

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No.	1783	Press
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Dated	7 — 11.	19 1887

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Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 1783.

FROM

R. S. ELLIS, Esq., C. B.,
Chief Secretary to the Government of Fort Saint George,

TO

THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA,
 HOME DEPARTMENT.

SIR,

I am directed to submit, for the consideration of His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General, the annexed copy of a letter, under date the 1st October last, from the Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce at Madras, urging objections against the extension to this Presidency of the Bill for the suppression of frauds in the cotton trade, and also against the provision made in Section 2 of the Bill, which enables the Governor-General in Council to extend the Act to this Presidency.

2. The Governor in Council does not share the opinion and apprehensions so warmly expressed by the Chamber, and is, therefore, unable to support their application. He is satisfied that there is no danger of the Bill, should it become Law, being extended to this Presidency in the absence of a proved necessity for such extension.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

FORT SAINT GEORGE,
 7th November 1867.

Chief Secretary.

From the Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce, Madras, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Madras, 1st October 1867.

The attention of the Chamber of Commerce has been called to the Bill now before the Legislative Council of India "for the suppression of frauds in the cotton trade," which was published in a late number of the *Fort Saint George Gazette*.

2. The Bill gives the power to the Governor General of notifying in the *Gazette* the operation of the Act in any part of India, and the Chamber are not aware that any reason has been adduced for the adoption of a course which, so far as they know, is altogether unusual, viz., embodying a provision of this nature in any Act without the necessity for such legislation having been fully considered and proved.

3. This Chamber are of opinion that it is not desirable at present that this Act should be extended to the Madras Presidency, and they respectfully submit that it is not politic that a Law should now be passed, which enables the Government at any time to bring the Act into operation. It would be better that legislation on such a matter should be deferred until it is required.

4. The Chamber consider that there is no need for the interference of Government Officers in the transactions between the buyers and sellers of cotton in this Presidency. It is usual, at the chief places where the trade is carried on, for the

buyers to examine for themselves the quality of the cotton they contract for, and it has been found, hitherto, that this system has been as successful as could have been reasonably expected. It may be too much to say that all the cotton exported has been perfectly free from extraneous matter, or from some mixture of inferior quality; but it could scarcely be expected that the supervision of Government Officers, as provided for in the Bill, would effect any marked improvement, while it cannot be doubted that it would be open to many objections and disadvantages. The cost of the establishment provided by the Act, which would fall chiefly on exporters, would be heavy and probably intolerable, and the interference of Government Officers, armed with such powers as are given by the Bill, would certainly be regarded with much dislike by all concerned.

5. The Chamber admit that circumstances may exist of a nature to justify a Law such as this, but they are of opinion that the cotton trade of this Presidency, as now carried on, does not afford any reasonable ground for bringing it into operation here. This opinion is shared in almost universally by those engaged in the trade.

6. The Chamber, therefore, trust that you will have the goodness to communicate to the Supreme Government this expression of their opinion, with a view to the Bill, as now drawn, being modified accordingly.

Ed. J. H. Burns.

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Judicial Department.

No. 1783.

To

The Secretary to the Government
of India,

Home Department.

Sir,

I am directed to submit for the consideration of H.E. the Viceroy & Governor General the annexed copy of a letter under date the 1st ^{October last} ~~instant~~ from the Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce at Madras, urging objections against the extension to this Presidency of the Bill for the suppression of frauds in the Cotton trade and also against the provision made in Section 2 of the Bill which enables the Governor General in

with a legislative council of our own, I am sure the bill which it should not deal with a matter of this kind, when a mischief arises. Scandals have recently arisen in Bombay from the Presidency has been quite free. I would therefore await their coming up here before declaring by amendment that we want what Bombay wants. It might simplify matters to supply to the Sup Court to

in Council to extend
the Act to this Presidency.

2. The Governor in
Council (is unable to
support the application
of the Chamber) as he
is satisfied that there
is no danger of the
Bill; should it become
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to this Presidency in
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sion.

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apprehensions ~~expressed~~ so warmly expressed
by the Chamber and is therefore

Fort St George
4th Nov^r 1864

& making the Vell 40 as
belonged to the headman
God: chief to apply the Act.
When the time seems to have
arrived for applying it.

W.D.P.

I have proposed the draft
before I signed the
prohibitory of the Supreme
Govt. applying the Act
to this Presidency without

the content of the Local Govt. as
a more chimera and I should
therefore be unwilling to transmit
any apprehension of such a
controversy. by A.

Aug 18 1853 at Paris

1853

To Mr. George Smith of India

St. Thomas

Oct 18 1853

Indy - 1853

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