M.R.O. 1—77,006—8-6-37.

(1) Number of pages_____

(2) Date of repair_____

(3) Initials of the Referencer_____

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1579	Press / Mis.
Dated 15-6-	18 .

Not to be folded or roughly handled

(2)

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
15*th June* 1863.

No. 343. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Revenue Department, dated 5th June 1863, No. 971 :—

Deprecating the Establishment of numerous toll gates on low rates of taxation, preferring one on each line with increased rates and advocating the withdrawal of the prohibition of tolls on Imperial Lines. } (Vide Revenue Proceedings, 5th June 1863, Nos. 84-85.)

No. 344. ORDER THEREON, 15th June 1863, No. 1,549.

Communicated to the Superintending Engineers of Divisions.

(Signed.) W. I. BIRDWOOD, Colonel, R. E.,
Secretary to Government.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 16th May 1863:—

Read Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, dated 13th May 1863, No. 829.

(In Cons. 13th May 1863, No. 2,928.)

The Board see no objection to the revised maximum rates, as it will always be at the discretion of Government to limit the charge in practice to what is thought proper in each case.

(A true Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON, *Secretary.*

ORDER THEREON, 5th June 1863, No. 971.

1. The Governor in Council considers the Bill an improvement on the existing Law in two respects:—

I. In drawing a distinction between laden and unladen carts and charging the former higher tolls than the latter.

II. In taxing carts without springs according to the number of bullocks drawing them, instead of making no difference on this account.

2. His Excellency does not approve of the abolition of the present distinction between carts with low wheels and narrow tyres and carts with large wheels and broad tyres. The former are very destructive to roads, and it is only just they should be charged higher for the greater injury they cause.

3. The tolls prescribed in the Bill are, for *maximum* rates, too high. It is not the policy of Government to establish numerous toll gates along any line of road, but on the contrary to have as few as possible. It is, therefore, desirable that the maximum limit of the tolls should not be too low. It is evident that a toll of 4 Annas for an ordinary laden cart would be absurd on a road of a hundred miles in length—or even on a hill pass which had cost large sums of public money to form; while on the other hand it might be better and generally would be better to levy twice that amount at a single gate, placed in a good situation with trustworthy supervision at hand to prevent abuses, than to have two or more gates along the line involving greater expense in collection and greater risk of fraud or oppression.

4. The Governor in Council is strongly of opinion that a matter of this kind should be left for local legislation. It is impolitic to frame a table of rates suited for all India, to ignore all local peculiarities, and to withhold from Governments vested with in other respects large administrative powers, the petty power of fixing a turn-pike rate.

5. The Governor in Council observes that the original Act requires amendment in one respect, viz., that according to its *letter* at least, only a single toll can be established on any single line of road. This ought to be remedied and a certain distance (say, ten miles) fixed as the minimum interval between two tolls.

Letter from the Officiating Secretary to the Government of India, dated 3rd May 1860, No. 2,274.

6. The Governor in Council would also take this opportunity of pressing the withdrawal of the order marginally noted prohibiting tolls on Imperial roads. No reasons exist in this Presidency for any such restriction.

(True Extract.)

Secretary to Government.

To the Judicial Department.

" Department Public Works.

" Board of Revenue.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

P. W. 1863 Depart.
Prop. of Govt for Irne
No. 1790.
Rec'd 9th Jun
Revenue Depart.
Dated 8th June
Rec'd 13th Do.
No. 971.

Deprecating the Establishment of numerous Toll Gates on low rates of taxation preferring one on each Line with increased rates and advocating the withdrawal of the prohibition of Tolls on Imperial Lines.

No. 1549-15th June.

With an order to

No. 943-944

1549
No. 1549

Communicated to the Superintending Engineers of Divisions

Chepauk
15th June 63

To the Supg Engineers of Divisions Copy 15th June.

No. 882