M.R.O. 1—77,000—8-6-37.

(1) Number of pages 10

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(3) Initials of the Referencer

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Financial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1911	Press / Mis.
196-197.	
Dated 27-9- 1875.	

6/7

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Snakes.

FINIANCIAL DEPARTMENT.

No. 1911.

FROM

THE HON. D. F. CARMICHAEL,
Officiating Chief Secretary to the Government of Fort St. George,

To

THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA,
HOME DEPARTMENT,.(PUBLIC.)

SIR,

Referring to your letter, dated 24th February 1875, No. 354, I am directed to transmit copy of the Proceedings of this Government in the Revenue Department, dated the 14th September 1875, No. 1367, containing the result of the inquiries made by the Board of Revenue regarding the large expenditure incurred for the destruction of venomous snakes in certain districts of this Presidency.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

OOTACAMUND,
27*th September* 1875.

Officiating Chief Secretary.

Exd. T. O'Connor.

Regr. No.

HOME 1875 DEPT.

From Government of
Fort St. George.

Dated 27th Sept. 1875. | No.
Issued | Enclosures.
R. | Spare copies.

D. No. Progs.
L. No. 1911 No.

Snakes.—Proceedings, Revenue Department, containing the result of the inquiries made by the Board of Revenue regarding the large expenditure incurred for the destruction of venomous snakes in certain districts of this Presidency, transmitted to the Government of India.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
14th September 1875.

No. 129. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 12th August 1875, No. 2,261 :—

Read again Board's Proceedings, dated 8th May 1875, No. 1,193.

Read also the following letters :—

From the Collector of Nellore,	dated	12th June 1875,	No.	1,605.
,, Collector of Madras,	,,	10th ,,	,,	,,	150, recorded in Board's Proceedings, dated 17th June 1875, Miscellaneous No. 5,454.
,, Collector of Madras,	dated	17th July 1875,	No.	211.
,, ,, of Chingleput,	,,	9th June ,,	,,	321.
,, ,, of North Arcot,	,,	1st July ,,	,,	366.
,, ,, of Bellary,	,,	30th June ,,	,,	249.
,, ,, of Tanjore,	,,	5th July ,,	,,	2,192-22.

In their Order of the 18th March 1875, No. 537, the Government requested the Board to call upon the Collectors of certain districts to furnish information, called for by the Government of India, as to the manner in which very heavy expenditure had been incurred in the destruction of venomous snakes during the years 1872-73 and 1873-74, and as to the system upon which the several District Officers acted. The letters above recorded are the replies of the officers concerned.

2. The Government of India having sanctioned the grant of rewards not exceeding 2 Annas for the destruction of the cobra, and some other species of snakes known to be deadly, experimentally for two years in certain selected districts, the grant of 2 Annas each for every Cobra, Bungarus, Russels Viper, and the Carpet Viper destroyed in Tanjore and Madras was authorized (G. O., 19th January 1872, No. 119), and the districts of Nellore, Bellary, North Arcot and Chingleput were subsequently added (G. O., 29th May 1872, No. 156). The grant of rewards was restricted to the taluqs of Nellore and Gudur in the district of Nellore under G. O., 9th April 1873, No. 404, in consequence of the very large expenditure reported to have been incurred in that district; and in their order of the 28th May 1873, the Government restricted the reward to 1 Anna for cobras only in all the districts in which the experiment was in operation. All further expenditure in this direction was discontinued from the end of the official year 1873-74, under G. O., 17th February 1874, No. 99. These orders appear to have been generally conformed to.

3. The accompanying statement shows that the total expenditure incurred under the orders above quoted, during the years 1872-73 and 1873-74, amounted to Rupees 2,44,985-4-10 for the destruction of 2,131,592 snakes, of which 82 per cent. was disbursed in the district of Nellore alone, and 15 per cent. in Chingleput. The figures for 1872-73 (Rupees 1,57,292) now reported do not exactly tally with those entered in the statement submitted with Board's Proceedings, dated 18th

June 1873, No. 1,048, but the discrepancies are not material. The outlay therein given for the five districts marginally noted was Rupees 29,899-3-0, and the expenditure for Nellore had been previously reported as Rs. 1,27,390, making a total of Rupees 1,57,289-3-0.

Madras, Chingleput, North Arcot, Bellary and Tanjore.
Board's Procs., 15th May 1873, No. 793.

4. NELLORE.—The expenditure in this district during the two years under report amounted to no less a sum than Rupees 2,01,247 for the destruction of 1,779,306 snakes, the rate of extermination having exceeded 2 lakhs and a half per mensem from January to July 1873. The Collector states that snakes were killed both near and afar from human habitations; the special report which the Collector was directed in paragraph 3, G. O., 28th October 1874, No. 1,837, to furnish on this point, appears to have been submitted direct to Government.

As regards the system adopted for disbursing rewards and checking payments, the Collector refers to certain circulars issued on the subject, which specify the source from which payments were to be made, and contain directions for exhibiting the expenditure in the accounts; but there is nothing to show what precautions were taken against the fraudulent production a second time of snakes, for the destruction of which a reward had already been obtained. On the production of snakes before the Village Munsif, the reward was to be paid out of the collections, a bill countersigned by the Curnam or a respectable ryot being transmitted to the Tahsildar, and by him to the Huzur in support of the charge. No certificate to the effect that the snakes produced were of the venomous kinds for which rewards were authorized, and that they had been so mutilated before payment that they could not be produced again, appears from the circulars referred to, to have been required, although the Board prescribed such a certificate in their Proceedings, dated 6th February 1873, No. 162, approved in G. O., 19th February 1873, No. 195. At the same time it is presumed that all proper precautions were taken, as the Collector's frequent reports, quoted in paragraph 3 of his letter recorded above, show that the startling expenditure was carefully watched and duly brought to the notice of the Board and Government month after month. The Collector's explanation was to the effect that the district swarms with venomous snakes, and that the Yanadies were devoting their whole time to the pursuit. He stated that after the strictest inquiry, he had no reason to doubt the *bonâ fides* of the operations. The result of these reports was that the grant of rewards was at first restricted to the taluqs of Gudur and Nellore, and shortly afterwards the amount was reduced to 1 Anna for the destruction of cobras only.

5. MADRAS.—The outlay in Madras was inconsiderable. The rewards were disbursed by the Commissioner of Police for the destruction of snakes in the several divisions of the town.

6. CHINGLEPUT.—The expenditure in this district was Rupees 37,151-5-6 for 299,309 snakes. It appears that at first the grant of rewards was not limited to the four descriptions of venomous snakes specified by Government, and that till March 1873, rewards were paid for all venomous snakes. Proper precautions appear to have been taken to prevent the fraudulent production of snakes a second time. The destruction was not confined to any particular locality. The

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
14th September 1875.

expenditure in this district was not specially brought to the Board's notice, but the outlay incurred in 1872-73, was in reply to a call from the Board reported in the Collector's letter recorded in Board's Proceedings, dated 18th June 1873, No. 1,048, and entered in the statement submitted to Government therewith. The extensive destruction was then attributed to the presence of the caste of Yanadies in considerable numbers. No mention is made of the discontinuance of the rewards in accordance with the orders of Government, dated 17th February 1874, and it would appear that rewards are still being paid under Board's Standing Order, No. III. The Collector will report whether this is so.

7. NORTH ARCOT.—The number of snakes killed was 47,267, and the rewards aggregated Rupees 5,901-6-4. The snakes were mutilated on production, and every care appears to have been taken to prevent deception. The large amount of rewards disbursed by the Sub-Magistrate of Punganur attracted the attention of the Collector, and led to the suspicion of trickery, but no proof was forthcoming, and with that exception, the rewards appear to have been fairly earned.

8. The outlay in Bellary and Tanjore does not call for notice.

(A true Extract.)

(Signed) C. A. GALTON,
Acting Sub-Secretary.

No. 130. ORDER THEREON, 14th September 1875, No. 1,367.

Miscellaneous.

COMMUNICATED to the Financial Department with reference to the order in that Department, dated 9th March 1875, No. 540.

(True Extract.)

Acting Secretary to Government.

To the Financial Department. with 8 enclosures (to be returned)
„ the Board of Revenue.

Exd. W. H. French.

Despatches Rev. Dept
Govt. 5710/75

With copy of the Proceedings

Financial DEPARTMENT.

No. 1911

To

The Secretary to the Government
of India,
Home DEPARTMENT.
(Public).

Sir,

Referring to your letter dated 24th February 1875, No. 354, I am directed to transmit copy of the Proceedings of this Govt. in the Revenue Dept. dated the 14th September 1875, No. 1367, containing the result of the inquiries made by the Board of Revenue regarding the large expenditure incurred for the destruction of venomous snakes in certain Districts of this Presidency.

I have, &c.,

Govt. of Madras.

REVENUE.

To THE FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT, &c., &c., &c.

Dated September, 14th.
Read. — 2 —

8 Encl.

G. O., 14th September 1875, No. 1,367.

SEPTEMBER.
Nos. 129-130.

Destruction of Venomous Snakes in certain Districts during 1872-73 *and* 1873-74.—Communicating to the Financial Department Proceedings of the Board of Revenue reviewing reports on the manner in which very heavy expenditure had been incurred in the — and on the system upon which the District Officers acted.

Ordered, that the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 14th September 1875, No. 1367, be communicated to the Financial Department.

(signed) H. Stokes,
Secretary to Government.

To

The Secretary to the Board of Revenue.

Sir,

I am directed to transmit herewith, for the information of the Board of Revenue, copy of a letter from the Secretary to the Government of India, Financial Department, No. 354, dated 24th February 1875, and to request that the Board will report the result of the inquiries made by them regarding the large expenditure incurred for the destruction of venomous snakes in certain Districts of this Presidency.

I have, &c.,

(signed) H. Stokes,
Secretary to Government.

To

The Secretary to the Government of India,
Financial Department.

Sir,

Referring to your letter dated 24th February 1875, No. 354, I am directed to transmit copy of the Proceedings of this Govt. in the Revenue Dept. dated the 14th September 1875, No. 1367, containing the result of the inquiries made by the Board of Revenue regarding the large expenditure incurred for the destruction of venomous snakes in certain Districts of this Presidency.

I have, &c.,

(signed) H. Stokes,
Secretary to Government.

To

The Secretary to the Government of India,
Home Department.
(Public).

Sir,

Referring to your letter dated 24th February 1875, No. 354, I am directed to transmit copy of the Proceedings of this Govt. in the Revenue Dept. dated the 14th September 1875, No. 1367, containing the result of the inquiries made by the Board of Revenue regarding the large expenditure incurred for the destruction of venomous snakes in certain Districts of this Presidency.

I have, &c.,

(signed) H. Stokes,
Secretary to Government.

Ordered
27th Sept 75.

No. 1912
Copy
to Rev. Department.
with Encls returned. Desp 5710

20-5-93

1875 Finl. Department.

No. 1911 & 1912 -

To

The Secretary to the
Government of
Home Department.
(Public)

Dated 27th Septr. 1875,

196 — 197.

Snakes - Pros: Revenue
Dept. containing the results
of the enquiries made by
the Board of Revenue,
regarding the Cost expenditure
incurred for the destruction
of venemous snakes in
certain Districts of this
Presidency transmitted
to the Govt of India.

Local Funds—Medical.

No. 198. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 18th September 1875, No. 2623:—

Read the following letter from A. WEDDERBURN, Esq., President of the Local Fund Board, Coimbatore, to H. E. STOKES, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 1st September 1875, No. 48:—

WITH reference to Proceedings, Board of Revenue, dated 17th August 1875, No. 2,314, I have the honor to inform the Board of Revenue that until the money had been actually subscribed by the people, I did not propose its expenditure.

2. It seems only Rupees 470 are likely to be paid.

3. Under such circumstances, I could not propose a new building, but the fitting up of the old one, as proposed in my letter; with the needful plant in the shape of medicine, almirah, beds, and cots can be put in hand at present.

SUBMITTED to Government in continuation of Board's Proceedings, dated 17th August 1875, No. 2,314.

2. If the full sum promised by the inhabitants is likely to be raised, it would be well to fund the contribution as an endowment for the institution or a reserve for the construction of a building hereafter.

(True Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) H. E. STOKES,
Acting Secretary.

No. 199. ORDER THEREON, 27th September 1875, No. 1913.

The Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 17th August 1875, No. 2314, were disposed of in Order, dated the 7th September 1875, No. 1783.

2. The Governor in Council agrees with the Board in considering that if the inhabitants at Pulladum raise the full sum of Rupees 1,500 it should be funded.

(True Extract.)

D. F. CARMICHAEL,
Officiating Chief Secretary.

To the Board of Revenue.
,, Surgeon-General, Indian Medical Department.
,, Accountant-General.

Exd. T. O'Connor.

Govt. of Madras.

FINANCIAL.

To

THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

&c., &c.

Dated September, 27th.

Issued

Recd. *Encl.*

G.O., 27th September 1875, No. 1913.

SEPTEMBER.
Nos. 198-199.

Local Funds, Medical.—The opinion of the Board of Revenue concurred in that if the inhabitants of Palladum raise full sum of Rupees 1,500 for the Dispensary it should be funded.

No. 2,623.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 18th September 1875.

Read the following letter from A. WEDDERBURN, Esq., President of the Local Fund Board, Coimbatore, to H. E. STOKES, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 1st September 1875, No. 48:—

WITH reference to Proceedings, Board of Revenue, dated 17th August 1875, No. 2,314, I have the honor to inform the Board of Revenue that until the money had been actually subscribed by the people, I did not propose its expenditure.

2. It seems only Rupees 470 are likely to be paid.

3. Under such circumstances I could not propose a new building, but the fitting up of the old one, as proposed in my letter; with the needful plant in the shape of medicine, almirah, beds, and cots can be put in hand at present.

SUBMITTED to Government in continuation of Board's Proceedings, dated 17th August 1875, No. 2,314.

2. If the full sum promised by the inhabitants is likely to be raised, it would be well to fund the contribution as an endowment for the institution or a reserve for the construction of a building hereafter.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

H. E. Stokes

Acting Secretary.

To the Officiating Chief Secretary to Government, Financial Department.
Copy to the President of the Local Fund Board, Coimbatore.

Exd. W. H. French.

Financial Department

1875.

Board of Revenue,

MADRAS.

PROCEEDINGS, 18TH SEPTEMBER 1875, No. 2,623.

Dep. 18 Sept. 75

Perused & pencilled 27-9-75

Encl. No. 2180

Received 30 Sept. 75

SEPTEMBER.

No. 2,623.

Dispensary—at Pulladam in Coimbatore Circle.—Letter from President, reporting the amount likely to be realized out of the contribution promised by the inhabitants towards establishment of — and the manner in which it should be expended, submitted to Government with remarks.

Financial (1875) Depart.
Local Funds - Medical
Proceedings of the
Board of Revenue

C.S. 1913.

Dated 18 September 1875
Recd 18 —— " ——
Rec. 25 —— " ——

1218

Dispensary - at Pollachi
Coimbatore Dist. - Letter
from President reporting
how much is likely to be
paid by inhabitants
as contributions for —
and how he proposes to
spend the amount
submitted to Govt.
with certain sug-
gestions.

1783
7-9-75

No 198

Financial Department.

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following ~~letter~~ Proceed-
ings of the Board of Revenue dated
18th September 1875—

Order thereon, Cotacammund, 27th Sept.
1875, No. 1913.

The Proceedings
of the Board of
Revenue dated 17th
August 1875—No 2314,
were disposed of
in Order dated
the 7th September 1875—
No 1783—

2. The Governor in
Council agrees with
the Board in con-
sidering that if
the inhabitants
at

at Palladam
raise the full sum
of Rupees 1,500 it
should be punished

To The Board of Revn
Surg Asst Surl Dept
Scott Surl

Recd 11/10

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Ex A
23-9-75

Govt. of {1875} Madras.

Mil[l]

To

Dated 27 Sept[r]
Recd. }
1875, No 1913.

Nos. 198-199.

Local Funds Medical.

The opinion of the Board of Revenue concurred in that if the inhabitants of Pallaveram raise full sum of Rupees 1500 for the Dispensary it should be funded.

C 24/9