M.R.O. 1—39,000—16-10-20.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 483 Press
Mis.

18-19

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Dated 21. 4. 1860 19 .

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Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department, for the month of April 1860.

No. 18. Read the following Despatch from the Right Honorable Sir C. WOOD, Bart., Secretary of State for India, to His Excellency the Honorable the Governor in Council, Fort Saint George, dated London, 15th March 1860, No. 9.

1. In the Appendix to the Memorial of Mr. C. Reade, received from your Government, with your letter of the 24th November (No. 48) 1859, is the following extract of a private letter from the Zemindar of Vizianagram to the address of the Agent to the Governor, dated 9th November 1857, and marked R, page 17;—

"MY DEAR MR. READE,

"I have great pleasure in complying with your request to be furnished with the various "items paid by me to your Sheristadar. I believe I made a mistake in calling the annual sum "paid to him 3,000, as I find, on reference to the accounts, it has been, since 1854, Rupees 4,000. "Up till then I had declined to pay, but could stand no longer, and Colonel C., who was full of "such manœuvres, they got hold of, who at length came and advised me to pay. The sum "paid to your late Manager, 3,000, but the Sheristadar not only got Colonel C. to press the "matter, but himself insisted on having arrears paid to him, and got from me 8,000 to begin with!"

2. I do not perceive, from your proceedings, that any inquiry has followed the intimation of these extraordinary, and apparently corrupt, transactions, in which an officer of high rank in your Army is asserted to have taken a prominent part; and my attention having been directed to this omission on the part of your Government, I have now to direct that you request the Zemindar of Vizianagram to state the name of the officer designated as Colonel C., and to afford such further information of this officer's share in these improper practices as may be in his power.

3. Having ascertained who Colonel C. is, you will institute such further investigation into the matter, with the object of its being thoroughly sifted, as may seem to you to be requisite, calling, of course, upon that person for any explanation he may desire to offer; and having passed your decision on the case, you will report the result of your enquiries for the information of Her Majesty's Government.

4. In the same Appendix, and under the letter P., is another letter, of the 18th August, from the Zemindar to Mr. Reade, which I am of opinion demands some notice. In this communication, the Zemindar says, "I saw the two gentlemen you have kindly mentioned to me in "your note; they say they have fourteen packages with them, marble ornaments in the shape of "statues in different shapes, and chess boards, &c. I shall look at them, and see what I like; "they say their establishment is very large at France and at Italy."

5. The interference of the Agent of the Government in the private affairs of the Zemindar is by no means a part of his duty; but though there may be times when his friendly advice may be properly tendered, it is clearly incumbent on him scrupulously to avoid recommending or introducing merchants or itinerant traders, who desire to obtain the custom and patronage of the Zemindar. Such a proceeding is pregnant with consequences that may lead to misinterpretations and misunderstandings affecting the character of your Government and its agency, and cannot be too strongly deprecated.

6. You will communicate to the present Agent at Vizagapatam, and through him to the Zemindar, the displeasure with which Her Majesty's Government view the conduct of the predecessor in office of the former on this occasion, and you will impress on the Agent my expectation, that he will carefully abstain from a course so opposed to the legitimate relations which should exist between Zemindars and the officers of your Government officially connected with them.

No. 19. ORDER THEREON, 21st April 1860, No. 483.

Of the above Despatch, paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 will be communicated to the Revenue Department, and paragraphs 4, 5 and 6 to the Agent at Vizagapatam, and, through him, to the Zemindar of Vizianagram.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

Fxd. F. Cartledge.

Judicial Department.

Proceedings of the Madras Government

Read the following

Despatch from the Secretary of State — Date 15th Mar. 60 No. 9.

Order thereon 21 April 1860. No 483.

Of the above Despatch, paras 1, 2, & 3 will be communicated to the Rev. Dept. — & paras 4, 5, & 6 to the Agent at Viragapatam, & thro' him, to the Zemindar of Vizianagram.

The Rev. Dept.
With paras 1 @ 3.
" Govt. Agent - Viragapatam
with paras 4 @ 6.
} Desp. 24th

Paras 1 @ 3 Rec. 10th
" 4 @ 6 Rec. 10th

C

Judicial 1860 Departt

No 483.

Proceedings of Govt.

2/21 April/60

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