

MASULIPATAM, 21st February 1886.

To

THE CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,

MADRAS.

MOST RESPECTED SIR,

We, the undersigned inhabitants of the town of Masulipatam most respectfully beg leave to represent that we hear with no less regret than surprise that Mr. Weld our present Acting Collector has recommended the transfer of the Head Quarters of the Collector from here to Bezwada. We cannot understand how the Acting Collector knowing the present financial circumstances of the country and knowing also His Excellency the Right Honorable Mounstuart Elphinstone Grant Duff's able minute on the Sixth Tour of Inspection, from which an extract is appended to this Memorial, has thought it fit to make this proposal to the Government.

2. The Government is well aware that for centuries this place had been famous as an emporium of trade, and its printed cotton goods and calicoes have had a world-wide celebrity. In the 17th century, besides the English, the French, and the Dutch, had their settlements in this important town. There are *petahs* and suburbs here that still bear the names of these foreign powers. And until recently it was also an important British Military Station. As might be expected its importance attracted large numbers of people of different callings and avocations, such as traders, merchants, money-lenders, artisans, &c. from various parts of India, and they are all now permanently settled here. If the Head Quarters of the District should once be removed to Bezwada, it will be nothing short of ruin to hundreds, if not to thousands, of families settled here; and its commerce, now so extensive, will dwindle into insignificance.

3. It is the largest town in the Northern Circars and has a great antiquity. The objection that this town is not in the centre of the District applies equally to the Head Quarters of several other Districts such as Coconada, Vizagapatam and Cuddalore and to the Presidency town itself. Yet it was never thought that this circumstance alone afforded a sufficient reason for recommending the removal of the Head Quarters of the Collectors from the former and the seat of the Local Government from the latter. Another argument urged in favor of the proposed change is, we understand, that Bezwada will soon be connected with Hyderabad by Railway and thus it will rise into importance. This argument ignores that Masulipatam is already an important sea port at which steamers and merchant vessels regularly call; and that the value of its imports and exports is incomparably greater than that of the whole trade of Bezwada which is situated about 50 miles from the sea which is the principal high road of commerce in this part of the country. This circumstance alone, we venture to think, is quite enough to recommend the continuance of the Head Quarters of the Collector here, and furnishes a strong objection to its removal to Bezwada. It will not be out of place here for us to add that we have also memorialized the Local Fund Board, Kistna, to open with the sanction of Government, a short Railway between Masulipatam and Bezwada which, when done, will add to the importance of this ancient town and become also a permanent source of income to the Board.

4. Besides, Masulipatam is the residence of several noble and ancient families, such as the family of the Nabob and Kandregula Rajah's family who are recipients of large monthly pensions from Government.

5. As regards education, it is immensely better than Bezwada. There is here the renowned Noble College of the Church Mission Society, besides several other efficiently conducted schools of a lower status.

6. A spacious magnificent building has just been erected for the Collector's Office here at a considerable outlay. The District Court House—a palatial building—was sometime ago purchased from the Nabob and large sums of money were expended for repairs and necessary alterations. The Collector's private residence is also a Government building acquired at the cost of Rs. 25,000.

7. In the European Quarters there are many other beautiful Bangalows available at a moderate rent for the District Judge and other European Officers.

8. Now to forego these advantages, what has Bezwada to recommend? In respect of its climate, it is one of the worst places in the District; in Summer it is so intensely hot that the very children of the soil, inured as they are to its climate, would fain leave it for cooler places in the District. It is a petty town, its inhabitants numbering less than ten thousand. It is so circumscribed that it seems overcrowded with this small population. There are few good houses in the town; and though standing on the banks of the Kistna, it is ill-supplied with water; and this evil cannot be remedied without a water supply project at a tremendous outlay. The Head Assistant Collector's Office there is a small building; it will not do at all to accommodate the Collector's Establishment. In fact considering the present position of Bezwada, the removal of the Head Quarters to that station cannot be accomplished without a cost of at least 4 lacs of Rupees to Government, a needless expenditure which on no account could be justified.

9. In conclusion, we beg to request that you would be graciously pleased to recommend to the Government not to sanction the proposed change of Head Quarters and to remove our apprehensions by granting us their kind assurance of its continuance here.

Extract from the Minute of His Excellency the Right Honorable the Governor of the Madras Presidency:—

Part II.

(6th Tour of Inspection).

"221. Thirdly, they asked that the head quarters of the Collector and the Judge of the Kistna should be transferred from Masulipatam to Guntur.

"222. That would be profoundly disagreeable to Masulipatam and would not be justified by the present circumstances of the district.

"247. They then asked for a Bench of Honorary Magistrates, and wished, like the inhabitants of Guntur, that District Court should be transferred from Masulipatam to their town (Bezwada).

"248. Their wish for increased Judicial strength may perhaps be met ere long, in a somewhat different, but more effective way. The second wish was not reasonable."

Awaiting your orders,

We beg to remain,

Most respected Sir,

Your most obedient and humble servants.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

READ—the following letter from M. R. WELD, Esq., Acting Collector of the Kistna district, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Masulipatam, 14th January 1886, No. 187:—

I have the honor to forward copies of letter, No. 1685-Ks., dated the 26th November 1885, from the Superintending Engineer, II Circle, and its enclosure for the information of Government.

2. The rent of the Collector's house at Masulipatam is fixed at Rs. 150 a month by G.O., dated the 29th October 1884, No. 2662 W., Public Works, embodied in Board's Proceedings, dated 20th November 1884, Mis. No. 10866.

3. I beg to suggest that this is much too high for such a house, and that the rent should be reduced to Rs. 100. Undoubtedly too much was paid for the house, and I do not think that it is equitable to throw the burden of that mistake on the Collector for the time being.

4. I agree with the Superintending Engineer that the Collector of this district should live at Bezwada with the Head Assistant at Bandar; the present Collector's cutcherry at Bandar would do for the Head Assistant Collector and Magistrate's office, the Taluk cutcherry, the Post office and the Registrar's office.

5. The Collector's house, however, should be repaired for the present; the place where the white-ants threaten immediate destruction has no part of the upper story over it, so that the repairs would not be so difficult as Mr. Grant states in paragraph 10 of his letter.

READ—the following letter from M. R. WELD, Esq., Acting Collector of the Kistna district, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Masulipatam, 8th February 1886, No. 429:—

In continuation of my letter, No. 187, dated the 14th ultimo, I have the honor to subjoin a copy of Mr. Grant's (Executive Engineer, Eastern Delta Division) inspection notes for December, received with the Superintending Engineer's letter, No. 1868-Ks., of the 14th January 1886, and my reply thereto.

Inspection Notes.

"6th December—Inspected Collector's house. The roof is everywhere in bad order, and it is difficult to do anything to keep it quite safe without absolutely blocking up the verandahs, &c., with peeps and scaffoldings; the beams too are plastered over, so that their condition is not readily seen. Early orders regarding this house are necessary, as we must either reconstruct or abandon it, and I do not feel that it is quite to be depended on, particularly during rain."

Reply.

"With reference to your letter, No. 1868-Ks. of the 14th instant, I have the honor to enclose a copy of my letter to Board, and to state that I think that temporary repairs might be undertaken by pulling out rotten rafters and replacing them by casuarina rafters which should be propped with forked posts and the ends made fast by packings of tar and sand. When the composition hardens, the forked props can be removed. But till I know what orders Government pass, I cannot say whether the house should be abandoned or reconstructed."

READ—the following petition from S. SURIYANARAYANA ROW and others, inhabitants of Masulipatam, Kistna district, dated 21st February 1886:—

ABSTRACT.—Protesting against the Collector's proposal to transfer his head-quarters from Masulipatam to Bezwada; praying that the Board will request Government not to sanction the proposed change of head-quarters.

RESOLUTION—dated 25th March 1886, No. 728.

Submitted to Government.

2. In the first letter read at the head of these proceedings, the Collector advocates the reduction of the rent payable by him for the Government building which he occupies at Masulipatam from Rs. 150 to Rs. 100; and in connection with the question of accommodation, he suggests the transfer of the district head-quarters to Bezvada.

3. No independent arguments are advanced in support of the latter proposal by the Collector, but he is understood to accept the representations urged by the Superintending Engineer on this head. In the Board's opinion no case has been established for the projected change, and moreover the question is hardly ripe for discussion in the absence of information regarding the estimated cost of removal which, it is believed, must amount to a very considerable sum.

4. As regards the Collector's house at Masulipatam, the Board observe that its purchase for Rs. 20,000 was sanctioned in G.O., dated 8th August 1878, No. 1589, Judicial department, since which date no less than Rs. 7,420 have been laid out upon repairs.

5. This expenditure notwithstanding, the building is exposed to the ravages of white-ants, owing to the walls being set in mud instead of mortar down to the foundations, and the whole structure is evidently in a most unsatisfactory condition; in fact the District Engineer in his inspection notes expresses grave doubts as to its stability.

6. This expression of opinion is, in the Board's view, conclusive and determines them to urge upon the Government the necessity of undertaking the construction of an entirely new house for the Collector, and in the meanwhile they strongly recommend, as a special case for the approval of Government, that the rent of the existing building be reduced to Rs. 100 a month which was the amount charged up to October 1884, in consideration of the allegation contained in the Superintending Engineer's letter, printed in G.O., 27th January 1885, No. 215, "that the amount asked by the ex-Nawab for the building was sanctioned more to keep the Nawab who was in difficulties, than to acquire a property financially valuable."

(True Copies and Extract.)

(Signed) C. F. MacCARTIE,  
Acting Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department,  
with petition and enclosures in original, to be returned.  
„ Collector of the Kistna District.

1886.

Board of Revenue,  
MADRAS.

Printed April 2nd.

Proceedings, 25th March 1886, No. 728.

Submitting to Government, with remarks,  
papers regarding the rent of the Collector's  
house at Masulipatam and removal of district  
head-quarters to Bezwada.

## PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

READ

The following papers.

\* Copy attached

Petition from the Inhabitants of Masulipatam,  
Kistna, dated 21<sup>st</sup> February 1886, praying  
that the Head quarters of the Collector be not  
transferred from Masulipatam to Bezwada.

\* Copy attached.

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue  
dated 25<sup>th</sup> March 1886, No. 728, submitted  
to Government, with remarks, papers regarding  
the rent of the Collector's house at Masulipatam  
and removal of district head-quarters to Bezwada.

Order thereon, 21<sup>st</sup> April 1886, No. 294.

1 The Government concur with the  
Board, and consider that no sufficient  
reason for transferring the Collector's Head  
Quarters from Masulipatam to Bezwada  
has been shown.

2 The question of the rent and  
repairs of the Collector's residence at  
Masulipatam will be referred to the  
Public

Robert B. Smith

Adm'n. of Govt.



To The Public Works Department

Apr 20 2239 W. 20.9.18  
 1254 W. 20.5.85  
 274 W. 15.9.85  
 315 W. 21.1.85  
 965 W. 23.11.84  
 1210 W. 15.7.85  
 1012 W. 21.9.78  
 1000 W. 21.4.84  
 195 W. 11.8.84  
 195 W. 11.8.84  
 2137 W. 24.8.86  
 1439 W. 2.10.84  
 2444 W. 1.1.84

Aug. 88/4.

To W<sup>o</sup>

2244

3 MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

UNDER date the 13<sup>th</sup> of June 1940

Read the following

The Board of Rev. strongly recommend that the rent of the Collector's residence at Manipalām be reduced from Rs 150 to Rs 100 per mensem, & they also urge upon Govt. the necessity of undertaking the construction of an entirely new house for the Collector.

The present building  
was purchased from the  
ex-Kawale of Masulipatam  
for Rs 20,000, - vide 80.  
28.8.78. No 1589 Judicial,  
in the same order, the rent-  
was fixed at Rs 100 per  
month.

In G.O. of 14.8.93, by 2265W, an estimate amounting to Rs 5.744 for repairs to the building was sanctioned, & in G.O. of 29.10.94, by 2662W, the rent was raised to Rs 150 per month.

In para 7 of the con

No 728 of March 25. 1886)  
" 294 of April 21. "

Communicated to the  
Suptg Engineer II Circle,  
who will, without delay,  
submit an estimate for the  
thorough repair of the  
Collector's residence at  
Masulipatam.

Until that estimate  
before the Govt, it will  
not be possible to consider  
the proposal to reduce  
the rent of the building.

Two  
Dresden  
Schiff

The grounds on which a reduction of rent is now asked are the same as those put forward in the course printed with P.L. of 27.1.85, No 2154, viz. that the sum of Rs 2000 paid for the house was too much, & that the purchase was made more to help the ex. Nawab than to acquire a property financially valuable. In that Ex. the Govt. declined to reopen the question of rent.

It is for consideration  
whether the question shall

Rs 100 per museum  
would ~~do~~ not be quite  
5 per cent on the Capital  
cost.

The building is again in bad order & requires extensive repairs.

The Rev. Dept. do not notice the Board's recommendation that an entirely new residence be constructed for the Collector, but merely refer to the P. W. D. the question of the rent & repairs of the present building. It must apparently be assumed therefore that the Govt. in the Rev. Dept. do not approve the proposal to construct a new building, & the action

THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

UNDER date the 13<sup>th</sup> February 1941

READ the following

2. No 728 of March 25. 1886)  
" 294 of April 21. "

Communicated to the  
Suptg Engineer II Circle,  
who will, without delay,  
submit an estimate for the  
thorough repair of the  
Collector's residence at  
Masulipatam.

Until that estimate  
before the Govt, it will  
not be possible to consider  
the proposal to reduce  
the rent of the building.

[illegible]

Aug 88/4,  
Regimental Dist. 60.1-60.86, P. 10.5.86

Public Works Department required in the P.W. Dept.  
 is to call for an estimate  
 for the thorough repair  
 of the existing residence

Indra  
 A. S. Chetty

Cie  
 4.5.86

The first thing to be done is  
 undoubtedly to call for an  
 estimate for the thorough  
 repair of the building.

Until that is before for  
 it is not possible to deal  
 with the proposal to reduce  
 the rent.

With respect to W. Weld's  
 contention that too high a  
 price was paid for the house,  
 reference to the papers printed  
 with Pro: Judicial of 8.6.78  
 W. 15-89 will show that the  
 then Collector recommended the  
 purchase as a favourable one  
 for Govt.

III  
 5.5.86

Cas. 3244.  
 248.88/4 2.10.5.86

248.88/4.

No. 1215W.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Under date the 13<sup>th</sup> May 1886

Read the following

Proceedings, Board of Res. (R. No 728 of March 25. 1886)  
 " Revenue Dept. ( " 294 of April 21. " )

Communicated to the  
 Supty Engineer II Circle,  
 who will, without delay,  
 submit an estimate for the  
 thorough repair of the  
 Collector's residence at  
 Maanliputnam.

2. Until that estimate  
 is before the Govt, it will  
 not be possible to consider  
 the proposal to reduce  
 the rent of the building.

6  
3. With respect to  
Mr. Wolds' contention  
that too high a price  
was paid for the house,  
reference to the papers  
printed with Proceedings  
dated 8<sup>th</sup> August 1898,

N<sup>o</sup> 1589 judicial, will  
show that the then  
Collector recommended  
the purchase as a  
favourable one for the  
Government.

W.S.  
5-5-96  
6/5

9/5/96

Cu

10-5-96

10/5

B. V. 12/5 Wd/13 May 1898

S. E. H. White ✓  
Recd. Sept ✓ Dec 14/5  
(The Recy: Rev Recpt.  
for grant of accounts.  
initials)  
Auth: in Recpt. Reg.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.  
MILITARY DEPARTMENT.

---

8th May 1886, No. 2801.

**Furlough.**

Read the following papers :—

No. 136. *From Captain A. W. SMART, R.E., Assistant Chief Engineer for Irrigation, to Colonel J. O. HASTED, R.E., Chief Engineer for Irrigation ; dated 23rd February 1886, No. 34-M.*

I have the honor to request that you will refer the following question for favorable consideration :—

Whether an officer, who is entitled to three months' privilege leave and to three months' examination leave under Para. 753-A. of the Public Works Code, may be permitted to take the examination leave out of India, preferably at Chatham in the case of an officer of Engineers ?

Para. 753-A. of the Code which permits three months' examination leave being taken calls such leave special leave in *India* ; but it does not appear to me that this was framed specially for the purpose of preventing an officer taking the leave out of India, if it were possible to do so, as it is not, unless other leave can be added. There is nothing to prevent an officer taking the six months' leave continuously in India, and it can make no difference to the Government in the matter of expense where the leave is taken so long as the three months' leave granted for preparation for examination is spent *bonâ fide* for that purpose.

---

Endorsement from the Chief Engineer for Irrigation ; dated 24th February 1886,  
No. 22-E.W.

Forwarded to the Chief Engineer, Public Works Department.

---

Office Note to the Examiner, Public Works Accounts ; dated 26th February 1886,  
No. 816-C.

---

Office Note from the Examiner, Public Works Accounts ; dated 2nd March 1886,  
No. 886.

Please see Secretary of State's Despatch No. 14, dated 30th January 1873, printed as G.G.O., No. 249, of 1873, page 58. The three months' special leave can apparently be taken only in India. See Clause 1 of Para. 2, Clause 11, providing for time which may be availed of in England.

---

No. 1027-C.

Forwarded to the Military Department, with a request that the question raised by Captain Smart may be submitted for the decision of the Government of India.

2. Clause I of para. 2 of G.G.O., No. 249, of 1873, sanctions special examination leave for three months in India, but does not say that the leave may not be taken in England. It was probably thought unnecessary to make such a rule, as it would be impossible for an officer to proceed to England, pass his examination, and return to India within three months. But when an officer is entitled to three months' privilege leave in addition to three months' examination leave, the case is different, as he could well pass his examination in England and return to duty within the six months.

3. It would probably make no difference to the Government that the officer serves whether he spends his six months' leave in India or in England, and it is observed that the expense to the State in either case would be the same.

(By Order.)

CHEPAK, (Signed) D. McN. CAMPBELL, Major, R.E.,  
13th March 1886. Under Secy. to Govt., P.W.D.  
To the Military Department.

No. 137. From the Adjutant-General; 24th March 1886, No. 697-O. (Leave).

No. 138. To the Secretary to the Government of India, Military Department; dated 29th March 1886, No. 1986.

No. 139. From Colonel O. R. NEWMARCH, Offg. Secretary to the Government of India, Military Department, to Lieut.-Colonel A. KENNEY-HERBERT, Secretary to the Government of Madras, Military Department; dated Fort William, 17th April 1886, No. 910-A.

Furlough.

In reply to your No. 1986, dated the 29th March 1886, I am directed to say, for the information of the Governor in Council, that Clause I of para. 2 of G.G.O., No. 249, of 1873, distinctly restricts the grant of the three months' examination leave with "furlough pay" to India, and Clause II lays down that such leave, if taken in England by an officer on furlough, it will only carry "English pay" and subject him to a deduction of the period towards furlough service.

2. I am to add that under no rule is any leave admissible in conjunction with privilege leave, and the effect of a compliance with the present application would be to allow six months' "full pay" leave to England, which cannot be sanctioned.

3. Under the circumstances Captain A. W. Smart's application must be refused.

No. 140. ORDER THEREON, 8th May 1886, No. 2801.

The reply of the Government of India communicated to His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, the Public Works Department, and the Controller of Military Accounts.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) A. KENNEY-HERBERT, Lt.-Col.,  
Secretary to Government.

To the Adjutant-General.  
" Public Works Department.  
" Controller of Military Accounts.

Exd. E. C. Shunker.

Gobt. of (1886) Madras.

MILITARY.

To

THE ADJUTANT-GENERAL,

&c.,

&c.,

&c.

Dated May, 8th.

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G.O., 8th May 1886, No. 2801.

MAY.

Nos. 136—140.

Furlough.

Smart, Captain A. W., Royal Engineers.—  
Grant of privilege leave in India in extension of  
special examination leave to —, negatived by the  
Government of India.

With order

Nb. 1216 Wd/13 May 1886

Communicated to  
the Chief Engineer for  
Brigation for to apt.  
Smart's information -  
(sd) J. S. S.

Nb. 1216 Wd/13 May 1886

To.

The Ch: Engr: for Brign.  
" Enr. P.W. Secy.