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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

Government of Madras

Judicial

DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	2587	Press
~~B.P. No.~~		~~Mis.~~
(Back Nos. 147-149.)		
Dated	21.12.	1878
		195

Not to be folded or roughly handled100

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.
JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

21st December 1878, No. 2587.

Coffee Stealing Prevention Act.

Read the following papers:—

No. 147. *From W. LOGAN, Esq., Collector of Malabar, to the Acting Chief Secretary to Government, dated Vytteri, 26th November 1878, No. 119-B.*

With reference to G.O., Judicial Department, No. 2288, of the 12th instant, I have the honor to state that I quite agree with the Vytteri Planters' Association as to the necessity of extending the Coffee Stealing Prevention Act beyond the boundaries of Wynad.

2. The coffee-producing districts, which send their produce for shipment at the ports of my district, are:—

- I. *Coorg via* Perambadi Ghat to Cannanore and Tellicherry by roads passing through the Taluks of Cherakal and Kotayam.
- II. *North Wynad via* Periah and Kuttiadi Ghats to Tellicherry, Badagara, and Calicut by roads and water communications passing through the Taluks of Kotayam, Kurambranad, and Calicut.
- III. *South Wynad via* Tambercherry Ghat to Calicut by roads passing through the Taluks of Calicut and Kurambranad.
- IV. *South-East Wynad and Nilgiris via* Karkur Ghat to Beypore and Calicut by roads and water communications passing through the Taluks of Ernad and Calicut.
- V. *Wallaghat via* Sissapara Ghat to Calicut by roads and water communications passing through the Taluks of Ernad and Calicut.
- VI. *Nelliampatti Hills via* Nemarry Ghat to Palghat and thence by rail to Beypore, &c.

3. The only taluks of this district through which, so far as I am aware, coffee does not pass by carts to the coast ports for shipment are Valuvanad, Ponani, and Cochin. At Cochin there is a considerable exportation of coffee grown chiefly, I believe, on the Travancore Hills and brought to Cochin by boat; but the taluk is very small and no complaints of receiving stolen coffee have been received, so I think it may be left out of account.

4. Wherever coffee is conveyed for any considerable distance by cart or by boat, or by bullocks, there exists necessity for bringing the Act into force. The distances are so great that the carts, boats or bullocks cannot reach their destinations in one day. They are obliged to halt for the night at various places, and at these halting places the men who "sweat" the coffee drive a thriving trade. Ostensibly they are only dealers in salt, salt-fish, tobacco, and so forth, but in reality they are all receivers. Their modes of operation are various and difficult to detect, but the result is always the same in levying (for a consideration to the carriers) a small contribution in coffee from each cart, boat or string of bullocks. The "sweating" trade is almost entirely in the hands of Moplahs, who resort to various expedients to induce the carriers to halt for the night near their bazaars.

5. Again, in the coast ports, there are a number of dealers who are not sufficiently particular in ascertaining whence coffee, which is brought to them for sale, has been obtained. A notorious instance of this came to light last season at Calicut, but we were powerless to punish the offender under the law at present in force.

6. Sections 5 to 8 and 10 of the Act give a tolerably effective means of dealing with the "sweaters" and the receivers, and I strongly advise that the Act should be put in force in the low country taluks through which the coffee passes to the port of shipment. I have reason to believe that all the *boni fide* merchants would hail such extension of the Act with satisfaction as encouraging legitimate business.

7. If this view is adopted the Act should certainly be extended to the taluks of—

Kotayam,
Kurambranad, and
Calicut.

The North and South Wynad Planters have been the chief sufferers from such mal-practices.

8. It is very possible the South-East Wynad, Nilgiri, and Nelliampatti Planters may also wish their interests to be protected in the Ernad and Palghat Taluks. On that point I have no information.

9. As regards Wallaghat, the traffic is at present so inconsiderable that it hardly needs special protection. Nor does it seem necessary to protect the small traffic between Coorg and Cannanore.

10. I recommend, therefore, that the Act should immediately take effect in the—

Kotayam,
Kurambranad, and
Calicut Taluks.

No. 148. *From W. LOGAN, Esq., Collector of Malabar, to the Acting Chief Secretary to Government, dated Vytteri, 4th December 1878, No. 124.*

In reply to your endorsement, No. 2177, of the 26th ultimo, on copy of letter from the merchants of Calicut, I have the honor to inform you that I have nothing to add to my letter, No. 119-B, dated 26th ultimo, already sent to Government.

No. 149. ORDER THEREON, 21st December 1878, No. 2587.

The Government in G.O., 12th November 1878, No. 2288, observed that they were prepared to extend the Coffee Stealing Prevention Act wherever special facilities existed for tampering with coffee to the injury of owners and beyond their power of protection: in other words, to protect this produce in localities affording special facilities for tampering with the article in transit, as, for example, by substituting inferior for superior coffee in coffee-growing tracts. But what the Collector of Malabar describes is ordinary theft which might similarly occur in regard to any goods on the road, and for which the ordinary law and the precautions to be taken by the owners themselves must and should suffice.

2. The Government do not see any ground therefore for extending the Act in the manner proposed.

(True Extract.)

C. G. MASTER,
Acting Chief Secretary.

To the Collector of Malabar.
" Honorary Secretary, Wynad Planters' Association.
" Revenue Department.

Exd. T. O'Connor.

3^x
Malabar Collector's Office,
on circuit,
Vythry, 4th December 1878

N^o. 124.

From,
W. Logan, Esq.,
Collector of Malabar;
C. G. Master, Esq.,
Chief Secretary to Government
St. George.

Sir, In reply to your endorsement
N^o. 2177 of the 26th Ultimo on copy of
letter from the Merchants of Calicut,
I have the honour to inform you
that I have nothing to add to my
letter N^o. 1193 dated 26th Ultimo
already sent to Government—

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient Servant

W. Logan
Collector

Colt. of 1878th Mithras.

JUDICIAL.

To
THE COLLECTOR OF MALABAR,
Esq.,
N^o. 124.

Date 1 December, 21st.

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G.O., 21st December 1878, No. 2537.

DECEMBER.
No. 147-149.

Coffee Stealing Prevention Act.—The Collector
of Malabar informed that there is no necessity
to extend this Act to the taluks named by him.

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Malabar Collector's Office
on circuit.

no 119B

Vythery 26th November 1878

From,

W. Logan, Esq.,

Collector of Malabar;

To,

C. G. Master, Esq.,

Chief Secretary to Government, S. Dept.
St. George.

Sir, With reference to G.O. J.D. no. 2288

of the 12th instant, I have the honour
to state that I quite agree with the
Vythery Planters' Association as to the
necessity of extending the Coffee Stealing
Prevention Act beyond the boundaries
of Wynad.

2. The Coffee producing Districts,
which send their produce for shipment
at the ports of my District are:-

I. Coorg via Perambadi Shank to
Cannanore and Tellicherry by roads
passing through the Taluqs of Cheralal
and Kottayam -

II. North Wynad via Periah and

The Chief Secretary to
Govt. Madras.

Dated 27th November 1878.

No 3133
10.12.11.

Informing in reply to the
underment no. 2177 of 26th
Nov. 78 in copy of letter from
the undersigned of Calicut
that there is nothing to
send to this office letter no. 119B
dated 26th November.

W. D. H. Curran, Esq.

Secretary to the Government.

Kuttiadi Shant to Tellicherry, Badapora and Calicut by roads and water communications passing through the Taluqs of Kottayam, Kunnimbranad and Calicut.

III South Wynad via Tambercherry Shant to Calicut by roads passing through the Taluqs of Calicut & Kunnimbranad.

IV S. E. Wynad & Nilgiris via Karkur Shant to Beypore and Calicut by roads and water communications passing through the Taluqs of Innad and Calicut.

V. Walla Shant via Sissapara Shant to Calicut by roads and water communications passing through the Taluqs of Innad and Calicut.

VI Nelliampathi hills. via Nemany Shant to Palghat and thence by rail to Beypore &c.

3. The only Taluqs of this District through which, so far as I am aware,

Coffee does not pass by carts to the Coast Ports for shipment are Walluvanad, Ponam and Cochin. At Cochin there is a considerable exportation of Coffee grown chiefly, I believe, on the Travancore hills and brought to Cochin by boat - but the Taluq is very small and no complaints of receiving stolen Coffee have been received, so I think it may be left out of account.

4. Wherever Coffee is conveyed for any considerable distance by cart or by boat or by bullocks, there exists necessity for bringing the Act into force - The distances are so great that the Carts, boats or bullocks can not reach their destinations in one day. They are obliged to halt for the night at various places and at these halting places the men

who "sweat" the coffee & drive a thriving trade - Ostensibly they are only dealers in, salt, salt-fish, tobacco and so forth, but in reality they are all receivers - Their modes of operation are various and difficult to detect, but the result is always the same in levying (for a consideration to the carriers) a small contribution in coffee from each cart, boat, or string of bullocks - The "sweating" trade is almost entirely in the hands of Moplahs, who resort to various expedients to induce the carriers to halt for the night near their bazaars -

5. Again, in the Coast Ports, there are a number of dealers who are not sufficiently particular in ascertaining whence coffee, which is brought to them for sale, has been obtained -

A

6x
A notorious instance of this came to light last season at Calcutt, but we were powerless to punish the offender under the law at present in force -

6. Sections 5 to 8 and 10 of the Act give a tolerably effective means of dealing with the "sweaters" and the receivers, and I strongly advise that the Act should be put in force in the low country Taluqs ^{through which} the coffee passes to the Port of Shipment. I have reason to believe that all the bona fide merchants would hail such extension of the Act with satisfaction as encouraging legitimate business -

7. If this view is adopted the Act should certainly be extended

to the Taluqs of
Kottayam
Kummbranad &
Calicut).

The North and South Wynaad Planters
have been the chief sufferers from
such mal-practices -

8. It is very possible the S.R.
Wynaad, Nilgiri and Nelliampatti
planters may also wish their
interests to be protected in the
Lnad and Palghat Taluqs -

On that point I have no in-
-formation.

9. As regards Wallaahand,
the traffic is at present so in-
-siderable that it hardly needs
special protection - Nor does it seem
necessary to protect the small traffic

between Coorg and Cannanore -

10. I recommend, therefore, that
the Act should immediately take
effect in the

Kottayam
Kummbranad
& Calicut Taluqs -

I have the honour to be,
Sir,

Your most obedient Servant

Whitney
Collector

8+ Jud.
No. 3169.

The Dist. Magistrate
Malabar.
D 26 Nov 178

I don't wish to give this -
There are the ordinary
Police - or the owners can
hire a Police guard or put
on watchmen of their own.

Alternative can undertake
I do is I protect
the office in low level

~~Nov 31/69~~

11/11/17

7

No 1417

When special facilities
exist for tampering
with the article in question
as e.g. by substituting
inferior for superior
Copper in copper wiring
etc. But Logan
describes is ordinary
theft. It might
similarly occur
in regard to any
goods on the road
& for B. the
ordinary law &

the precautions
of the owners
must be
sufficient.

W. C. C.

Extension of the Coffee
Stealing Prevention Act
to certain districts in
Malabar.

FOR ORDERS.

20/12/78

22/12 17/12

Coffee Stealing Prevention Act
10+ Jud^l Department. 50

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following letters:—

From the Collector of Malabar, dated 26 Nov^r and 4th Dec^r
1878, Nos 119B and 124.

Order 21 Dec 1878 - N^o 2587

~~On a representation~~
~~from the Malabar Planters Association~~
~~in which the Govt declared~~
in G.O. 12 Nov 78, N^o 2288, ^{observed} that
they were prepared to extend the
Coffee Stealing Prevention Act
whenever special facilities existed
for tampering with coffee to the
injury of owners beyond their power
of protection: ~~that the Govt then~~
~~in its order of 12 Nov 78~~
~~declared its intention to protect~~
~~this coffee in localities affording~~
special facilities for tampering with
the article in transit, as, for
example, by substituting inferior
for superior coffee in coffee grow-
ing tracks. But what the Collector
of Malabar describes is ordinary
theft which might similarly
occur in regard to any goods
on the road, & for which the

ordinary law and the pre-
cautions to be taken by the
owners themselves must &
should suffice.

2. The Govt do not see
any ground therefore for ex-
tending the Act in the man-
ner proposed.

W. J. O'Brien

[Signature]

To
The Colr, Malabar.
Genl Secretary, Wynad Planters' Association
Revenue Dept.

106-2400
} despd 8/1

John
Bolt. of 1874 30ndras.

To

Indiant



Dated 21 } Recd 1876. No 256
Recd.

Nos. 147. 149

Office Stationary Department
-dit. The collection of
in letters informant that
there is no necessity to
renew the note the
tags issued by him.

23.6.93
187-99