

S. 3234.

C O N T E N T S .

Madras Government Reports.

The Baramahal Records : 1918-1923.

1. Land Rent, 1918.	259 pp.	Se
2. Imposts, 1920.	157 pp.	
3. Balances, 1922.	105 pp.	
4. Police, 1923.	192 pp.	

V 2, L : 8. 2191

D7. 6

D7. 7

D7. 15 -

D7. 16

17434

INDEX.

A

Abdul Ghafur Onlippe, 2, 4, 5.
 Abdulla, 51, 53, 60.
 Abdul Wahab Khan, 67.
 Achalappa, 39.
 Acklugan, 117.
 Adamanikkottai, 91, 130, 135, 182.
 Adanpalli, 95.
 Adikarabetti, 130, 132.
 Adjanhalli, 135.
 Agantappa, 148.
 Agaram, 65, 135, 139.
 Agnew, Major, 33.
 Ahamedi Sarkar, 14.
 Ailpatti, 59.
 Alackpur Chinnathambi Gaud, 14.
 Alagappur, 127.
 Alamgira, Alingera, 27, 105, 139.
 Alampak, 8, 9.
 Ali Muhammad, *See* Muhammad Ali.
 Ali Razakhan, 14.
 Aliyanur, 9, 22.
 Allambaddi, 154.
 Almerthpatti, 14.
 Amapalayam, 132.
 Ambur, 1, 2, 40, 44, 49, 56, 72, 83, 94, 96, 104, 112, 125, 136, 139.
 Amur, 88.
 Anamanatirtam, 132.
 Anandamalai, 162.
 Ananda Nayak Raotar, 164—166.
 Anandapalli, 94.
 Anantagiri, 8—11, 22, 24, 25.
 Anchur, 96.
 Andamangalam, 35.
 Andanur, 96.
 Andiyappa, 117.
 Andrew, 9.
 Ankampalli, 65.
 Ankapur, 13.
 Ankishgiri, Ankusagivi, 46, 55.
 Annamangal, 89.
 Annichettydrug, 137.
 Anwar-ud-din Khan, 1.
 Appa Gaud, 113.
 Appaji Rao, 171, 172, 175, 177.
 Appaswami, 54.
 Appavu, 117.
 Appayya Chetti, 112.
 Aragatur, 35.
 Arcot, 4, 22, 52, 55, 61—63, 74, 112, 180, 182, 184, 185.
 Ariyakolam, Arriyakoilam, 134, 136.
 Arnachelam Punt, 51, 53, 55, 60.
 Arni, 72, 83, 104, 175, 176, 179.
 Arrur, 88.
 Arryanar 14.
 Arsampallah, 14.
 Arunachalam, 117.
 Asharafabad, 14.
 Aslampalli, 127.
 Atavadi, 138.
 Atur, 2, 5, 8—11, 21, 22, 24, 25, 27, 34—37, 72, 80, 83, 86, 87, 89, 104, 118, 122, 125, 126, 129, 131—133, 135, 142—144, 146, 150, 159, 162, 181.
 Awwalkonda, 67.
 Ayodiapatnam, 87, 129.

B

Balaghat, 6, 27, 43, 53, 54, 61—63.
 Ballapur, *See* Chicka Ballapur.
 Balligah, 105.
 Banawapi, 162.
 Bangalore, 107, 137.
 Bangaranaikpalaiyam, 46.
 Bangarapalayam, 54, 56, 65.
 Banur, 137.
 Baramahal, 1—8, 10—15, 19—23, 25, 26, 28—31, 33—38, 40—43, 45, 46, 48, 51, 57, 58, 60, 67—69, 71, 72, 76—78, 80, 81, 83, 85, 90, 97—101, 104—106, 112—118, 125, 140—142, 144—149, 152, 153, 155—157, 159, 161, 162, 179.

Barur, 94.
 Batrapatti, 135.
 Battalpalaiyam, 54.
 Bawa Sabib, 117.
 Beeari, 134.
 Bellur, 118, 122, 126, 132, 143, 146, 160, 159, 162, 181.
 Bepinalli, 95.
 Bettapatti, 96.
 Benle, Captain, 34, 35.
 Bhairappa, 38, 39.
 Bhana Nayak Raotar, 164—166.
 Bhavani, 154.
 Bhima Naik, 4, 5.
 Bhima Rao, 67.
 Biranattipollam, 89.
 Bohalli, 157, 159.
 Bojinger, Budjanger, 157, 159, 162.
 Bolepalli, 47.
 Bolkuddamalai, 162.
 Bomalparri, Bomalapuram, 89, 131.
 Bomarauze, Bomarazpalaiyam, 45, 62.
 Borinaiganpatti, 88.
 Borinnadru, 157, 159.
 Braithwaite, Colonel, 25—27, 33, 36, 37.
 Bridges, Col. mel, 9.
 Brown, William, 76.
 Buchan, G., 116, 120.
 Buktal Appya (Ohill Naik), 3.
 Buri Naik, 13.
 Bylapalli, 65.

C

Calicut, 14.
 Campbell, Sir Archibald, 93.
 Candy Kuppam, 94.
 Caripatti, 87.
 Carnatic, 1—6, 10, 15, 18, 23, 27, 33, 34, 36, 40—45, 47, 48, 51—54, 57, 58, 60, 61, 69, 72, 76, 85, 86, 98, 99, 104, 107, 119, 141, 143, 149, 151, 152, 154, 158, 179, 185.
 Canveripak, 74, 83.
 Cauvery, 14, 15, 19—21, 23, 30, 32, 63, 107, 154, 161, 163.
 Caveripur, 12, 15, 125, 130, 133, 135, 138, 154.
 Caverypatam, 130, 138, 185.
 Ceded districts, Ceded Countries, 1, 5, 6, 12, 15, 16, 18, 21—23, 28, 31, 35, 38—40, 42, 47—49, 56—59, 68, 76, 77, 87—89, 93, 99, 100, 111, 112, 116, 124, 127, 129—139, 141, 146, 153, 158, 160, 162, 179.
 Chackergiri, 13.
 Chackri, 1.
 Chakarakuppam, 94, 136.
 Chandra Sekra, 55.
 Chandrasekra Nair, 54.
 Chandargiri, 48.
 Chandarnagar, 44.
 Changanna, 1, 4, 26, 65, 67, 72, 83, 96, 104, 125, 130, 132, 136—138.
 Charakkal, Charkal, Chargal, 5, 55, 104, 105.
 Chase, Captain, 6.
 Chellam Chetti, 39.
 Chellapanpatti, *See* Salempatti.
 Chengalvaraya, 117.
 Chettiyur, 89.
 Chicka Ballapur, 46, 54, 107.
 Chick Ryal, 48, 50, 52, 54.
 Chickur, 65.
 Chill Naik, 1—5, 13, 21, 26, 33, 45, 54, 56, 65, 67.
 Chill Pedda Naik, 1.
 Chingal Rya, 2, 5.
 Chingoundapalli, 95.
 Chinjeri, 89.
 Chinnu Gaud, 113.
 Chinnagiri, 118, 125, 131, 146, 159, 181.
 Chinnakalipalli, 94.
 Chinnamalai, 6.
 Chinnamambhat, 91.
 Chinnamuthu, 117.
 Chinnarayadru, 72, 83, 104, 125, 135.
 Chinnathami Gaud, 13.
 Chinnup Naik, 2, 3.
 Chittampatti, 135, 137.
 Chittari, 94.

Chittoherri
 Chittur, 45
 Chosanti-rogu, 45.
 Choundur, 88.
 Choyepalaiyam, 1.
 Chugli, Mugly, 51, 54, 67, 106, 112, 174.
 Chugral, 2, 5, 54, 55, 61-63, 66.
 Chugralpollam, 45, 46, 54.
 Muhammad Abdulla, 55.
 Muhammad Ali, 51, 52, 54-56, 59-62, 64, 65.
 Muhammad Ismail, 28.
 Muhammad Latif, 50, 51, 56.
 Muhammad Musa, 2, 5.
 Muhammad Yusuff, 14.
 Mullaappah Naik, 55.
 Mullaaya, 117.
 Mulnur, 13.
 Mulvagle, 40, 41, 49, 51, 55, 56, 59, 60, 63, 65-67.
 Munchavadi, 129.
 Mungal, 13.
 Muniandur, Muniandur, 88, 133.
 Muniappa, 106, 111.
 Muniherri, 87.
 Munro, Thomas, 12, 15-17, 19, 25, 32, 83, 90, 113, 144, 148, 152, 153, 155, 160.
 Murden, 54.
 Murduvari, 14.
 Mursapatti, 138.
 Murvallur, 89.
 Murvanagiri, 127.
 Musiri, 88.
 Mutabar Khan, 8.
 Mutanchetti, 131.
 Muthur, 94.
 Mutkūr, 65.
 Mutlewar, 54.
 Mutta, 4, 128.
 Muttanchetti, 88, 131.
 Muttiyan, 117.
 Muttum Naik, 13.
 Muttur, 91, 96, 185.
 Mysore, 1, 2, 13, 16, 18, 20, 28, 41, 45, 47, 48, 50-54, 56, 57, 60, 63, 64, 104, 106, 108, 123, 158.
 Mytical, 46.

N

Nagappa Baljiwar, 171, 172.
 Nagappa Chetti, 106, 110, 111.
 Nairpalayam, 46.
 Nakurichi, 87.
 Nalikalpatti, 87, 129.
 Nallatambi, 117.
 Nallinaigankuppam, 139.
 Namagiripettai, 85, 88-90, 131.
 Namakkal, 68, 69, 72, 83, 86, 87, 89, 91, 104, 118, 122, 125, 126, 129, 131-133, 135, 143, 144, 146, 150, 154, 159, 162, 181.
 Namkottat Tullah Nair, 14.
 Nandidrug, 43, 49, 51, 60.
 Nangapalli, 12, 91, 126, 134, 142, 150, 154, 159, 162, 184.
 Naraindrug, 8.
 Naranappa Nair, 105.
 Narasimha Chetti, 3.
 Narayani, 167-171.
 Naracatur, 89.
 Narguntapalaivam, 67.
 Narsim Nair, Narasimha Naik, 46, 54.
 Natrampalli, 95, 139.
 Nattam, 9, 94.
 Nattampatti, 14.
 Nasir-ud-doulah, 62.
 Neekondi, 95.
 Nellore, 1, 23, 62.
 Neller, 135.
 Nhamu Bhai Maistri, 117.
 Nipatori, 30, 132.
 Nirva'ur, 131.
 Nizam's Dominions, 48.
 Nizam-ud-din Ahmad Khan, 4, 5.
 Northern Circars, 69, 71.
 Nuokam, 14.
 Nuruddin Muhammad Khan, Nuruddin Hashmat Jang Bahadur, 52, 61-63.
 Nuvampalli, 14.
 Nuwwab 'Umdatul 'Umrā, See Walajah Bahadur Nuwwab.
 Nynamalai, 162.

O

Oakeley, Sir Charles, 5, 8, 11, 20-22, 24, 28, 36, 37.
 Ogilby, Captain, 69.

Ojander, 94.
 Olampatti, 14.
 Olavacondah, 35.
 Olavakode, 174.
 Oldham, Colonel, 9.
 Olipatti, Olipadi, 87, 129.
 Olip Naik, 14.
 Omalur, 72, 83, 87, 91, 104, 122, 125, 126, 130, 133, 134, 142, 143, 150, 155, 162, 183.
 Ongole, 23, 70.
 Oram, Captain, 29, 33.
 Oratti, 130.
 Orcherri, 94.
 Oriurpalaim, 22.
 Orpairo, 94.
 Otattiar, 6, 11.
 Otgarratur, 14.
 Ottur, 88, 132.
 Ovalapallidrug, 40.

P

Pachal, 87, 129.
 Pachur, 94.
 Padri, 132, 137.
 Paghpalaiyam, 62.
 Palagurobi, 95.
 Palakode, 91, 100, 128, 135-138, 157, 159.
 Palakkur, 131.
 Palani, 14.
 Palapatti, 95.
 Paloutcherri, 14.
 Paliatur, 14.
 Falk, 28.
 Pallikonda, 5, 139.
 Palli Gounda, Palligundu, 22, 37.
 Palli Naik, 13.
 Pallipalaiyam, 36.
 Pallipatti, 130, 132, 136.
 Pallipetta, 94, 130.
 Palliyur, 89.
 Palmaner, 40, 46, 51, 53-55, 58-60, 64, 66, 67.
 Palmode, 131.
 Palmulanki, 14.
 Palmur, 88, 89.
 Palnur, 14.
 Palpetta, 96.
 Palur, 55.
 Pampatti, 94.
 Panakkaranpatti, 88.
 Panamartapatti, 129.
 Panandur, 94.
 Panepatti, 87, 130.
 Papa Gaud, 38, 39.
 Papambadi, 134.
 Paparpatti, 137, 174.
 Paramatti, 14, 86-88, 118, 126, 129, 131, 133, 146, 150, 154, 159, 181.
 Parasuraman, 117.
 Paravatta Mulla Chetti, 171-174.
 Pashandimalai, 162.
 Pater, Colonel, 112.
 Pattikonda, 51.
 Pavitram, 88.
 Payenget, 42, 62.
 Payyur, 95.
 Peddiansikdurgam, 54, 112.
 Pedda Nair, 55.
 Peddapetta, 135.
 Peddur, 134.
 Pednaispalayam, 87, 129.
 Penkallapalli, 95.
 Penugaram, 12, 72, 83, 91, 92, 104, 122, 125, 126, 134, 135, 137, 138, 143, 150, 154, 159, 160, 182, 184.
 Peralampatti, 96.
 Perambola, 135.
 Perandapalli, 136.
 Periamuthu, 117.
 Perikonji, 89.
 Perumal, 117.
 Petric, William, 140.
 Pillaneri, 136.
 Pirdi, 133.
 Pollachi, 14.
 Polur, 46, 66.
 Pondicherry, 118.
 Ponnappa Chetti, 11.
 Poona, 98.
 Porandur, 13, 14.
 Pudupatti, 134, 136.

I N D E X

Pujarpatti, 87, 91, 130.
 Pulambari, 35.
 Pulcherla, 55.
 Pungampatti, 138.
 Punganur, 40, 45, 48, 50—52, 54, 65.
 Pungavari, 35.
 Punnypara, 14.
 Parampur, 14.
 Purri Gaud, 14.
 Purripatti, 13.
 Purripallam, 14.
 Pursampatti, 96.
 Putur, 13, 104.
 Paval Ranga, 2, 4, 5.

R

Ragnath Naik, 55, 66.
 Rai Gopali, 87—90.
 Rajahmundry, 71.
 Rama, 128, 171.
 Rama Gaud, 113.
 Ramagiripallam, Ramagiripur, 13, 14.
 Ramaipattam, 23.
 Ramakaller, 9.
 Ramakuppam, 105.
 Rama Pandit, 65.
 Ramappa, Naik, 54.
 Rama Rao, 39.
 Ramasawmy, 46, 54.
 Ramayya, Baljiwar, 168, 169.
 Ramiab, 8.
 Ramnaiokenpet, 94, 139.
 Ramputtur, 14.
 Ramantell, 47.
 Ranga, Balja, 171.
 Ranganath Nair, 46.
 Ranjanar, 6, 34, 35.
 Rasipur, 86—89, 118, 126, 129, 131, 144, 150, 159, 181.
 Rayakottai, 28, 72, 83, 91, 97, 104, 106, 112, 125, 126, 135, 137, 138, 148—150, 162, 168, 169, 185.
 Read, Alexander, 1, 5, 7, 8, 10—13, 15, 19—23, 25, 28—31, 33—42, 45—49, 51, 55—60, 64—69, 71, 78, 77, 80, 81, 83, 85, 90, 93, 98—101, 104—106, 108, 110—118, 125, 140—142, 144—149, 152, 153, 155—164, 179.
 Round Wells, 74, 83.
 Rya Canua, 3.
 Ryalpet, 47.

S

Saomy Naik, 37.
 Sadarun Samachar, 14.
 Sadat-ul-la Khan, 1.
 Sadiqabad, 14.
 Saglewanta, 67.
 Saiyidabad, 14.
 Saiyid Ali, 64.
 Saiyid Muhammad, 4, 65.
 Saiyyid Ghulam Ali Khan, 14.
 Saiyyid Muhammad Khan, 15.
 Sale, Colonel, 99, 100.
 Salem, 1, 3, 8, 12, 13, 15, 16, 20, 23, 27—31, 34, 36, 37, 45, 47—49, 51, 55—58, 60, 69, 71, 72, 78, 77, 81, 83, 86—91, 99, 101, 104, 114, 115, 117, 118, 122, 125—127, 129—135, 140—143, 145, 146, 148—150, 152, 159—162, 161.
 Salempatti, Chellapanpatti, 87, 89, 94, 129, 131.
 Samalkuppam, 94.
 Samalpatti, 96.
 Sammuderap, 14.
 Samy Naik, Sami Naik, 13, 14, 22.
 Sandanur, 94.
 Sangi Venka, 2.
 Sankagiri, 7, 13.
 Sankarapur, 1.
 Sankaridrug, 12, 15, 29—30, 32, 33, 37, 72, 83, 87—89, 91, 92, 104, 118, 116, 122, 125, 126, 130—135, 143, 144, 148—150, 154, 159, 161, 162, 183.
 Saravana Maistri, 117.
 Satghar, 40, 54, 60—62.
 Saunders Edward, 35, 37, 69, 71, 76, 82.
 Sendamangalam, 21, 86—88, 118, 126, 129, 146, 150, 154, 159, 162, 181.
 Sepurdurgam, 1.
 Seringapatam, 1, 6, 15, 19, 20, 24, 33, 42, 43, 47, 57, 93, 106, 158, 164, 175, 176, 179.
 Serra, 107.

Seshappa Naik, 55.
 Seshayya, 128.
 Seshayya Chowki, 27.
 Shaik Mira, 3.
 Shaik Muhammad, 128.
 Shama Rao, 51, 54, 65, 66.
 Shampalli, 133.
 Shanji Yenkata, 4, 5.
 Shellapadi, 12.
 Shergamuni, Shirgamani, 86, 129.
 Sherkal, 87.
 Sherwaymetta, 4.
 Shevaroydrug, 137.
 Shewarampur, 171, 172, 174.
 Shinglekantapur, Singlantapuram, 87, 129.
 Shinkal Ryal, 48, 50, 52, 54.
 Shirgamani, 132.
 Shiva Rao, 174.
 Sholappaddi, 91, 130, 134.
 Siddle, 65.
 Singarappet, 1, 26, 96, 136, 152, 162, 185.
 Skardon, 179.
 Snodgrass, Thomas, 71.
 Solagiri, 55.
 Soma Nayak Raotar, 164—166.
 Sompalli, Solempalli, 46, 54.
 Sonagul Ballapur, 45, 46.
 Sriperumbalur, 74, 83.
 Subba Rao, 174.
 Subbaraya, 174.
 Sundakal, Sonagul, 54.
 Sundampatti, 94.
 Suriya Narayanappah, 39.
 Symons, John, H., 38, 39, 42, 49, 53, 54, 105, 112.

T

Tadgal, Tatgal, 157, 159, 162.
 Talleggi, 89, 131.
 Tallianar, 14.
 Tallimalai, 162.
 Tandavaraya, 117.
 Tanjore, 6, 9, 11, 22, 24, 34.
 Tantangaspatti, 68.
 Tapur Chowki, Tappur Choultry, 27, 87, 130, 133, 134, 142—144, 146, 157, 160, 162.
 Taramangalam, 91, 134, 183.
 Tattamangalam, 89.
 Tellicherry, 14.
 Tenkarakottai, 1—5, 26, 72, 83, 91, 104, 122, 125, 126, 130, 138—38, 142—144, 150, 152—155, 159, 160, 162, 182.
 Terunganar, 14.
 Thambi Gaud, 6.
 Thatthyangarpet, 87, 88.
 Thagar, Thyagar, 72, 83, 87, 104, 125, 131, 138.
 Tillynat, 13.
 Timmah Gaud, 13, 50—53, 55—67.
 Timmampet, 171—174.
 Timma Nair, 40.
 Timma Nayak, 171.
 Timma Nayak, Velagar, 171.
 Timmappa Naik, 46, 54, 55.
 Timmappa Nair, 46.
 Timmapuram, 95.
 Tipambatti, 12.
 Tippanur, 94.
 Tipu, 1, 2, 6, 8, 12, 13, 15, 16, 18—21, 24, 28—33, 35, 38—53, 60—67, 69, 76, 93, 104, 105, 107, 137, 158, 159, 184.
 Tirtam, 64—66.
 Tirtamalai, 99, 132, 134, 154, 162.
 Tiruchengode, Trichengode, 13, 15, 88, 91, 133, 150, 162, 183.
 Tirupati, 61.
 Tirupattur, 1, 2, 23, 27, 31, 37, 38, 40, 41, 68, 71, 72, 76, 77, 83, 91, 93, 94, 97, 93, 100, 101, 104, 105, 111, 125, 126, 130, 132, 134, 136, 139, 143, 150, 152, 157, 159, 170, 180, 185.
 Tiruvannamalai, 1, 4, 26, 99.
 Todigulla Ranga, 105.
 Todnar, 14.
 Tograppatti, 96.
 Tomampatti, 89, 131.
 Tomba Gaud, 24.
 Tomba Govindas, 68.
 Tond Krishna, Tondi Krishna, 2, 3.
 Tottiam, Totiyam, 88, 129, 132.

THE
BARAMAHAL RECORDS

SECTION VI
LAND RENT



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THE BARAMAHAL RECORDS

SECTION VI—LAND RENT

INTRODUCTORY NOTE.

The following papers, being printed in the preceding volume (Section V—Property), have been omitted in this volume:—

No. in the original
(volume II).

- I. From Captain William Macleod, Assistant Collector, Southern Division, Baramahal and Salem, to Captain A. Read, Superintendent and Collector of Baramahal and Salem, dated the 23rd May 1794—vide No. XVIII on pp. 32-33 of Section V—Property.
- II. From the same officer to the Superintendent, dated the 5th October 1794—vide No. XIX on pp. 33-34, *ibid.*
- III and Enclosure No. 1. From the same officer to the Superintendent, dated the 6th December 1795—vide No. XXII and enclosure on pp. 45-46, *ibid.*
- IV. From the Superintendent to Captain William Macleod, dated the 29th December 1795—vide No. XXIII on pp. 46-47, *ibid.*
- VI. From Captain William Macleod to the Superintendent, dated the 5th January 1796—vide No. XXVI on pp. 52-53, *ibid.*
- VI—Enclosure No. 1. Memorandum by Captain William Macleod in reply to the Superintendent's letter, dated the 29th December 1795—vide No. XXIV on pp. 48-49, *ibid.*
- VII. From Captain William Macleod to the Superintendent, dated the 23rd January 1796—vide No. XXVII on pp. 53-54, *ibid.* (The statement accompanying this paper is printed at the end of this volume—No. 12.)
- IX—Enclosure No. 1. Petition from the Brāhmins of twelve agrahārams in the districts of Salem and Anantagiri, to the President, Revenue Board, dated the 31st December 1795—vide No. XXV on pp. 49-50, *ibid.*
- X. From the Superintendent to Captain William Macleod, dated the 2nd March 1796—vide No. XXVIII on p. 54, *ibid.*
- XI. From Captain William Macleod to the Superintendent, dated the 12th March 1796—vide No. XXIX on pp. 55-56, *ibid.*
- XII and Enclosure No. 1. From the Superintendent to Captain William Macleod, dated the 8th April 1796—vide No. XXX on pp. 56-57, *ibid.*
- XIII. From the Superintendent to Captain William Macleod, dated the 1st May 1796—vide No. XXXI on pp. 57-58, *ibid.*

No. in the original (volume II).	
XIV.	From Captain William Macleod to the Superintendent, dated the 4th May 1796—vide No. XXXII on pp. 58-59, <i>ibid.</i>
XV.	From the Superintendent to Captain William Macleod, dated the 8th May 1796—vide No. XXXIII on pp. 59-61, <i>ibid.</i>
XVI.	From Captain William Macleod to the Superintendent, dated the 22nd May 1796—vide No. XXXIV on pp. 61-63, <i>ibid.</i>
XIX and Enclosures Nos. 1 & 2.	From Captain William Macleod to the Superintendent, dated the 28th May 1796—vide No. XXXV and its enclosure on pp. 63-65, <i>ibid.</i>
XX.	From the Superintendent to Captain William Macleod, dated the 21st August 1796—vide No. XXXVII on pp. 69-70, <i>ibid.</i>
XXI.	From Captain William Macleod to the Superintendent, dated the 30th August 1796—vide No. XXXVIII on pp. 70-72, <i>ibid.</i>
XXII.	From Captain William Macleod to the Superintendent, dated the 19th November 1796—vide No. XXXIX on pp. 72-73, <i>ibid.</i>
XXIII.	Memorandum from Captain William Macleod to the Superintendent, dated the 4th December 1796—vide No. XL on pp. 73-74, <i>ibid.</i>
XXIV.	From Captain William Macleod to the Superintendent, dated the 19th December 1796—vide No. XLI on pp. 74-76, <i>ibid.</i> (The statement accompanying this paper is printed at the end of this volume—No. 13.)
XXV.	From Captain Thomas Munro to the Superintendent, dated the 20th June 1796—vide No. XXXVI on pp. 65-69, <i>ibid.</i> (The statement accompanying this paper is printed at the end of this volume—No. 14.)

2. A collation of the two volumes has permitted the following corrections to be made in papers Nos. XXVI, XXIX, XXXII and XXXVI, Section V—Property :—

Page.	Paper No.	Para.	Line.	For	Read
52	XXVI	7	2	[. . . ?]	' Alledging that they should not pay not more for the resumed portions.'
55	XXIX	1	5	[. . .]	' Strengthening their arguments of complaint. I beg to refer you to my former letters.'
58	XXXII	3	4	[or to take ?]	' I always gave the ryots whenever they seemed to decline agreeing to the money rent.'
69	XXXVI—	2& 15	(3)	[. . .]	' (3) Palamēdu.'

ADDENDUM

In paper No. XXXVI on page 69 of Section V—Property, *substitute* the following for “*ŌMALŪR*. In this district . . . at all [. . .]” :—

ŌMALŪR.

“ In this district are the following agrahārams :—

- | | |
|------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Tappūr. | 4. Kāraiypatti. |
| 2. Dāsasamudram. | 5. Kurukkappatti. |
| 3. Tātampatti. | |

They were all resumed by Haidar and have ever since been rented by the Brāhmins at about half their value, some rather more, others a little less. The three last are now fixed at half of the estimated rent, the two first from the scarcity of cultivators are considerably below it. A few of the Brāhmins have left Tappūr and Dāsasamudram but those of the other villages are all present. Their having retained their former ināms so long on such favourable terms is to be ascribed to the influence of the Sarishtadār of Ōmalūr who held lands rent free in them all.

There are no inām or shrotri villages in Nangapalli.

In fixing the rents of all these villages which have been resumed either in whole or in part, I have in general rather been guided by my own opinion of what the amount ought to be than by accounts or by what was asserted to have been the custom of former times, for it is hardly possible to procure correct accounts of any of them because few of them have karnams appointed by the sarkar and because the kacheri people either by receiving money or by having shares in the lands were as much interested as the original ināmdārs in concealing every circumstance concerning their resumption and assessments and as to following precedent none could be drawn from the short period between 1784 and 1789 during which most of them were twice resumed. The greatest part of them are now assessed at about half the rent paid by ryots; one only is so high as ten-sixteenths while others are less than a quarter. These variations are occasioned by the different degrees of ability of the Brāhmins and by the plenty or scarcity of cultivators. All Brāhmins are in some measure ināmdārs for they seldom ever pay much above half the rent of other farmers. I have adopted this rate as the standard on the present occasion, for I have not considered the incumbents as entitled to any very particular indulgence merely because their lands were formerly inām. We meet in every district with lands at a low rent under the term of agrahāram, shrotriyam, etc., in the hands of Brāhmins but wherever the causes of such indulgence are thoroughly investigated they will almost always be found to originate either from bribery, from the revenue servants having relations among the ināmdārs or from their having a share of the lands. The greatest part of the ināms resumed by Haidar and Tipu have been long ago raised to the full rent. Those which are still below it, owe their exemption to some of the above causes, except the Swāmi villages which have no doubt been spared solely from motives of superstition.

It must have been at all times the practice to raise ināms when once escheated to the usual sarkar rent, for as all Hindu Princes were accustomed to give ināms; had they not assessed fully those which they resumed, the whole country would soon have been held either at a low quit-rent or in perfect inām.”

CONTENTS.

No.	PART I—LAND RENT—GENERAL.	PAGE
	INQUIRY FOR ASCERTAINING AN EQUITABLE MODE OF ASSESSMENT AND COLLECTION OF A LAND RENT OF THE CEDED COUNTRIES NORTH OF THE KĀVERI UNDER A SETTLEMENT IN LEASE—	
I.	LETTER FROM CAPTAIN ALEXANDER READ, SUPERINTENDENT AND COLLECTOR OF BARAMAHAL AND SALEM, TO THE BOARD OF REVENUE, DATED BARAMAHAL, JUNE 1793.—Remarks on the nature and progress of agriculture, on their investigated causes, on agricultural productions, on the gradations of soil and on the effects of seasons on the crops—Explanation of the five different modes of management, modes of assessment with remarks thereon—Opinion on the payment of kists according to the Hindu year—Conclusion	1-20
II.	LETTER FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT TO THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL, DATED BARAMAHAL THE 1ST JULY 1793.—Submitting his fifth revenue report which is his third report on the affairs of the Ceded Countries	20
	INQUIRY— Land measure—Weights—Grain measures—Money and coins—The division of time among the Hindus in the Ceded districts—The solar year—The lunar or civil year—Their cycles—Their eras—The seasons of the Hindu year—Agriculture in general—The Kādārambam bāgāyāt or Nirārambam bāgāyāt or garden cultivation—The expense of cultivating the bāgāyāt produce—The Kādārambam anāj or dry productions—The Nirārambam anāj or wet productions—The expense of cultivating both these productions—The Zirāat Zamin or cultivated lands—The assessments on these lands by their several gradations of soil—The true relative value of lands adopted in the present survey—Certain rules for guidance in such valuations—Explanation of statement No. 2, of produce, expense, etc., of the several productions of the fields and gardens—Assessments in general—The first principle laid down in the proposed mode of assessing lands, namely, by the average produce of the kinds they grow—The levy of tax on gardens, besides their ground rent—The second principle adopted in the proposed mode of assessment, viz., the regulating land assessments by their average produce of years—The comparative quantities of dry and wet crops—The diversity of each in a number of years and their average quantities—The prices of grain in any district not depending entirely upon the abundance or failure of its own crops—The years of average crops being the most advantageous to the cultivators of lands—The necessity of regulating assessments by estimates of average crops—The third principle in the proposed mode of assessment, viz., the making of sufficient provision for the maintenance of farmers before deducting the sarkār's share from the produce—Three classes of husbandmen in the Baramahal—The necessity of regulating the provision for the farmers by their number at present, the manner in which it may be done and the estimate of it amounting to a fifth of the produce—The proportion of land rent to produce determined by the foregoing principles and explanation of statements Nos. 5 and 6—The comparative view of the mode of assessment proposed and that which has been hitherto in use—Definition of the usual vāram or sarkār's share of the produce taken for rent in kind—Definition of the usual tīrvai or money rents of the Kādārambam, or the principles on which it has been originally fixed on dry grains by the sarkār and by the ryots—Similar definition of the usual tīrvai of the Nirārambam or wet grains—Examples of the application of those principles applied in practice—Comment upon them—Examination of two estimates A and B in statement No. 7—The due proportion of ploughs to the quantity of land—The rise and fall of value in land greatly owing to their disproportion and the reason why the standard rent is at present too high in general—Inequality of rents among the petty farmers, another reason why the present standard is unequal—The want of stock among the petty farmers is the necessary cause of some inequality in their rents, this disproportion being considerably greater in large villages than among particular farmers—Inquiry into the condition of the farmers under the standard rent if exacted, from which it appears to be 10 per cent upon the produce over-rated—Comparison of the estimates B and C comprised in the statement No. 7, viz., the expense of cultivating the Kādārambam and the Nirārambam and the maintenance of farmers, which deducted from the produce leaves a fair assessment for each class—Comparison between those and the present standard rates—Statement of the whole assessment proposed including the bāgāyāt showing the effects of it upon the farmers generally—This assessment as compared with the standard rate proves to be 9 per cent	

CONTENTS

v

No.		PAGE
	In favour of the ryots, and 24 per cent more than the current year's rent—Reasons for another calculation on principles entirely the result of investigation—Statement of the average quantities and prices of the produce by investigation and general supposition and opinion—Statement of estimates calculated by each of those averages—Result of those averages drawn up from the quantities and prices found by investigation, and the comparison of those so found with the standard rent showing that the proposed assessment of the Kādārambam will be 33 per cent, that of the Nīrārambam 40 per cent and the whole together 37 per cent of the average produce—Construction of statement No. 8—Comparative view of the condition of the ryots under the proposed assessment one year with another for twenty years—The proposed inquiry into other modes of assessment, that in taking rents in kind being regulated by the quality of the soil where the quantity of crops depends not on the seasons the most equal of any year—Rents in kind regulated in the same manner where the crops depend on the seasons very unequal one year with another—Money rents when a fixed proportion of the average produce annually is equal or unequal according to the seasons and the prices of commodities—Money rents when a proportion of rent is annually unequal from the above causes—Why the greatest revenue would apparently accrue from Government taking upon themselves the entire management of cultivation?—The objections to Government management—The question as to how to determine the extent of farms, the greater their number, the more beneficial to ryots in general, but the least favourable to revenue and cultivation—The constituting of the whole villages individually or in number would secure advantages to revenue and cultivation, but would be the least beneficial to the ryots in general—The renting of villages entirely or in number to their present tenants, proposed to combine the advantages of the other two modes—Proposal to correct the inequality of rents at any future period by ascertaining the difference in the quantity of labour employed on them now and hereafter—The quantities of labour esteemed the complements of a single plough in the two denominations of land and the due proportions of each to that quantity—How the same quantity of labour may be variously distributed over unequal quantities of land—The increase or decrease of land to the same number of ploughs—The effects of either on produce and rent—The increase or decrease of ploughs to the same quantity of land and the effects of either on the produce and rent—1st example for finding the produce of a less quantity of the Kādārambam on dry ground to the same number of ploughs—2nd example for finding the produce of a greater quantity of Kādārambam to the same number of ploughs—3rd example for finding the produce of the same quantity of the Kādārambam with a greater number of ploughs—4th example for finding the produce of the same quantity of Kādārambam with a less number of ploughs—5th example for finding the produce of a greater quantity of the Nīrārambam or wet ground to the same number of ploughs—6th example for finding the produce of the same quantity of the Nīrārambam with a greater number of ploughs—Application of the foregoing examples in ascertaining the additional produce and rent Tiruppattūr would yield if its lands had their full complement of labour employed on them—Reasons advanced for demanding an annual increase of rent during the ensuing two, three and four years—Circumstances under which an equalization of rents may be effected by means of the present survey—Proposal to regulate revenue payments which will be most convenient to every contributor; former mode of payment in instalments—The ability of the inhabitants considered in respect to revenue payments; former mode of collections—A reform established by fixing the rent of every farmer and the payment of it regulated by the monthly produce—Relative proportions of the several productions grown in the Tiruppattūr districts—The principal harvests in the year—The particular mode of regulating the kists explained—Question how the rent of each agricultural class can be everywhere duly proportioned to the produce—The proposal that the present survey shall comprise the heads of information which are deemed adequate to that purpose	20-57
III.	LETTER FROM CAPTAIN THOMAS MUNRO, ASSISTANT COLLECTOR, TO THE SUPERINTENDENT, DATED TENKARAİKOTTAI, THE 31ST JULY 1793.—Criticisms on the above report with remarks and observations on an agricultural survey and settlements	58-61
IV.	FROM CAPTAIN W. MACLEOD, ASSISTANT COLLECTOR, DATED THE 18TH SEPTEMBER 1793.—Remarks on the above report with observations on the particulars of a settlement regarding rents and the due proportion to be paid to the sarkār, etc.	61-65
V.	FROM CAPTAIN W. MACLEOD, DATED THE 27TH MAY 1796.—Memoranda of rules directed to be observed in assessing or valuing lands—Appendix applying to the memoranda	65-68

No.	PAGE:
VI. FROM CAPTAIN W. MACLEOD, SALEM, DATED THE 15TH FEBRUARY 1798.—The rules to be observed in the districts of Southern division (Salem excepted) for assessing lands which may be clandestinely occupied by the ryots ...	68-69
PART II—LAND RENT—CORRESPONDENCE.	
VII. LETTER FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT TO THE BOARD OF REVENUE, DATED THE 30TH DECEMBER 1796.—Forwards certain correspondence between him and the Assistant Collector, Southern division, on the proposed assessment of certain agraphāram villages in one of the districts under his charge with observations thereon—The effects of his system on the privileges of many individuals—Two other letters from Captain Macleod explained ...	69-70
VIII. LETTER FROM THE BOARD OF REVENUE TO THE SUPERINTENDENT, DATED FORT ST. GEORGE, THE 3RD JANUARY 1796.—Desires that the articles 66 and 68 of the Regulations for Collectors be translated and published throughout the districts ...	70
IX. LETTER FROM THE BOARD OF REVENUE TO THE SUPERINTENDENT, DATED FORT ST. GEORGE, THE 4TH JANUARY 1796.—Forwarding two petitions and desiring the Superintendent to inquire into and report on the rights of petitioners ...	70
PETITION from inhabitants of certain villages in the Salem district reporting on their inability to pay the rent demanded by Captain Macleod and the inconveniences they suffered in consequence ...	70-71
X. LETTER FROM MAJOR A. READ, SUPERINTENDENT, TO THE ASSISTANT COLLECTORS, BĀRAMAHAL AND SALEM, DATED TIRUPPATŪR, THE 15TH JANUARY 1796.—Forwards a circular from the Board of Revenue regarding the publication of the articles of the Regulations for Collectors with remarks ...	71
ENCLOSURES—	
1. Advertisement to Tahsildars, village officers, and other inhabitants of the Bāramahal, Salem, and other taluks of the Hon'ble Company, relative to the presenting of petitions with full instructions thereon.	72
2. Notice to the Tahsildars of districts severally enclosing the above advertisement for publication in their districts ...	72-73
XI. LETTER FROM CAPTAIN THOMAS MUNRO TO THE SUPERINTENDENT, DATED THE 22ND JANUARY 1796.—Reporting that the instructions relative to petitions were omitted to be published by mistake ...	73
XII. LETTER FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT TO CAPTAIN MACLEOD, DATED THE 27TH JANUARY 1796.—Forwards the results of his inquiries into the complaints of the Manigars of the Mural Hōbli relative to the settlement of their assessment with his opinion thereon—Reports on the great advantages of and the necessity for the survey and desires to know if his rules for conducting it have been followed in the Southern division—Remarks on the mode adopted to dispose the ryots to agree to the proposed settlement and on the ascertainment of the worth of the soil—Explains the object of the survey, discusses the principles which guide the settlement of assessment, etc., and assigns his reasons for his discussions ...	73-76
ENCLOSURES—	
1. Translation of the representations of Kondama Nāik, mustājir or renter of Pallippatti, etc., villages in the Mural Hōbli, Belūr district, Southern division, Ceded districts ...	76-77
2. Statement No. 15 (printed at the end) ...	77
3. Statement No. 16 (printed at the end) ...	77
XIII. FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT TO THE ASSISTANT COLLECTORS, CEDED DISTRICTS, DATED THE 29TH JANUARY 1796.—Requests information on the several descriptions of ināms and on the agraphārams and shrotriyams in their divisions ...	77-78
XIV. LETTER FROM MR. J. G. GRAHAM TO THE SUPERINTENDENT, DATED RŌYAKŌTTAI THE 29TH JANUARY 1796.—Reports why the Standard Regulations for Collectors were not forwarded by him to the other Assistants and why they were not translated into the country languages ...	78
XV. FROM CAPTAIN MACLEOD TO THE SUPERINTENDENT, DATED VIRAGANĀR, THE 31ST JANUARY 1796.—Reports on the falsity of Kondama Nāik's representations and states how so many head farmers were persuaded to accompany him to Tiruppatūr to lay their complaints before the Superintendent ...	78
XVI. FROM CAPTAIN WILLIAM MACLEOD TO MAJOR ALEXANDER READ, DATED VIRAGANŪR, THE 12TH FEBRUARY 1796.—Report regarding the agitation against assessment set up by Kondama Nāik of Pallippatti, and Sēri Gaud of Malla Mūppanpatti as well as by Brāhmins and Sūdras in defiance of the spirit of the recent proclamation ...	79

CONTENTS

vii

No.	PAGE
XVII. LETTER FROM CAPTAIN THOMAS MUNRO, ASSISTANT COLLECTOR, TO MAJOR ALEXANDER READ, COLLECTOR OF THE BARAMAHAL, DATED MAMUNDI, THE 14TH FEBRUARY 1796.—States that the Hindu rules have been followed in the Central division—Describes certain irregularities due to the intrigues of the patels and the consequent fluctuations in the rents of certain villages—Enunciates certain general principles adopted to prevail upon the ryots to agree to pay the fair assessment	79-82
XVIII. LETTER FROM CAPTAIN WILLIAM MACLEOD, ASSISTANT COLLECTOR, TO MAJOR ALEXANDER READ, SUPERINTENDENT, DATED VIRAGANUR, THE 18TH FEBRUARY 1796.—Reply on the subject of complaints preferred by Kondama Naik and others to the Revenue Board	82-86
ENCLOSURES.	
1. Statement No. 17 (printed at the end).	
2. The Assistant Collector Captain William Macleod's observations on Kondama Naik's complaints against that officer and the servants employed in the survey	86-89
3. A short sketch of Kondama Naik's character taken from the reports of the inhabitants	89-90
XIX. LETTER FROM MAJOR A. READ, SUPERINTENDENT, TO CAPTAIN THOMAS MUNRO, ASSISTANT COLLECTOR, DATED TIRUPPATUR, 22ND FEBRUARY 1796.—States that a considerable number of the ryots of the Omalur district have been sent to him to represent their grievances against the Tahsildar Nanjaya and others	90
ENCLOSURE—	
1. Representations of the inhabitants of Omalur in the Central divisions of the Ceded districts, that the Tahsildar Nanjaya fined them unjustly, cheated them in exchange, confined them and otherwise harassed them	91-92
XX. LETTER FROM MAJOR A. READ, SUPERINTENDENT, TO CAPTAIN MACLEOD, ASSISTANT COLLECTOR, DATED TIRUPPATUR, 24TH FEBRUARY 1796.—Forward representations of the ryots from Melmaganam and Karuppur hoblies, of oppression and cruel treatment with remarks thereon—States that these ryots may be treated with some indulgence	93-94
ENCLOSURES.	
1. Representation of the Kudis belonging to the two hoblies in the district of Salem that they were compelled to pay revenue twice or thrice the amount they paid hitherto	94-97
2. Representation of Chinna Gaud of the Village Ayyamperumapatti in the Salem district that his son who was then in charge of village affairs pleaded his inability to pay the highly enhanced tirvai	97
3. Representation of Ayyamperumal of Sukkampatti and three others that, as the Manigars and ryots of the villages concerned had gone to Madras, those who remained behind were not able to pay the revenue demands	97
4. Representation of Nalla Gaud of Vellalappatti in the district of Salem that Munshi Muhammad Khan laid on him a fine of 4 pagodas for cheating the Sarkar	97
XXI. LETTER FROM MR. J. G. GRAHAM, ASSISTANT COLLECTOR, TO MAJOR A. READ, SUPERINTENDENT, CEDED DISTRICTS, DATED VELLAKKADAI, THE 26TH FEBRUARY 1796.—Furnishes an account of the manner in which the survey of the districts assigned to him was conducted, the chief object being not so much to secure an increase of revenue as to establish an equalization of assessment	98-103
ENCLOSURE.	
Appendix (printed at the end)	103
XXII. LETTER FROM CAPTAIN THOMAS MUNRO, ASSISTANT COLLECTOR, TO MAJOR A. READ, COLLECTOR OF THE BARAMAHAL, DATED SANKARIDRUG, THE 28TH FEBRUARY 1796.—Acknowledges the receipt of Major Read's letter of the 22nd February together with the copy of complaints against the Tahsildar of Omalur and gives a short reply to each of the charges	103-106
XXIII. LETTER FROM CAPTAIN THOMAS MUNRO, ASSISTANT COLLECTOR, TO MAJOR A. READ, COLLECTOR OF THE BARAMAHAL, DATED SANKARIDRUG, THE 28TH FEBRUARY 1796.—Forwards the heads of a cowle proposed for garden lands with the object of stimulating the ryots to improve them as distinguished from dry and wet lands	106-107

No.	PAGE-
XXIV. LETTER FROM MAJOR A. READ, SUPERINTENDENT, TO CAPTAIN MACLEOD, ASSISTANT COLLECTOR, SALEM DISTRICT, DATED SALEM, THE 21ST MARCH 1796.—States as his opinion that as the proprietary right in the land is vested in the Sarkar, what is called the right of cultivation prevailing in the Carnatic cannot exist here except in shrotriyam lands—Remarks on the discontents in the Mural and Karuppūr hōblies—Inviting evidences to prove the charges against Konda Nāik	107-108-
XXV. INQUIRY CONCERNING THE SURVEY OF THE MURAL AND PUDŪR HŌBLIES	109-111.
XXVI. LETTER FROM MAJOR A. READ, SUPERINTENDENT AND COLLECTOR OF BĀRAMAHAL, TO THE ASSISTANT COLLECTORS, BĀRAMAHAL AND SALEM, DATED SALEM, 11TH APRIL 1796.—Transmits a draft of the report of the progress of the survey and settlement in lease for corrections and additions as may be satisfactory to the Board	111.
XXVII. LETTER FROM MAJOR A. READ, SUPERINTENDENT, BĀRAMAHAL, TO CAPTAIN W. MACLEOD, ASSISTANT COLLECTOR, DATED SALEM, THE 27TH APRIL 1796.—Desires him to send such of his Kacheri as were employed in procuring the consent of the ryots of Mural hōbli to the settlement and requests him to frame such charges against Konda Nāik, Sēri Gaud, etc., as he may think proper	112.
XXVIII. LETTER FROM CAPTAIN W. MACLEOD, ASSISTANT COLLECTOR, TO MAJOR A. READ, SUPERINTENDENT, DATED KANNANŪRPATTI, THE 28TH APRIL 1796.—Deputes two gumastas who were present during the settlement of the Mural hōbli and who can prove to be totally false the assertions of Konda Nāik in what regards compulsion being used in any stage of the settlements	112.
XXIX. LETTER FROM CAPTAIN W. MACLEOD, ASSISTANT COLLECTOR, TO MAJOR A. READ, SUPERINTENDENT, DATED KANNANŪRPATTI, THE 3RD MAY 1796.—Forwards a list of charges against Konda Nāik	113.
ENCLOSURES.	
1. Charges against Konda Nāik, late Manigār of the village of Pallippatti, in the Mural hōbli, Belūr Tahsildari, together with Capt. Macleod's observations on Konda's character	113-114-
2. A statement of certain facts made by the Kanakkan of Viripatti, dated the 20th January 1796	114-
3. A statement in respect of Konda's activities made by the Kanakkappillai of Pallippatti, dated the 21st January 1796	114
4. A statement regarding Konda Nāik and certain others made by Venkata-chalam Pillai, dated Pallippatti, the 24th January 1796	114-
5. Extract of a Kaifiyatnāmā from the Kanakkappillai of Pallippatti, dated the 15th February 1796, regarding Konda's activities	115
6. A statement from the Kanakkan of Pallippatti, dated 30th January 1796, to the effect that Konda prevailed on many ryots from Mural hōbli and from the hōblies of Karuppūr and Mēlmagānā to follow him to Bāramahal	115.
XXX. INQUIRY INTO THE CHARGES AGAINST KONDA NĀIK NUMBERING SIX IN ALL	115-120.
XXXI. INQUIRY INTO SAMJHAISH, DATED THE 4TH AND 6TH MAY 1796	120-121
XXXII. LETTER FROM MR. J. G. GRAHAM, ASSISTANT COLLECTOR, TO MAJOR A. READ, SUPERINTENDENT, CEDED COUNTRIES, DATED DAULATABĀD, THE 10TH MAY 1796.—Reports regarding the cowles prescribed for waste lands	121-122.
XXXIII. LETTER FROM MAJOR READ TO CAPTAIN MACLEOD, DATED SALEM, THE 12TH MAY 1796.—Requests to be furnished with the Jarib pattas of the Mural hōbli as well as with his mode of fixing the tīrvai	122.
XXXIV. LETTER FROM CAPTAIN W. MACLEOD TO MAJOR READ, DATED THE 24TH MAY 1796.—Reports that the Malayalis of Pachchaimalai agreed to the assessment by Nazar Andāzi but as those of Muniūr and Anjiūr could not be prevailed upon by the Tahsildar, a party of armed sepoy have to be sent to them to order	123-124.
XXXV. LETTER FROM CAPTAIN WILLIAM MACLEOD, ASSISTANT COLLECTOR, TO LT.-COL. READ, SUPERINTENDENT, DATED SALEM, 9TH NOVEMBER 1797.—Remarks and expresses his opinion on the valuation and settlement of agraphārams which were resumed by Tipu	124-125.
ENCLOSURE.	
Rules, etc., to be observed in settling resumed agraphārams with certain enquiries thereon	125.
XXXVI. LETTER FROM CAPTAIN WILLIAM MACLEOD, ASSISTANT COLLECTOR, TO LT.-COL. READ, SUPERINTENDENT, DATED SALEM, 15TH FEBRUARY 1798.—Forwards an abstract statement in English of the result of the examiner's report of the accounts of the Karbams of the Sūdra villages of the Salem district for fasli 1206.	125-126.

CONTENTS

ix

No.		PAGE
ENCLOSURES.		
	1. The rules for assessing lands which may be clandestinely occupied by the ryots— <i>vide</i> paper No. VI	126
	2. Statement No. 11 (appended at the end)	126
XXXVII.	LETTER FROM LT.-COL. A. READ, SUPERINTENDENT, TO CAPT. W. MACLEOD, ASSISTANT COLLECTOR, DATED TIRUPPATTŪR, THE 10TH MARCH 1798.—Observations on the rules for the assessment of lands clandestinely occupied	126-132
XXXVIII.	LETTER FROM LT.-COL. A. READ, SUPERINTENDENT, TO CAPT. MACLEOD, ASSISTANT COLLECTOR, DATED TIRUPPATTŪR, THE 20TH MARCH 1798.—Remarks on the survey of a part of the Salem district—Compares the different methods adopted by the two kacheries of calculating the total rent of the agra-hārams and aramane swāstyams—States how a general reform may be effected with the object of extending the plan of equalization of rents to all the different castes	132-143
ENCLOSURE.		
	1. Statement No. 18 (appended at the end)	143
XXXIX.	LETTER FROM CAPT. W. MACLEOD TO LT.-COL. READ, DATED SALEM, THE 29TH APRIL 1798.—Justifies the system of detecting and fining farmers in clandestine occupation of lands and explains the method of assessing the two classes of garden lands—Describes the object of the survey, with further remarks on the subject	143-149

PART III—LAND RENT—STATEMENTS.

No. 1.	COMPARATIVE statement of nine Hindu solar and lunar or civil years showing how the latter is accommodated to the former and their correspondence with the Julian year	150-152
No. 2.	STATEMENT of the annual expense of cultivation and produce of the principal productions of the Bāramahal as they are classed by the inhabitants; also of their usual tīrvai or rent according to the quality of the soil in which they may be grown showing how the circumstances of the farmers in cultivating each kind are affected by the season	153-161
No. 3.	ESTIMATE of the average expense and produce of the several gradations of soil in the Anāj Zamīn or cultivated ground, not including Bāgāyat, deduced from the foregoing statement of the several kinds that may be grown in each	162
No. 4.	COMPARATIVE view of the crops in 20 years to show their relative proportions the prices of the grain and the circumstances of the ryots during that period	163
No. 5.	ABSTRACT statement of the lands, produce, farms and rents of the kasba of TiruppattŪr by the karnams or registers of that village	164-167
No. 6.	STATEMENT of the quantity of land, produce, and expense of cultivation on farms depending on the kasba of TiruppattŪr from actual survey; also of the inhabitants whose occupation is agriculture or who are supported by the farmers of that village	168-175
No. 7.	COMPARATIVE statement of the mode of land assessment that has been practised in annual settlements of the Bāramahal and of that practised for a permanent settlement	176-180
No. 8.	COMPARATIVE view of the farmers' circumstances generally as they may be affected by the proposed assessment of land rent, supposing the seasons and all occurrences that increase or lessen the quantity and price of commodities exhibited in the 4th statement to be the same in the ensuing as the last twenty years	181-184
No. 9.	STATEMENT of the distribution and effects of labour in agriculture	185-186
No. 10.	PROGRESS of cultivation in the Bāramahal throughout the year with estimates of the relative monthly produce of the principal kinds in each agricultural class	187-190
No. 11.	RESULT of surveyors examination of the Karnams Accounts of cultivation in the Salem district	191-203
No. 12.	STATEMENT of the lands of two Agra-hārams in the Ātūr district which were resumed by Tipu Sultan in 1784 with the proposed mode of settlement by the Assistant Collector	204
No. 13.	STATEMENT of the jamā and collection in the three agra-hārams of the Viraganūr district for fasli 1205 with a comparison of the tīrvai in four neighbouring villages	205
No. 14.	STATEMENT shewing the rent paid to Tipu's Government by the Ardamanīyam agra-hārams and the quantity and rent of the lands now taken as an equivalent, central division	206-207
No. 15.	STATEMENT of the number of ploughs and rent of the Mural hōbli in the Tahsildari of Belūr in the Southern division of the Ceded districts.	208

THE BARAMAHAL RECORDS

	PAGE
No. 16. STATEMENT of land rent of Mural hōbli of Belūr district in the Southern division	209
No. 17. STATEMENT of the revenue and survey of Mural hōbli	210-211
No. 18. COMPARISON between the Superintendent's hulis and the Assistant Collector, Southern division's taram and tīrvai of the inām villages of the Salem district—Fasli 1206	212-214
No. 19. REPORT of the progress of the survey and the settlements in lease of the Southern division with estimates of the settlements of districts not yet settled	215
No. 20. REPORT of the progress of the lease settlements, Central division	215
No. 21. REPORT of the progress of the survey and settlement in lease of the Northern division, Ceded Countries	216

APPENDIX

SHOWING THE CHAIN OF ACCOUNTS THAT ARE REQUIRED TO COMPLETE THE SURVEY OF EACH VILLAGE IN THE NORTHERN DIVISION, CEDED DISTRICTS.

No. 1. Yāddāsht Jarīb patti or memorandum of the measurement of the village of Chinnatimmināyanipalli in the taraf of Kotipalli and district of Krishnagiri in 24th June 1794	217-225
No. 2. Khatāwani Jarīb patti or abstract account of the measurement of Chinnatimmināyanipalli, taraf Kotipalli, taluk Krishnagiri—Ananda samvatsaram on 24th June 1794	226-231
No. 3. Yāddāsht kachcha hulsi patti or memorandum of the gross valuation of the produce of the lands belonging to the village of Chinnatimmināyanipalli, etc.	232-234
No. 4. Hulsi Samjhāish patti or mode of settling the rents with the ryots as deducted from the gross valuation of the produce of their lands	234-241
No. 5. Hulsi Goshwāra or abstract valuation	242
No. 6. Pakka tīrvai or net valuation	242-247
No. 7. Statement of Pakka tīrvai Goshwāra-Sarkar Lands	248-249
No. 8. Statement of Darkāst sālwari or lease settlement	250-251