

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.

1364

Press
Mis.

219-220

Dated

21-8

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Not to be folded or roughly handled

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Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,
21st August 1862.

No. 219. Read the following letter from W. ROBINSON, Esq., Inspector General of Madras Police; to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated Trichinopoly, 9th August 1862, No. 1,771.

General Department.

I have the honor to forward the accompanying recommendation for the favorable consideration of Government, with request that the individual hereunder named may be allowed to draw his pension in addition to his Police pay.

Charles Clarke.

2. He is a deserving man and cannot well live on his present pay.

No. 220. ORDER THEREON, 21st August 1862, No. 1,364.

The Governor in Council is pleased to direct that his pay in full as a Head Constable of Police, Tinnevely District, be disbursed to Charles Clarke, in addition to his Military pension as a Band Corporal in the Native Army.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

PRECIS OF THE REPLIES of the several Collectors to the Board's Proceedings, No. 2,730, dated 8th June 1860, circulating Government Order, in Judicial Department, No. 675, dated 31st May 1860, communicating for the report of the Board of Revenue, a Despatch from the Secretary of State, calling for a return of the Municipal Associations existing in the Districts under the Madras Government—*vide* also Government Orders, Judicial Department, Nos. 569 and 1,020, dated respectively 3rd May and 14th August 1861.

Nellore, No. 86, dated 19th, in Cons. 21st June 1860,
No. 2,977.
Kurnool, No. 87, dated 20th, in Cons. 26th June 1860,
No. 3,086.
South Arcot, No. 90, dated 22nd, in Cons. 27th June 1860,
No. 3,124.
Trichinopoly, No. 78, dated 20th, in Cons. 25th June 1860,
No. 3,061.
North Canara, No. 88, dated 21st, in Cons. 28th June 1860,
No. 3,141.

1. The Collectors of the five Districts noted in the margin, merely state that there are no Municipal Associations in their District, but the Board are aware that an attempt was made at the end of 1859 to induce the people of Cuddalore to form one, and that, though several subscriptions were

promised, the feeling of the general public was found to be decidedly averse to the proposal.
Tinnevely, No. 246, dated 30th June, in Cons. 6th July 1860, No. 3,275.
South Canara, No. 99, dated 30th June, in Cons. 7th July 1860, No. 3,293.
Malabar, No. 122, dated 20th, in Cons. 26th June 1860, No. 3,070.

2. Nor are the Districts of Tinnevely, South Canara, and Malabar more advanced. The views of Government regarding Act XXV of 1850 have been communicated to several of the most influential inhabitants of the prin-

cipal towns in Tinnevely, but the advantages proposed are apparently considered not worth purchasing by submitting to the levy of duties or rates. The Collector of South Canara is of opinion that any attempt to introduce voluntary taxation for Municipal purposes would fail in that District, and would be in favor of its compulsory imposition. The Collector of Malabar states that caste prejudices interpose many difficulties in the way of voluntary association; that the people generally are indifferent to the utter want of cleanliness so general in most native towns; and that Municipal administration could never be introduced into his District unless it were compulsory.

Godaveri, No. 91, dated 3rd, in Cons. 9th July 1860, No. 3,332.
Kistna, No. 131, dated 28th June, in Cons. 3rd July 1860, No. 3,211.
Cuddapah, No. 69, dated 18th, in Cons. 22nd June 1860, No. 3,001.
Tanjore, No. 186, dated 23rd, in Cons. 27th June 1860, No. 3,123.
Coimbatore, No. 102, dated 10th, in Cons. 23rd July 1860, No. 3,557.
Madras, No. 278, dated 26th, in Cons. 27th July 1860, No. 3,665.

3. In the six Districts marginally specified several attempts are stated to have been made to introduce the system, but without success. At Cocanada and Rajahmundry meetings and discussions are reported to have taken place, but nothing definite has yet been determined upon. Two meetings were held at Masulipatam in July and November 1859, but at the second it was discovered that more

than two-thirds of those present were averse to the introduction of the Municipal system, and it was merely determined to raise a subscription for securing a supply of fresh water, which scheme however failed for want of encouragement and support from the inhabitants. In the town of Cuddapah a similar attempt to introduce sanitary improvements proved abortive notwithstanding the co-operation of the energetic Native Surgeon attached to the place, who utterly failed in enlisting the sympathies of the influential classes of his countrymen, which is ascribed to their natural apathy and distaste to any thing like a self-imposed tax. No hopes are entertained that any voluntary movement of the sort is likely to be made until improved education has dissipated the present ignorance which is now shared alike by all classes. No better success attended the efforts of the European Officers in the Districts of Coimbatore and Tanjore to introduce the system in the towns of Coimbatore and Combaconum, and Mr. Cadell is of opinion that as a body the Natives are incapable of appreciating its advantages. It was proposed that in the event of the inhabitants of the town of Conjeveram in the Madras (late Chingleput) District agreeing to the introduction of the Act in their town, the interest accruing from certain surplus Pagoda funds which aggregated

about 23,500 Rupees should be added to the collections made under the system, and the whole amount expended on sanitary improvements, but the attempt to excite the interest of the people in the matter signally failed, and Government at last ordered the whole sum to be invested in the 5 per Cent. Loan (*Vide* Extract Minutes Consultation, No. 937, dated 8th July 1858), and to be credited to the head of Local Funds.

North Arcot, No. 152, dated 25th June, in Cons. 2nd July 1860, No. 2,730.
Bellary, No. 134, dated 23rd, in Cons. 26th July 1860, No. 3,646.
Madura, No. 133, dated 29th June, in Cons. 3rd July 1860, No. 3,212.

Rupees 2,000 0 0
" 130 0 0
" 818 9 0

4. In the Districts of North Arcot, Bellary, and Madura, various sums as shown in the margin have been collected by voluntary subscriptions for specific purposes, but no system is in force; and an attempt

in 1854 to introduce Act XXVI of 1850 in the populous town and suburbs of Vellore, met with a demonstration of so hostile and determined a character that the Collector deemed it prudent at once to suspend all further action, and eventually to cancel the Proclamation introducing the Act. Every publicity is stated to have been given to the Government Order, Revenue Department, No. 813, dated 20th June 1859, authorizing by way of encouragement the contribution from the Local Funds of a sum equal to what may be subscribed locally and voluntarily by the people of any town, and the influence of the European Officers of the District has also been exerted in the cause, but without effect. The town of Tripatti being a place of some importance from its size and religious character, the Collector recently started a subscription list there headed by a donation of 2,000 Rupees from the Trustee of the great temple, but beyond a little temporary excitement nothing has resulted from the attempt, and Mr. Robinson is of opinion that, with the late increase of taxation, it is hopeless to expect any thing like a voluntary acceptance of the Act for some time to come.

5. The 120 Rupees subscribed in Bellary (*vide* margin above) was paid by the merchants at Hindupur for keeping the bazar of the Kasba station in good order, but this is not a collection under the Municipal system, nor is that (Rupees 818-9) subscribed in Madura in the town of which name, however, a Committee consisting of natives of the town operating in different wards of the town with Mr. Hayes, the Deputy Collector, as President, was formed on the 18th October 1859, for the purpose of raising 6,000 Rupees for correcting the level of the street drains, and of which sum the above realized amount forms a part.

• Salem, No. — dated 18th, in Cons. 10th July 1860, No. 3,523.
Ganjam, „ 177 „ 7th, „ 17th „ 3,473.
Vizagapatam, No. 618, dated 26th June, in Cons. 3rd July 1860, No. 3,214.

6. The Collectors of the remaining three Districts forward returns in the form prescribed by the Secretary of State, which are embodied in the following Statement:—

District.	Town.	Date of introduction of Municipal Government.	Act under which Municipal Government was introduced.	Annual amount of funds raised.	Whether by house assessment, town duties or other means.	Commission, how composed, showing number of Europeans and Natives.	Remarks showing in general terms improvements effected in the towns brought under Municipal Government.
Salem.....	Salem.....	1857 February 27th	Certain principal inhabitants have united to collect voluntary subscriptions. The system was not introduced under any Act.	Rs. A. P. 1,000 0 0 Inclusive of the moiety granted by Government.	House rates (voluntarily paid), and contributions with an annual grant of an equal amount from the interest of the surplus Davan-tanam funds.	GENERAL COMMITTEE. 8 Europeans. 4 East Indians. 20 Natives. SUB-COMMITTEE. 4 Europeans. 2 East Indians. 10 Natives.	The Association undertakes the following duties— to clean the streets and the open drains, employing scavengers' carts for this purpose; to provide public conveniences, to give numbers to the houses, and names to the streets; to light the streets; to prosecute persons obstructing public thoroughfares, or committing any public nuisance; and lastly, to look after public halting places for carts, &c. The Association has carried out these objects as far as the funds would allow, and have effected some improvements by removing certain topes, gardens and old walls, which from their situation within the town were supposed to have an injurious effect on the general health. For clearing the streets and opening a few drains, the experiment is progressing, but too short a time has elapsed to say whether it is successful.
Ganjam.....	Pula Kimedya.	1860 February 1st	Act XXVI of 1850.	800 0 0 Inclusive apparently of a monthly grant to house owners, the of 80 Rs. sanctioned by the Court of Wards, and of 5 Rs. per mensem subscribed by the Zemindar.	Monthly subscriptions collected from house owners, the poorer class excepted.	7 Natives. 1 European.	Draining the town, repairing the old streets and laying out new ones, building public necessaries for the use of the inhabitants and entertaining scavengers to keep the town clean.
Vizagapatam.	Vizagapatam.	1858	Voluntary.....	9,000 0 0	House, ferry and market taxes.	2 Europeans. 4 East Indians. 4 Natives.	

7. On the application of the Salem Association for Government aid, the Government desired that a Committee should assemble at Salem, to report not only on the sanitary requirements of the town, but on the mode in which the assistance of Government could be afforded most beneficially, and in such manner as, while it effected the greatest amount of immediate improvement, would carry with it the co-operation of the people, and on the receipt of the required report directed that certain surplus Pagoda funds, amounting to Rupees 43,000, should be invested in the 5 per Cent. Loan, and that from the interest thus accruing a sum should be placed yearly at the disposal of the Association for cleansing the town, equal to the amount which might be raised by local subscriptions. Estimates were also called for of the cost of certain improvements proposed by the Association to be effected in the town, which were submitted to Government by the Board, and have been since returned to the association for re-consideration as no mention was made of the funds expected to be realized from the people themselves and which information was necessary to bring the proposals more in accordance with the principle enunciated by Government, viz., that of devoting the funds in question to supplement and not to supersede local subscriptions. The desire of Government to introduce Act XXVI of 1850 into this town has been urged in vain upon the inhabitants on the ground that their object of improving the place would thus be better secured, notwithstanding the exertions of Mr. Fisher who is stated to possess great local influence. A few of the more enlightened Natives and all the Europeans and East Indians would accept the Act willingly, but not so the various classes who make up the great majority.

8. In addition the Sanatory Association in the Zemindari town of Purlah Kimeddy entered in the above statement incorrectly as established under Act XXVI of 1850, a municipal scheme was introduced by the Collector at Berhampore, which failed after a few months, in consequence of the cessation of the voluntary subscriptions.

9. The Association in the town of Vizagapatam was specially noticed in the Board's Administration Reports for 1858-59, paragraph 61 *et seq.* and 1860-61, paragraph 25, to the effect that it had met with considerable success, and had become popular on experience of its advantages, that a present permanent income of Rupees 250 per mensem may be relied on while its funded capital had reached Rupees 2,500; that M. R. Gujapati Rao, a public spirited Hindu gentleman residing in the Town, had promised a further donation of Rupees 5,000 in aid of any purpose beyond the present resources when required, and that stimulated by the example of this Association the inhabitants of Bimlipatam had established one in that town, and His Highness the Rajah of Vizianagaram had followed their example in the town of Vizianagaram, of both which however no returns in the prescribed form have been as yet received.

Exd. J. Wright.

No. 5,007.

From R. A. DALYELL, Esq., Sub-Secretary to the Board of Revenue,
To J. D. SIM, Esq., Secretary to Government, R. D.

SIR,

Judicial Department.
No. 675, dated 31st May, in Cons. 2nd June 1860, No. 2,607.
No. 589, dated 3rd, in Cons. 4th May 1861, No. 2,767.
" 1,020, " 14th, " 15th Aug. " " 5,159.

of 1850, I am directed by the Board of Revenue to submit the accompanying Precis of the Reports received from the several Collectors

Precis paragraph 3.
Government Order, Revenue Department, No. 813, dated 20th June 1859.

1. With reference to the orders of Government noted in the margin, calling for a Return and Report upon the Municipal Associations which exist in the several Districts of this Presidency, and of the working of Act XXVI of 1850, I am directed by the Board of Revenue to submit the accompanying Precis of the Reports received from the several Collectors on the subject, from which it appears that the endeavors which have been made to obtain the consent of the people to the introduction of the Act have signally failed, and that the liberal offer of Government to contribute, in every case in which a Municipality is organized, an amount equal to the funds subscribed by such a body, has had no effect towards inducing communities to come forward and agree to the establishment of Municipal Institutions. The chief opposition no doubt arises from the fact that Municipal arrangements involve the imposition of a tax from which there is afterwards no escape. Vizagapatam and Salem have alone as yet qualified themselves for the Government grant; a movement has also taken place in Purlah Kimeddy, but as that place belongs to the Zemindar of the Estate of that name, it has been considered ineligible for the grant from Government.

2. The subject of Municipal Associations has been noticed in almost every General Administration Report of this Presidency as well as in those of the Board, and the causes of the determined unwillingness of the people to the introduction of the Act whenever an attempt has been made to apply it was specially alluded to by the Board in their letter to Government, No. 850, dated 11th April 1855, on the subject of a proposed modification of that enactment, making it lawful to apply its provisions without previously obtaining the consent of the majority of the inhabitants which is at present essential. The experience of the six years which have since elapsed has only confirmed the Board in the opinion then expressed that it is almost hopeless to expect the Act to be introduced so long as its application depends on the voluntary consent of the people.

3. The Board apprehend that at the present moment there are stronger feelings of mistrust, and a greater disinclination to any kind of voluntary taxation than existed a few years ago, and they do not believe that the influence of local officers, however widely and judiciously exercised, is likely to convince the people of the advantage to be derived from Municipal Associations, and to induce them to submit cheerfully to the taxation necessary for carrying them out, even if the payers were permitted to lay out the funds on different objects than those to which Act XXVI of 1850 as it now stands restricts them. Much caution and discretion would undoubtedly be needed in carrying into operation an Act authorizing the institution of Municipalities without first obtaining the consent of the chief part of the community, but unless this consent is dispensed with, the Board see every reason to believe that the country will never be brought to any great extent under such arrangements. It would doubtless be difficult to carry on an efficient system of Municipal operations without the co-operation of the influential members of the native society, but even this may, the Board conceive, be overcome by careful and judicious arrangements in the formation of Committees appointed for the purpose, and presided over by Government officials.

4. The remarks of the Government of India regarding the small account to which the personal influence of their local officers appears to have been turned in furtherance of the object in view can hardly be said to apply to this Presidency, where it will be observed that in most Districts great exertions have been made by the local officers to awaken the people to a sense of the benefits to be obtained from Municipal Associations.

5. The Returns for the towns of Bimlipatam and Vizianagaram, at which Associations are reported to have been recently formed, have been called for, and will be submitted to Government when received.

Precis paragraph 9.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Signed) R. A. DALYELL,
Sub-Secretary.

REVENUE BOARD OFFICE,

Chepauk,

14th September 1861.

Copy to Collectors concerned.

Exd. J. Wright.

N^o: 1361 - 21 Aug 1862

The Governor in Council
is pleased to direct that
his pay in full as a
Head Constable of Police,
Sinnerelly district, be
disbursed to Charles
Clarke, in addition
to his Military Pension
as a Band Corporal in
the Native Army.

The Inspector Genl. of
a Police - With a
letter returned.
" Civil Paymaster.
" Controller of Mily. Finance.

Sept 22^d

From the Sub-Secretary to the Board of Revenue

To the Secretary to Government.

" Collectors concerned.

Dated 14th September 1861.

Received

No. 5,007.

Reporting upon the Municipal Associations
existing in the several districts of the Madras
Presidency and of the working of Act XXVI of
1850; and submitting a Precise of the reports
received from the several Collectors on the sub-
ject.