

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	22	Press ~~Mis.~~
Dated	8 - 1 - 19	1868

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,
8th January 1868.*

No. 40. Read the following letter from the Acting Collector of Vizagapatam, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Agnum-pudy, 12th December 1867, No. 1018.

With reference to the Proceedings of Government, Judicial Department, No. 1959, dated 2nd instant, on the subject of the Notice which appeared in the *Kistna District Gazette* of the 15th June last, signed by Mr. Bliss, then Acting Principal Assistant of this District, I have the honor respectfully to submit at his request an explanation of the reasons which induced him to publish it.

2. As the notice appeared in the *Gazette* of this District also the G. O. above mentioned shall be published.

From H. W. BLISS, Esq., Acting Principal Assistant Collector of Vizagapatam, to the Acting Collector of Vizagapatam; dated Waltair, 10th December 1867, No. 169.

I have the honor to request that I may be allowed to offer an explanation of the reasons which induced me to publish a notice in the *Gazette* of the Kistna and other Districts, to which exception has been taken in the public prints, and which Government have noticed in their Order, No. 1959, dated 2nd December 1867.

2. At the time I found it necessary to call for candidates for these two Taluq Sheristadarships, I had under my orders 33 Native subordinates drawing Rupees 10 a month or upwards. Of these 33, 25 were Brahmins and 8 only of other castes. Among the 25 Brahmins were my two Tahsildars, two Taluq Sheristadars, my own Office Sheristadar, and my two Sub-Magistrates. It is needless for me to point out the evils which may ensue from such a preponderance of one caste in official positions, for they have already been frequently and fully recognized, more especially, I believe, in recent instances in the Tinnevely District. I felt in June last, and feel now, that some such combinations exist and have existed here also, and thought, therefore, that in endeavouring to strengthen the non-Brahminical element in the public service in my division, I should be meeting the wishes of Government. I would respectfully refer to Board's Standing Order, No. 400, new edition, where the following words occur:—"Endeavour should always be made to divide the principal appointments in each District among the several castes; for instance, where the Head Sheristadar is a Mahratta Brahmin the Sub-division Sheristadar should be a member of some other class. A proportion of the Tahsildars in each District should belong to castes other than the Brahmin, and it should be a standing rule that the two chief Revenue servants in the Collector's office should be of different castes." I trust it will not be thought necessary for me to take any notice of newspaper statements as to my hatred of this or that caste, or of Natives generally.

3. I request that, if you think fit, you will be good enough to forward this letter to Government.

No. 41. ORDER THEREON, 8th January 1868, No. 22.

The Governor in Council, while accepting the explanation offered by Mr. Bliss, desires to point out, that although Mr. Bliss might properly have exercised a discretion in the selection of candidates for the vacancies to which the Notification which appeared in the *Kistna Gazette* referred, the terms of the Notification itself were liable to misconstruction.

(True Extract).

Chief Secretary.

To the Acting Collector of Vizagapatam.
,, Revenue Department.

Exd. J. Tulloch.

Memorandum

I submit that this explanation may be recorded.

Mr. Ship in making his election should have told the Board's instructions in view, as to the equalization of castes among his employees. The indiscretion was publishing a notice to the effect "No Brahmans need apply" which was liable to misconstruction.

It was impossible not to suspect that Mr. Ship had in view something of the kind unwarranted by him. The manner of doing it, is what has seemed reprehensible & seemed upon Mr. Ship's present explanation as at all menacing matters. Had he adverted in his explanation, to the very proper Circular of the 18th Nov & declared that it was necessary to carry the 18th Nov into effect as regarded the two vacant Salook Sahibdarships, his notice would not have excited comment - although it would suffice to answer his letter 20 Dec by

I should be disposed to print

Per

but to his Blip
the exact nature
of his error and
then to put the papers
as the Editor's table
in order that his
explanation may
be made public.

R. [Signature]

Journal 25

Read letter from the Secy Collr of
Muzam - 12 Dec 1867.

Order thereon 8th Jan, 1868. N: 22.

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while accepting the explana-
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to which the Notification
which appeared in the
Kishna Gazette referred,
the terms of the Notification
itself were liable to ^{misconstruction} misinterpretation.

[Signature]

W.D. [Signature]
These proceedings will be placed
before the Secy Collr of the 23rd Dec
on the Editor's Table
[Signature]

The Secy Collr of Mangalore }
His Report } dated 11/12/67
Editor's Table