifteen days, according to the distance he may have to come, brings the amount of his collections made during the period allowed him, to the Cutcherry, from which, on payment thereof, he obtains a receipt subscribed by the Collector, and in order to check embezzlement, or detect any misappropriation of his collections, he is required to bring his village accounts at the end of each month, kept by a separate person, called "*a Menon*," which are inspected by the Revenue Officers of the Cutcherry called "*Gumastahs*," who sum up the particular payments, and compare their total with the amount paid by the Parbutty, and if any deficiency appear in the latter, he makes good the same. The Parbutty's own property cannot be supposed to be sufficient security for the probity of his conduct, and, therefore, before the nomination of an officer of this description, ample surety for the faithful discharge of his duty, is taken in the persons of one or more landholders, who bind themselves responsible for both the person of the Parbutty, and whatever amount of his collections should happen to appear against him, as not having been paid into the Cutcherry, which balance is called in the language of the country "*Hustanticum*." The Collector on his part keeps an account current open with the Parbutty, and sometimes with each village, by which means he is at once enabled to observe those which are backward, and pay his attention to them accordingly, by affording the Parbutty whatever assistance he may require, besides taking such steps as may be consistent with the cause of the backwardness.

This mode of realizing the collections I have found to be best adapted to the situation and circumstances of the country.

23. The habitations of the ryots being scattered from each other in different directions, occasions the necessity of entertaining a greater number of people to aid the Parbutty in making the collections by summoning the inhabitants and securing the crops, particularly of those who cultivate but small spots of ground for the year only. The people employed in this service are called "*Kolkars*," to defray whose expenses, and those of the Parbutties and Menons, the additional ten per cent. upon each ryot's revenue was imposed. This is the amount collected separate from the Jumma, under the head "*Kutywashy*," and which was originally designed solely for the defrayment of the expenses attendant on making the collections incurred in the employment of the three description of officers above-mentioned. The other charges of the district, viz., Police, Revenue, and Judicial, were paid immediately from the Jumma collections. It is with satisfaction then that I have to acquaint your Board, that since the late arrangements by which these districts were formed into one Collectorship, I have reduced the expenses as much as I possibly could, consistent with what is absolutely necessary for the due performance of the various duties attached to my situation, and have estimated, that at the end of the year, not a greater sum than 900 Hoons will be drawn from the net Jumma of this Collectorship to defray the whole of its native establishment, in the Departments of Tahseel, Revenue, Police, and Adawlut, as I expect that the amount collection of the Kutywashy (formerly entirely appropriated to the first of these establishments) will suffice to discharge the rest.

No. 2.

Land Revenue.

ORDER THEREON, 3rd January 1867, No. 1.

1. The Government concur with the Board of Revenue in their conclusion as to the character of the "Kutywashy," or Anshom Service Fund of Malabar,

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and application will be made to the Government of India for an additional annual grant equivalent to five per cent. on the accumulated surplus of the Fund.

2. The Board will, however, first ascertain from the Collector the exact future cost of the revised Village Establishment.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Board of Revenue.

Erd. S. T. Augustin.

No. 6,403.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 10th September 1866.

Read the following letter from G. A. BALLARD, Esq., Collector of Malabar, to the Honorable C. PELLY, Member of the Board of Revenue, dated Calicut, 12th June 1866, No. 1,861A:—

1. I addressed you a few days ago on a point on which I wished for further instructions in connexion with Government Order, dated 19th May 1866, No. 1,199, on the village establishments of Malabar; but to save delay, I have the honor now to submit the following remarks for your consideration.

It seems of little use elaborating detailed statements before some fairly definite general principles are fixed; and if the outline of settlement I now lay before you meets, as I hope it may, with approval, the details will be carried out very easily, but on careful consideration of individual cases and in communication with my division officers.

2. I am very glad to see that Government does not contemplate any general alteration of the Amshom limits. In some respects the work of the Amshom servants has lessened. But there is much doing and to be done.

The people multiply, cultivation extends, the revenue increases, and, besides the ordinary and hitherto customary work, new duties spring up with the progress of the country.

For instance, monthly returns of births and deaths have lately been regularly required, and I am only awaiting the close of this monsoon to introduce some arrangements which will, through the agency of the Amshom servants, give a systematic postal service throughout the district.

Thus, as is only natural in an advancing state, if some duties are simplified and eased, others are imposed and the balance probably pretty fairly maintained; whilst experience shows that the present Amshom establishments and arrangements are, as a general rule, fairly suited to the Amshom requirements and limits.

3. In Wynad taluk only, do I propose a general change. There an area of 1,160 square miles is divided into sixteen amshoms only; giving an average of 72½ square miles per amshom; the average on the district, including Wynad, being about 1½ square miles.

Of course, as large tracts of Wynad are still almost uninhabited, hill and forest, the average is not altogether a trustworthy index; but serious inconvenience is beginning to be felt by the unwieldy size of the amshoms in that taluk. I think, however, doubling the number will fairly meet present, and any immediately prospective requirements.

4. With this change the number of amshoms in Malabar will stand—

At present		432
Deduct Wynad (present)		16
		416
Add Wynad (proposed)		32
		448

5. And, whilst I advocate retention as a general rule (and with the exception just said) of the present Amshom limits, I deprecate any general change of the present Amshom establishments.

I especially deprecate the abstraction of any portion of the funds now at our disposal for the introduction of a separate village police on a system unknown to the district and people.

Our present Police system, working with the Amshom establishments, does well. Faults, and of course in the Police as in every other department there are many and grevious ones occasionally, lie rather with individuals than in the system. But the Constables are, and should be, distinct official, as contra-distinguished from the unofficial, units of the population; and the Amshom servants are, and should remain, the connecting link between the two.

The very union of Police and Revenue functions in one individual, with its allowed disadvantages in higher grades, has certain advantages here.

6. The Superintendents of Police have ample work to do in supervising thoroughly the regular Constabulary they have under their charge; and I firmly believe that to place an additional number of men, who would receive individually very low pay under their direct superintendence, would simply hamper the whole department.

7. Whilst, then, on general grounds I think the introduction of a separate village police undesirable at present in Malabar, I would earnestly and especially deprecate funds for such purpose being taken from the source whence I hope greatly to improve our present Amshom agency, as that could not be done without hindering its contemplated improvement.

8. With these remarks, I would propose retaining, as a rule, the present Amshoms' establishments, only doubling the number of amshoms in Wynad, and allowing an extra peon in a few amshoms where necessity arises.

9. I think it very desirable to have different classes and rates of pay, because it provides a healthy stimulus, and a well-understood and appreciated method of rewarding good and long service. I think myself two classes for each office will suffice; and after the first introduction of the increased pay, I would make the higher rates rather attach to persons than to localities.

Thus, I would propose for the 448 amshoms of the district,

224	Adigaries,	at 10 each	...	2,240
224	,,	at 8 ,,	...	1,792
224	Menons,	at 10 ,,	...	2,240
224	,,	at 8 ,,	...	1,792
448	Peons,	at 5 ,,	...	2,240
448	,,	at 4 ,,	...	1,792
	Per mensem	... ...		12,096
	Per annum	... ...		1,45,152
We have collections on account of ten per cent. by accounts of Fualy 1274		... ...		87,487
Interest at five per cent. on 14,14,000		... ...		70,700
				1,58,187

leaving a balance of Rupees 13,035, which will provide a third peon for nearly half the amshoms; and these will be carefully distributed to the amshoms that most require them.

Any further balance I would propose to be carried to the credit of the fund; so that, when an increase in the number of amshoms or pay of the servants may seem from time to time desirable, it can be made.

10. To explain, further, what I mean by making the higher rates attach to persons rather than places, I would observe that I would allot the classes pretty equally to taluks. In the first instance the Adigaries and Menons of the most important amshoms would receive the higher rates, and a five-rupee and four-rupee peon be given each amshom

But if a first-class Adigariship became vacant, it should not be imperative that his successor, perhaps a young man with his spurs to win, should receive the higher rate of pay. It should be open to raise a deserving Adigari of another amshom to the higher class, retaining him in his own amshom of course; and the new second-class Adigari would, if he proved himself deserving, rise to the first class when fitting opportunity occurred.

And so with the Menons and Peons.

P. S —Since writing the above I have received your letter of the 11th instant. It refers me to

(1) Government Order, dated 30th May 1860, No. 672, paragraph 22.

(2.) Government Proceedings, dated 23rd April 1861, No. 917, paragraph 5.

(3.) My (predecessor's) letter, dated 25th July 1861; and directs me to consult with the Inspector General of Police about a Village Police Establishment.

2. In the first paper just mentioned, Government advert to an arrangement proposed by the Inspector General of Police to divide this district into 268 village Police circles with an average of 23·6 square miles and population of 6,191 souls each. A village Inspector on Rupees 50, and two to four Kavalgars on Rupees 3½ each per mensem were to be appointed to each circle, at a total cost of Rupees 44,916.

It was proposed, I can only imagine under a dire necessity of providing money somehow, to club the amshoms of the district so as to reduce their aggregate number to about one-half; and the allowedly under-paid Amshom servants were without increase of salary to undertake the unwieldy charges thus constituted.

Government under the impression, apparently, that the then Collector approved the scheme sanctioned Rupees 20,000 for the proposed Police from the Amshom funds. But the very day the Collector got the Government Order, he wrote to the Chief Secretary pointing out that, so far from approving of the proposition, he feared the effect of carrying it out would be irretrievably to cripple the Amshom Revenue establishments; and these establishments, he pertinently observed, were the backbone of the administrative system.

Subsequently, indeed, Mr. Grant submitted a scheme for reducing the number of amshoms, but only in compliance with supposed orders and quite against his own convictions. You concurred that general reduction in the number of amshoms was undesirable; and the sanctioned transfer of Rupees 20,000 from the Amshom funds was never made. Government appear finally to have adopted this view. I earnestly support it, and indeed desire to double the number of amshoms in Wynad.

3. As to the Amshom servants, we can do more lessen their number, than we can the number of the amshoms; and it has long been admitted that their pay has been quite too low. This was admitted before the great increase in prices, and fall in the comparative value of fixed salaries, that has been so marked in the last few years; and so intensifies the necessities of the case, that action is imperative.

Moreover, a large sum rightly belonging to Amshom service, or strictly speaking Amshom *Revenue Collection* service funds, has been in by-gone days wrongly appropriated to the general revenues.

Government has so far recognised the Amshom rights as to allow five per cent. on the capital thus formerly misappropriated.

This will provide fairly liberal, but not extravagant, rates of pay to the established Amshom servants as above sketched. Now, then, we have a splendid opportunity; and I trust that this reform, which is only as just as it is expedient, will be allowed to be carried out in a manner that (to pursue Mr. Grant's simile) will so strengthen the backbone of the district as to give it a real access of vitality and vigour.

But if it is attempted to divert a considerable portion of the funds to the payment of new, and I must candidly say, in my opinion, uncalled for establishments, then the opportunity of carrying out the real and great reform is marred.

* I beg particular attention to this point in connexion with the question as to whether a separate village police, if otherwise desirable, should be paid from this source.

Rev. 1866. Department.

No. 1,380.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

Dated 4th December 1866.

No. 8,646.

Submitting letters from Collector of Malabar and Inspector General of Police on revision of Village Establishments in that district; and recommending for sanction proposals of Collector to double number of Amshoms in Wynaad taluk and to improve the remuneration of all the Amshom establishment.

The first question which the Hon'ble Court of Revenue in their consideration as to the character of the "Kulty Varshy" or Amshom service fund of Malabar & application will be made to the Govt. of India for an additional annual grant equivalent to 5% on the accumulated surplus of the fund.

The Hon'ble will however first ascertain from the Collector the exact features cost of the revised Village Establishment

4. I am submitting copy of this communication to the Inspector General of Police, not without hope that he will not, on due consideration, press his former proposition.

I trust he may see grounds to believe, with me, that the old established Amshom agency, well suited to the requirements of the district, and which now works very fairly well with the regular constabulary, rather wants strengthening and improvement than dismemberment; and I am well convinced he will find that this Amshom agency, so improved, will be a far more efficient aid to the regular Police and Magistracy than a new separate Amshom Police, which, with the amount of funds that in any probability would be at its disposal, would be either numerically quite inadequate for its duties, or altogether under-paid and ill-superintended, and so from either cause a failure; whilst, for the Revenue and General Administrative purposes, there can be no question as to the advantages of retaining and improving the established agency.

(Signed) G. A. BALLARD,
Collector.

Transferred to the Board of Revenue.—See Official Memorandum, dated 19th June 1866.

1. The Board cannot come to any conclusion on the subject of the Village Establishments in Malabar, until informed of the present views of the Inspector General of Police as to the Village Police of that District.

2. Mr. Robinson will be requested to favor the Board with an expression of his views on this last subject.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
Secretary.

To the Collector of Malabar.
" the Inspector General of Mofussil Police.

Rev. 1866. Department.

Rev. 4380/66.

No.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

Dated 10th September 1866.

No. 6,463.

Requesting views of Inspector General of Police as to Village Police of Malabar district.

propriation of his collections, he is required to bring his village accounts at the end of each month, kept by a separate person, called "*a Menon*," which are inspected by the Revenue officers of the Cutcherry called "*Gumastahs*," who sum up the particular payments, and compare their total with the amount paid by the Parbutty, and if any deficiency appear in the latter, he makes good the same. The Parbutty's own property cannot be supposed to be sufficient security for the probity of his conduct, and, therefore, before the nomination of an officer of this description, ample surety for the faithful discharge of his duty, is taken in the persons of one or more landholders, who bind themselves responsible for both the person of the Parbutty, and whatever amount of his collections should happen to appear [illegible] having been paid into the Cutcherry a balance is called in the language. [illegible] the Collector of his keeps an account current open with the [illegible], and sometimes with each village, by which means he is at once enabled to observe those which are backward, and pays his attention to them accordingly, by affording the Parbutty whatever assistance he may require, besides taking such steps as may be consistent with the cause of the backwardness.

This mode of realizing the collections I have found to be best adapted to the situation and circumstances of the country.

28. The habitations of the ryots being scattered from each other in different directions, occasions the necessity of entertaining a greater number of people to aid the Parbutty in making the collections by summoning the inhabitants and securing the crops, particularly of those who cultivate but small spots of ground for the year only. The people employed in this service are called "*Kolkars*," to defray whose expenses, and those of the Parbutties and Menons, the additional 10 per cent. upon each ryot's revenue was imposed. This is the amount collected separate from the Jumma, under the head "*Kutywashy*," and which was originally designed solely for the defrayment of the expenses attendant on making the collections incurred in the employment of the three description of officers above mentioned. The other charges of the district, viz., Police, Revenue, and Judicial, were paid immediately from the Jumma collections. It is with satisfaction then that I have [illegible] arrangements, by which these districts were formed into one Collectorship, I have reduced the expenses as much as I possibly could, consistent with what is absolutely necessary for the due performance of the various duties attached to my situation, and have estimated, that at the end of this year, not a greater sum than 900 Hoons will be drawn from the net Jumma of this Collectorship to defray the whole of its native establishment, in the Departments of Tahseel, Revenue, Police, and Adawlut, as I expect that the amount collection of the Kutywashy (formerly entirely appropriated to the first of these establishments) will suffice to discharge the rest.

Exd. T. Cartledge.