

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	1144	Press
	156-157	115.
Dated	14. 7. 1863	FD .

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Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,
14th July 1863.

No. 156. Read the following Proceedings of Government in the Revenue Department, dated
8th July 1863, No. 1,231.

Sanctioning the proposal of the Collector of } (Vide Proceedings Revenue Department, dated
Tinnevely, in regard to stationing a Deputy } 8th July 1863, Nos. 168 and 169.)
Collector at Trichindoor.

No. 157. ORDER THEREON, 14th July 1863, No. 1,144.
Communicated to the Inspector General of Police.

(Signed) J. D. SIM,
Secretary to Government.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 17th February 1863:—

Read the following letter from J. SILVER, Esq., Collector of Tinnevely, to W. HUDLESTON, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, Fort Saint George, dated Trichindoor, 21st January 1863, No. 27.

SIR,

1. Adverting to paragraph 5 of the Order of Government, dated 17th December 1862, No. 2,623, communicated to me by the Board on the 23rd idem, I have the honor to report for the information of Government, that having given the question of the division of the Salt Department between the two Deputies, further consideration, I do not anticipate any inconvenience in dividing the charge. My first recommendation was based chiefly on my having to correspond with one officer only, on matters relating to the Salt Department, but this is not after all of great importance. The principal duty of the Salt Deputy Collector is, frequently to visit the pans, and see that every thing is carried on properly there, while the preparation of the periodical returns sent to the Board, and correspondence with different authorities, is done in the Office of Account under the Treasury Deputy Collector, and in the Collector's own Office.

2. The charge can, therefore, be divided as follows:—The General Revenue and Magisterial duties of the Ottapedaram Talook, with the charge of the four Salt pans in that Talook, to be placed under Mr. Underwood, with his head quarters at Tuticorin. And the General Revenue and Magisterial duties of the Tenkarrai Talook, with the charge of the three Salt pans in that Talook, to be placed under the Deputy Collector C. Ramiah, with his head quarters at Trichindoor.

3. It will be of great general advantage to have the two Deputies stationed separately, instead of both being at Tuticorin, and the Talook Cutcherry at Trichindoor which is in very good order, and now vacated by the Tahsildar on the amalgamation of the Panchamahl Talook with Tenkarrai, will afford excellent accommodation for the Office of the Deputy Collector stationed there.

1. Ordered to be submitted to Government, with reference to their Proceedings quoted by the Collector.

2. The Board trust that they may be excused for renewing their objection to an arrangement which has been approved by Government. They are convinced that the division of the Salt charge and the attempt to combine with it, the efficient management of a considerable Land Revenue and Magisterial charge, cannot but result in serious failure. The functions of the two Departments are so dissimilar, the requirements of the one Department are so utterly incompatible with the due discharge of the duties attaching to the other, that the Board consider it their duty with all respect to submit their opinion for the reconsideration of Government.

3. The undivided attention of an active Officer constantly on the move through his charge, is not more than is necessary to meet the requirements of the Salt Department. In the absence of this, all the evils of the old system will reappear. No European Officer can, in the Board's opinion, properly perform the duties attaching to the Salt charge without destruction to his health.

4. The objection to having two Deputy Collectors stationed at Tuticorin does not apply to the Board's proposal, which was to place the Head Assistant there with the Salt Deputy Collector for the special Department.

(True Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON, Secretary.

ORDER THEREON, 8th July 1863, No. 1,234.

1. In their Proceedings of 17th December 1862, No. 2,623, paragraph 5, the Government concurring with the Collector of Tinnevely and the Inspector General of Mofussil Police, directed that one Deputy Collector should be stationed at Trichindoor and the other at Tuticorin; but expressed their doubts whether the arrangement proposed by the Collector, viz., that the former officer should have entire charge of the Salt Department and only the Magisterial charge of the town of Trichindoor, would be found as convenient in practice as a division of the Salt Depart-

ment between the two Deputies, and a larger Revenue and Magisterial charge to the one at Tritchindoor. The Government, however, assented to the Collector's plan being tried while he re-considered the matter.

2. The Collector in the letter now submitted by the Board of Revenue reports that he does "not anticipate any inconvenience in dividing the (Salt) charge." His first recommendation, he states, was based chiefly on his having to correspond with one officer on matters relating to the Salt Department, but "this is not after all of great importance." He considers it "of great general advantage to have the two Deputies stationed separately, instead of both being at Tuticorin."

3. The Board, however, object most strongly to the proposed division of the Salt charge.

4. The main point for consideration is, whether the duties of the Salt Department in Tinnevelly can be best performed by a single officer giving his whole time to it, or by two officers, each giving a part of his time to a moiety of it. In Tinnevelly there are seven Salt stations, one at, and three north of, Tuticorin; the other three south of it; two of these last being north, and the third south of Tritchindoor. The efficiency of inspection depends much on the frequency, but much more, on the suddenness of the visits of the inspecting officer. The Deputy Collector at Tritchindoor can easily visit any of the three southern pans in a night without warning, and this mode of visitation is more effectual than a regular progress along the coast at stated intervals. The Deputy at Tuticorin can do the same in respect to the northern pans; and thus every pan will be within easy reach of a trustworthy officer. If the whole Salt Department is under one officer, such rapid inspection will be impossible; and the advent of the Deputy will always be known and prepared for. With the revised establishments about to be sanctioned, there ought not to be the same need for constant visitation as there hitherto has been; and if it were not that the constant travelling is so trying, there would not be sufficient work for a Deputy Collector. Few men can travel long distances, and do a good day's work besides, and it is this constant exposure and wearisome journeying over the same ground that makes the Salt Department unpopular among the Deputy Collectors, and trying to the constitution.

5. But there is another point also to be considered, and that is, the great importance of having trustworthy, able and influential officers spread about a District, instead of being congregated at a few stations. At present, the Civil staff of the Tinnevelly District may be said to be

* Tinnevelly.

Covilputty.

Tuticorin.

† Shermadery.

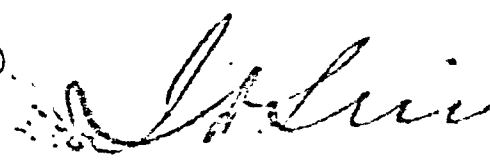
confined to three* stations; for though a fourth† is occupied by the Head Assistant, it is only sixteen miles from the Collector's station.

The Inspector General of Mofussil Police has strongly urged the

importance of having a Deputy Magistrate at Tritchindoor; and the general administration of a Province cannot but gain by having a superior officer within easy reach of every portion.

6. For these reasons, the Government grant permission for the adoption of the allotment of duties now proposed by the Collector, as being the best, all things considered, in the present circumstances of the Tinnevelly District.

(True Extract.)


Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.

„ Inspector General Mofussil Police.

„ Judicial Department.

To Honorable C. Pelly.

„ T. Clarke, Esq.

Exd, S. T. Augustin.

Pro. 5th Jan 1863 24.5-46. Judicial 1863 28 Jan 1863

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No. 1144 - 14 July 1863.
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