M.R.O. 14—18,000—27-9-24.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 2589 Press ~~Mis.~~

35-36

Dated 2 — 11 — ~~19~~ 87

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 35. Read the following letter from the Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department, to the Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras, dated Simla, 20th July 1867, No. 2,550 :—

I am directed to forward copy of a letter from the Commissioner of Chota Nagpore, in Lower Bengal, describing certain tenures which exist in his division, and to request that it may be reported, for the information of the Governor General in Council, whether any tenures exist in any part of the Province under the administration of His Excellency the Governor in Council similar to the Ghatwalee tenures described in that letter; and, if so, that any reports or other documents in which they have been described to the Government of India, may be mentioned. If none such exist, I am to request that full information may now be afforded.

From the Commissioner of Chota Nagpore, to Junior Secretary to the Government of Bengal, dated the 3rd June 1867, No. 1,338.

1. With reference to paragraph 5 of the letter from Government of India, No. 4,268, of the 24th ultimo, I do myself the honor to submit the following report :—

Received with your endorsement No. 1,825, of the 2nd May 1867.

2. In most of the jungle mehals, when settlement was first made of them under our Government, were found a numerous and partially organized local militia, called Ghatwals or Digwars. They were found in possession of lands called Ghatwalee or Digwaree, for which they paid no rent at all, or a comparatively inadequate rent; but it was found that, in lieu of rent or balance of rent, they were bound to render service to the governing power for the preservation of peace and protection of life and property in the respective estates on which they resided.

3. The tenures are of great antiquity, many of the Ghatwals claim to be descendants of the persons who originally formed the villages and first broke up the lands they occupy; and it is worthy of notice that they are, for the most part, people of the tribes we generally consider aborigines.

4. The Ghatwals and Digwars rendered service to their immediate Chiefs so long as those Chiefs were vested with, or arrogated, governing powers. They were not unfrequently the main support of those Chiefs in rebellion, but many of them rendered us assistance in suppressing it. When the country was finally settled, and Police powers conferred on the Zemindars of the jungle mehals, under Regulation XVIII of 1805, they formed a body of local rural Police under the Zemindars. In 1862 the new Constabulary was introduced without much reference to them; but, on my calling attention to the fact, I was instructed to frame a scheme for their utilization, and did so. Under rules framed by me, and approved by Government, they now form an important body of auxiliary Police all over Manbhoom and in Dhulbhoom. It was found quite practicable, without requiring from them a change of residence, to allot to each superior Ghatwal or Digwar a definite jurisdiction. Thus, in Burrabhoom, the principal Ghatwals formed a cordon round the Pergunnah. The Police station under a Sub-Inspector was placed in the centre, with its own particular jurisdiction, and the surrounding villages were formed into subordinate jurisdictions under Sirdar Ghatwals, with the rank of 4th class Sub-Inspector. This body are divided into Sirdar Ghatwals, or superior Digwars, who hold each from one to twenty-eight villages, and to whom the rank of Sub-Inspector has been assigned; the Sudials or Deputies, to some of whom the rank of Head Constable has been assigned; and the Tabedars, who rank as Constables.

5. In carrying out the measure, we were able to dispense with most of the outposts of regular Constabulary that had been established, substituting outposts of Ghatwals.

6. Except in special cases, as when the Ghatwals have been called on to act in the suppression of rebellion, they have not been required to serve out of the Pergunnahs in which they reside.

7. The duties now required from them are nearly the same as those performed by the regular Police, the only difference being that it was not intended they should have so much writing work to do. Practically, however, the same amount of work is thrown upon them; and, as few of them can write, they are under the necessity of employing persons who can.

8. The scheme has hitherto worked well. The Ghatwals are, from their local knowledge and activity, better detective agents than the regular Police; and it was through their co-operation that the immense increase in crime caused by the famine of 1866 was met in Maunbhoom without additional cost to Government.

9. A statement of the Ghatwalee tenures in Burrabhoom, where relief operations are still in progress, is annexed:—

Memorandum of Ghatwalee tenures in Pergunnah Burrabhoom, according to Ghatwalee Issumnoveesee of 1833.

Names of Turrufs.	Number of mouzahs or quantities of land held by Ghatwals in lieu of pay.	Number of Sirdars.	Sidars' residence.	Number of Sudials.	Number of Tabedars.	Remarks.
Sotarokhanee	28¼ Mouzahs ...	1	Goburghoose ...	6	216	
Dhadka ...	18 ,, ...	1	Dhadka	26	68	
Koomarcepar	9 Mouzahs 15½ rekhs, and land worth sowing 120 maunds of paddy.	5	Baigoorah ... Panchookoodee ... Ranganmetea ... Poorcearah ... Rajrah ...	15	103	These Ghatwalee lands are scattered over seventy villages of this Turruf.
Bagoordah ...	1¾ Mouzahs ...	1	Bagoordah ...	3	9	
Surberiah ...	1 Mouzah 2 rekhs, and lands worth sowing 19 maunds of paddy.	1	Surberiah ...	13	32	
Tinsyah ...	15¾ Mouzahs ..	1	Bernia	22	69	
Gurtalo ...	2 Mouzahs 11 rekhs, and lands worth sowing 55 maunds of paddy	...	.....	...	93	In this Turruf there are ninety-three Ghatwals, including Chowkeedar, &c., some of whom are paid in money and some in lands.
Punchsirdaree	23¼ Mouzahs ...	1	Bamnee	4	452	

POORULIAH,
28*th May* 1867.

(Signed) R. C. MONEY,
Deputy Commissioner.

No. 2,449, dated the 24th June 1867.

Copy forwarded to the Secretary to the Government of India in the Home Department, for information in reference to paragraph 5 of their letter No. 4,268, dated the 24th April last.

By Order, &c.,

(Signed) H. L. HARRISON,
Junior Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal.

No. 36. ORDER THEREON, 2nd November 1867, No. 2,589.

Miscellaneous.

1. The Government are under the impression that no such tenures as those described in the above papers any longer exist in this Presidency, the whole having been reduced to the ordinary footing of Ryotwari at the revenue settlements made when the districts forming the Madras Presidency came under the British Government, or enfranchised from any condition of service by the imposition of additional quit-rent in the course of the operations of the present Inam Commission.

2. The Inam Commissioner will, however, be directed to report on this point, as the examination that has been made of the records in the Government Office does not suffice to determine the facts of the case positively.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
Secretary to Government.

To the Officiating Inam Commissioner.
,, the Board of Revenue.

Xd. S. T. Augustin.

Do any tenures exist similar to the Chatwallee tenures?

The Chatwals were originally a local militia in possession of land in lieu of pay in rent for which they were bound to render service for the preservation of peace & protection of life & property in the respective estates. These tenures are of great antiquity.

In the District of Ganjam there existed formerly 2 classes similar to the Chatwals. called: 1° Down Peons 2° Dora & Samah Peons, ~~of the Zemindar~~.

1° The Down Peons were the armed retainers of the Zemindar. In 1834 the Comm.r Mr Russell found that the number of 556 which had been entertained in 1806 had risen to the no. of 1,406. They were paid out of the Rev. & were entitled to levy contributions from the Villages. He reduced the force to 700, & assigned to the remaining "deserving men" waste land sufficient to afford a comfortable subsistence subject after 4 or 5 years to a light quit-rent. They were reported in 1854 to be alike careless & useless, & it was proposed to reduce their no. still further. Whether this reduction was effected does not appear.

2° The Dora & their Samah Peons (the Kattubadi of the Ceded Districts) &c was their duty to maintain general security & prevent the incursions of the Savara tribes from the neighbouring Hills.

They were remunerated for their services by lands held on a light quit-rent.

As the value of the Doratanam Inams was excluded from the assets of the Parla kimidi estate when the Peshkash was fixed they were Inam Comm.r decided that they should be enfranchised on half assessment like those of the Jangi Katubadies in the Ceded Dis-trict.

The Inamions of the Peons were ordered to be recorded in detail in the register but the settlement was to be made with the Sirdar or Dora.

In 1866 Mr. Robinson reported the good services rendered by the Paiks in the frontier-campaign of that year, stating that they "are emphati-cally the people's guard, they live amongst them & are trusted & looked to by the people with great confi-dence, that when required for public duty they attend with great alacrity & do their work willingly & well"; recommended that the title deeds which had been made out for them should be recalled. Govt. thereupon ordered that no change should for the present be made in their condition.

30th April 66 No. 650.

* The Bissoyes are hill frontier Chieftains whose adherents were Sowrahs. They undertook to prevent the inroads of the Khonds & distant hill tribes, & paid a small tribute to the Zamindar. They were generally found to be in league with the robbers

Mr. Russell says they paid no tribute, Mr. Robinson that they did.

* The subjection of these chiefs to the Rajah is of a feudal character. Mr. Russell.

robbers instead of repelling their outra-ges. They appear to have been tributary Chieftains, rather than mere retainers of the Zamindars, & in their Pros. of 21st July 1861 Govt. ruled that there should be no interference with them beyond that of defining their limits & prevent-ing encroachments.

There were besides these the Inukhasas villages enjoyed by the military chiefs & men of high position & influence whose service tenure was of an hono-rary & almost nominal nature.

They comprehended as Mr. Taylor not merely those granted to Peons & military chiefs for service but also grants for good service & distinction. These were enfranchised by the Inam Comm.r

There is no particular account of the Inukhasa Peons anywhere. Mr. Russell does not mention them. The Dora Peons seem to be the most like the Ghatwals, but the notices of them in these papers are scanty.

The Coll.r of Ganjam & Vizagapatam might be called on through the B.O.R. to report on the tenures of the services rendered by the

1. Town Peons.
2. Dora & Thana Peons.
3. The Inukhasa do.

J.W.S

2d Room 67.

Revenue Department.

No. 2589

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Under date the 186

Read the following Despatch from the Secretary to the Government of India

Forwarding Copy of letter from the Commrs of Chuttr Nagpore in Lower Bengal, desiring Copy of the Ghatwalee Tenures which exist in his Division, and requesting information regarding the Reference to Tenures similar to that of the Ghatwallee which may exist in the Madras Presidency

P.C. 20 July 67 / 67 / 1255

The Government are under the impression that no such Tenures as those described in the above Papers any longer exist in this Presidency the whole having been reduced to the ordinary footing of Ryotwari at the Revenue Settlements made when the Districts forming the Madras

Revenue 1867 Despatch
Bo of Govt of Madras

No 2589

Bo of Madras Govt
dd 12 November 1867

From the Offg Secy Govt
of India
dd 17 January 1868 No 113

No 25-36.

Statement showing Government in the District

Taluk and Village.	Nature of the Inam, whether personal or for Religious, State, or Charitable service.	C. Money payment once for all.	Remarks.
		Rent of quitting the Inam. / Rent assessed.	
1	2	14	15
Dhone in Ramalkota Taluk.	Service Inam, Ramappa Bapu Row, &c. &c.	.....	The land proposed to be given in exchange is held on ordinary Ryotwary putta by the Inamdars, who have agreed to have it in exchange for their Inam. The extent of land to be made over, being assessed at a lower rate than the Inam taken up, a larger area is recommended to equalize the value.

KURNOOL,
3rd August 1867.

T. A. N. CHASE,
Collector.

Submitted to Government, with the Board's recommendation that the proposed exchange be sanctioned.

(True Copies and Extract.)

J Grote
Sub-Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department,
with copy of Board's Proceedings, dated 20th August 1867, No. 5,362.

No. 5,362.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 20th August 1867.

Read the following letter from T. A. N. CHASE, Esq., Collector of Kurnool, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 3rd August 1867, No. 244:—

With reference to the Board's Standing Circular No. 168-1, I have the honour to forward, for the sanction of the Board, a Statement showing the land to be given in exchange for the Inam land taken up for the Gootty road, in Ramalkotta taluk.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.—Statement.

1. The Statement received from the Collector of Kurnool will be returned to him for revision, as a discrepancy is apparent between his remarks in Column 15, that "the extent of land to be "made over being assessed at a lower rate than the Inam taken up, a larger area is recommended "to *equalize the value*;" and the actual entries in the Statement, which give the value of the land taken up as Rupees 2-15-9, and that of the fresh grant proposed as 13 annas only. There is an omission in Column 10 which requires to be supplied.

2. The Board further observe that a covering letter was unnecessary in transmitting the Statement, and that the purpose for which the land was taken should have been specified in the heading of the Statement, and if necessary, a fuller explanation given in the column of remarks. The revised Statement now called for should be prepared accordingly.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) R. A. DALYELL,
Secretary.

To the Collector of Kurnool,
with Statement.

Exd. J. Wright.