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(3) Initials of the Referencer

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 2647 Press / Mis.

343-44

Dated 24-12-1860.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department, 24th December 1860.

No. 343. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Financial Department, dated 17th December 1860, No. 618:—

Communicate Proceedings Government of India, directing the Civil Finance Commission to finish a report on the Establishments in the Bengal Presidency before extending their inquiries to Madras and Bombay, and observing that in the meantime the Supreme Government will see the results of the measures taken by the Madras and Bombay Governments.

(Vide Financial Proceedings, 17th December 1860, Nos. 46-47.)

No. 344. ORDER THEREON, 24th December 1860, No. 2,647.

Ordered to be recorded.

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

FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following Endorsement from the Secretary to the Government of India, dated 22nd November 1860, No. 11,666.

Read letter from A. D. ROBERTSON, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Government of Bombay, to C. H. LUSHINGTON, Esq., Secretary to the Government of India, dated Bombay Castle, 1st November 1860, No. 818.

Financial Department.

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your Memorandum, No. 6,977 A, dated the 9th August last, with accompaniments.

2. This being the first communication that has been addressed to this Government, in regard to the Civil Finance Commission formed in Calcutta by the Government of India, I am instructed in replying to it, to submit the following observations and suggestions for the consideration of that authority.

3. Some months ago the Financial Secretary was requested by His Excellency the Governor, on receipt of the Civil Auditor's statement of Establishments as they stood at the commencement of the current year, to revise the Statement, with a view to reduction, and informed that any assistance that might be required in this work would be provided.

4. The Civil Auditor's statement was due on the 1st August, and has since been received. Pending its receipt His Excellency's wishes for a revision of Establishments could not be carried into effect, and meanwhile the Finance Commission has been instituted.

5. Enquiry into the Establishments of this Presidency might, I am desired to observe, be conducted in a manner which would secure efficiency and despatch if a Special Commission were to be formed here, composed of Officers of the several Presidencies, otherwise for the important object of comparison, the Government of India may consider that such a mixed Commission had better sit in Calcutta. In either of these ways, the Governor in Council would recommend that the Civil Finance Commission should be remodelled.

6. The Gentlemen appointed to the latter may be men of unquestioned ability and of great practical experience in the systems of Bengal and the North Western Provinces; but I am to remark, they must be comparatively without experience of the wants and requirements of this Presidency. In attempting to form conclusions based on their knowledge of the other side of India they must be liable to err; and if their recommendations should be hastily carried out, their measures might cause much injury and inconvenience to the public service.

7. For these reasons, the Governor in Council is, with all deference, of opinion, that, the present constitution of the commission is objectionable, and I am directed to express his conviction that a proper revision of the Establishments of this Presidency is highly desirable, and his hope that it may be effected in one of the two modes above indicated.

8. In conclusion, His Excellency in Council desires me, with reference to Mr. Secretary Lushington's reply to the President and Members of the Civil Finance Commission, dated the 9th August last, to draw the attention of the Governor General in Council to the extreme danger of subjecting the interests of the public service to be explained by so hasty and inconsiderate a person as the present Civil Auditor of Bombay.

From C. H. LUSHINGTON, Esq., Secretary to the Government of India, to the Acting Secretary to the Government of Bombay, dated Fort William, 22nd November 1860, No. 11,664.

Financial Department.

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 818, dated the 1st instant, and in reply to inform you with reference to the observations and suggestions therein submitted, regarding the Civil Finance Commission formed at this Presidency, that the Honorable the Pre-

sident in Council is of opinion that considering the great range for enquiry open in the Bengal Presidency including the North Western Provinces and the Punjab, the absence of any representative of Madras or Bombay and the inconvenience of summoning Officers of the requisite standing and experience to Calcutta, it will be best to let the Civil Finance Commission finish a report on the Establishments in this Presidency, before extending their enquiries to Madras and Bombay.

2. His Honor in Council desires however that it should be clearly understood that the operations of the Civil Finance Commission, as regards the Bombay and Madras Presidencies, are not to be considered as necessarily at an end, only deferred, or suspended, until it is seen whether there will be occasion for investigation by that Commission.

3. In the mean time the Government of India will see the results of the measures taken by the Governments of Madras and Bombay, and will await a further expression of the views of those Governments thereon. This course will enable the Government of India to judge of the necessity of appointing such a Commission as the Government of Bombay propose.

No. 11,666.

Copy of the above correspondence forwarded to the Government of Madras for information.

(Signed) C. HUGH LUSHINGTON,
Secretary to the Government of India.

ORDER THEREON, 17th December 1860, No. 618.

Communicated to the Revenue and Public Works Departments.

(True Extract.)

Chief Secretary.

To the Revenue Department.
,, Public Works Department.

Exd. F. Cartledge.

P. W. 1860 Despatch
Pro: of Govt. 7th Decr
No. 3042.

Proceedings of the
Madras Govt. in the
Financial Department

Dated 17th }
Recvd 19th } December
1860.

No. 618.

Communicate
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by the Madras & Bombay
Govts.

No. 2647
To be recorded
Fort St. George
24th December 1860 } J. D. S.

No. 343 & 344.

No. 2647

Recorded