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(2) Date of repair\_\_\_\_\_

(3) Initials of the Referencer\_\_\_\_\_

# MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

Government of Madras

*Public works* DEPARTMENT

|          |            |       |
|----------|------------|-------|
| G.O. No. | 2643       | Press |
| B.P. No. |            | Mis.  |
| 490-491  |            |       |
| Dated    | 29-10-1873 | 195   |

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,  
29th October 1873.*

No. 490. Read the following letter from R. J. HARPER, Esq., Acting Secretary, Madras Trade Association, to Colonel G. W. WALKER, R.E., Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Madras, 27th September 1873 :—

I HAVE the honour by direction of the Committee of the Madras Trade Association to request that you will be pleased to submit to the Madras Government copies of correspondence, herewith enclosed, which has passed between the Agent of the Madras Railway and the Association in respect of a large consignment of Australian meats imported by the Company and now being sold by them by retail at their stores at Royapooram and stations along the line (at a *uniform rate* of charge) in direct opposition to the interests of local trade, and, as the Association conceives, in contravention of the obvious duties of a large carrying company. The Association feeling assured that the practice is without either the consent or knowledge of Government, venture most respectfully to express a hope that, in the interests of legitimate trade, the Government will be pleased to issue instructions for the discontinuance of a practice at once objectionable, and, it is believed, illegal.

No. 491. ORDER THEREON, 29th October 1873, No. 2,643.

RAILWAY, No. 70.

THE Secretary to the Madras Trade Association will be informed that His Excellency the Governor in Council sees no reason to interfere with the arrangements of the Madras Railway Company for supplying their refreshment-rooms along the line with cheap and wholesome provisions by direct importation. Indeed, some such arrangement as that complained of was absolutely necessary, as the efforts of the Company to supply its stations under a system of contracts, and from the market, had proved a failure, resulting in undoubted public inconvenience.

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R.E.,  
Secretary to Government.

To the Secretary to the Trade Association.  
„ Consulting Engineer for Railways.

Exd. S. T. Austin.  
Spare Copies.

(Copy) Madras 12 June 1873.  
From R. L. Orr Esq.  
Chairman  
Madras Trade Association.

To W. Barton Wright Esq.  
Ag. Agent & Traffic Manager  
Madras Railway.

Sir,

The Committee of the Madras Trade Association having been informed that a large quantity of Australian preserved provisions have been imported by your Company and are now being offered for sale by circular or otherwise at the several refreshment stations of the Madras Railway. I am desirous to ask you to do them the favor of informing them if such is the fact. Requesting the favor of your reply.

I have the honor to be  
Your <sup>Sir</sup> Obedient Servant  
Chairman  
Madras Trade Association.

7/6/73  
cc

P.O. No: 2643-29-10-3  
P.W. 5337/73

Madras Railway<sup>5N</sup>  
Company  
No. 2205  
From Agent & Manager's Office  
Madras 14 July 1873  
The Agt. Agent and Manager  
Madras Railway Company.  
To The Chairman  
Madras Trade Association

Sir

In reply to your letter of the 12<sup>th</sup> Instant I have the honor to inform you that the Committee of the Madras Trade Association has been rightly informed that we have recently imported Australian Provisions for use in the Refreshment Rooms on the line of Railway.

I have the honor to be

Sir  
Your most Obedient Servant  
Edw. J. W. Mellis  
for the Agt. Agent & Manager

Madras.

7N

11<sup>th</sup> August 1873.

To the Agent & Manager  
Madras Railway Co.  
Madras.

Sir

I am desired by the Chairman of the Madras Trade Association to acknowledge receipt of and to thank you for your Letter to his address of 14<sup>th</sup> ult which was duly laid before a Committee of the Trade Association, and I am further instructed to inform you that the Association exceedingly regrets to find that a Company like the Madras Railway whose interest and duty they conceive it to be to support and foster Local Trade should enter into an unworthy and petty competition with it. The Association is well aware that Australian Provisions are being retailed by the Company's Officers both at Madras and Stations along the line at a uniform rate of Charge and from the large quantity which has been passed through the Custom House the Members of the Association are constrained to believe that the practice prevailing is in entire conformity with the original intention of the Indenting Officer. I am further instructed to observe that as the Association cannot believe that either the Government or the Directors of your Company will countenance an irregularity of the nature above complained of or sanction the employment of its highly

9N

paid officials as unlicensed Traders; it will be the duty of the Association to bring the matter to the notice of Government and of the Board in London at an early date

I have the honor to be  
Sir

Your Obedient Servant  
Rich<sup>d</sup> a Harpison

Secretary Madras Trade Association.

Madras

24<sup>th</sup> September 1873

To the Secretary to Government,  
Public Works Department,  
Fort Saint George.

Sir,

I have the honor by direction  
of the Committee of the Madras Trade Association  
to request that you will be pleased to submit to the  
Madras Government Copies of Correspondence herewith  
enclosed which has passed between the Agent of the  
Madras Railway and the Association in respect  
of a large Consignment of Australian Meats imposed  
by the Company and now being sold by them by  
Retail at their Stores at Royapooram and Stations  
along the Line (at a uniform rate of charge) in direct  
opposition to the interests of Local Trade, and as  
the Association conceived in contravention of the  
obvious duties of a large Carrying Company.  
The Association feeling assured that the practice

P.O. No: 2645-29-10-73

P.M. 5337/73.

1/11/73

is without either the consent or knowledge of Government, venture most respectfully to express a hope, that in the interests of legitimate trade, the Government will be pleased to issue instructions for the discontinuance of a practice at once objectionable, and it is believed illegal.

I have the honor to be,  
Sir  
Your most Obedient Servant.

Rich<sup>d</sup> Harper  
Acting Secretary Madras  
Trade Association

24-10-73  
Madras 29/10/73

24490

2643-29/10/73

From  
The City Secretary  
Madras Trade  
Association.  
Dated 27<sup>th</sup> 30/10/73.  
Recd 29<sup>th</sup> 30/10/73.  
See 3-29 31/10/73  
Respecting the  
notice the Secretary  
the Madras Railway  
Co. of Association  
wrote in explanation  
to the interests  
of local trade.

P. H. 1873 10/10/73  
P. H. 1873 10/10/73  
J. H. 5337.

5N

Public Works Department

Letter from the Acting Secretary  
Madras Trade Association,  
dated 27<sup>th</sup> September.

Submitted for  
Orders.

It is suggested  
that as the Madras  
Association has made  
a reference to the Board  
of Directors at Home  
the result of such  
reference might be  
awaited.

In supplying  
Refreshment Rooms  
and their own servants  
at Railway Stations

I do not without further  
delay has the Govt see us  
reason to interfere <sup>in such cases</sup>  
The M. T. A. can do  
all it can to supply them the  
terms of contract from the  
market and have failed  
and of great public in-  
convenience. The Govt has pro-  
duced admirable results  
and the Govt should think of  
minimizing a rebuff of these  
maddlesome shopkeepers.  
7/10 M.L.

with cheap and whole.  
some animal food  
it is conceived that  
the Railway Company  
is acting with perfect  
propriety.

W. Mather Esq. R.E.

Secretary to Govt.  
P.O.

Ootacamund  
2<sup>nd</sup> October 1893

N<sup>o</sup> 490-91

N<sup>o</sup> 2643 R.P.D. R<sup>17N</sup>

Proceedings of the Madras  
Read the following.

From,

The Secy. Secretary

Madras Trade  
Association

(H. E. 27<sup>th</sup> Sept 1893)

The Secretary to the  
Madras Trade Association  
will be informed that His  
Excellency the Governor in  
Council sees no reason to  
interfere with the arrange-  
ments of the Madras Rail-  
way Company for  
supplying <sup>their</sup> Refreshment  
rooms along the line  
with cheap & wholesome  
by direct importation -  
animal food. Indeed  
some such arrangement  
as that complained of

M.  
9/10

L.S.

was absolutely necessary  
seeing that the efforts of  
the Company to supply  
its stations under a  
system of Contracts, &  
from the market, had  
proved a failure, result-  
ing in undoubted public  
inconvenience.

Yours

36  
13.

To the Secy to the Trade  
Association  
Care of J. & P. C.  
and 4/11/73

P. 174073

Op 5337  
Govt. of 1873 Madras.  
PUBLIC WORKS.

The Secretary to the Trade  
Association

Dated

Recd.

Encl. 3

G. O. 29<sup>th</sup> Oct 1873, No. 2643.

Nos. 490 & 491

Madras Railway. The Secy

to the Madras Trade Association informed that for  
see no reason to interfere  
to the arrangements of the  
Messrs. P. & Co. for supplying  
Refreshment rooms  
the line with cheap &  
some provisions by  
sea transportation.