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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Financial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. *614*

Press
Mis.

Dated *17. 12. 1860.*

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Not to be folded or roughly handled

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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Financial Department,
17th December 1860.*

No. 38. Read the following letter from JAS. OUCHTERLONY, Esq., to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated Ootacamund, 1st December 1860.

1. I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Extract Minutes of Consultation of the 20th ultimo, No. 573.

2. I should feel greatly concerned if I had caused all the trouble which the Government has been pleased to take, upon information loosely acquired, or not calculated to impress me with a belief in its correctness. And this feeling induces me again to intrude a few remarks.

3. When I heard of an accumulation of specie in the Ootacamund Treasury from Drafts granted by the Assistant Collector, I supposed these to be chiefly on Madras. But though they appear to have been on Bombay, they must still have affected the Exchange market, since, failing these, the purchasers would have had to supply elsewhere their wants for remittances. Independent of this, however, it is evident that, whatever the amount of Bills actually taken on Madras, the purchaser has been able to play off the facility of obtaining these at the Treasury against the independent seller, and to mulct the latter in a discount accordingly.

3. In respect of Bills granted on the Ootacamund Treasury, if the list furnished by the Accountant General had gone back one month, viz., to April, it would have embraced a Bill to Mr. F. Cockburn for Rupees 2,200, and it was regarding this Bill—but without mention of date—that I was previously informed. The Bills actually passed since the beginning (I believe the commencement of April) to this time number *ninety*, the aggregate amount of which must be considerable, and the entire list will, I think, show facilities given, of which agriculturists and traders might reasonably have expected a share.

4. My apparent error in the mention of Mr. Dawson's name was one, as I find, in form only. The *Coimbatore* Treasury, as I mentioned before, has been for some time closed to the public. But drafts, I presume for special purposes, have been notwithstanding granted upon it. Latterly, the Collector of Coimbatore has authorized these being paid on presentation at the *Ootacamund* Treasury; and it is a payment of this kind which led to my mention of Mr. Dawson's name. A reference to Bills granted on the *Coimbatore* Treasury would explain the point. Coimbatore sends specie to these Hills for public purposes; and if my former allusion is taken to embrace both that and the Ootacamund Treasuries, I think a general list of all Bills granted on the two, at a time when the ignorant public (ignorant, owing to the blank constantly found opposite to "Coimbatore" in the Accountant General's Lists) were practically excluded from obtaining such—would show that my remark on the subject was not a wanton one.

5. Begging leave to express my acknowledgments for the arrangement which, in the general interests of the community, has now been sanctioned by Government.

No. 39. ORDER THEREON, 17th December 1860, No. 614.

To be recorded.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

Exd. T. O'Connor.

Pro: 20th Nov^r 1860 No. 573.

Tril 1860 Sept
Pro: 20th Dec 1860.

From Jas.
W. Ochterlony Esq.
of Tacamund.

Df. 15th Dec 1860.
By 6th 3

No. 632.

Acknowledges receipt
of the Pro: of Govt. No. 573
of 20th Nov^r 1860 respecting the
management of the Tacamund
Treasury and
offers a few remarks on
the subject.

Robt. 17 Dec 1860
To be recorded.
J. J.

C 11 Dec
R 15 "

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