

19TH AUGUST 1887, No. 806, REVENUE.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Land Revenue), dated 8th July 1887, No. 329.

J. H. GARSTIN, Esq., C.S.I.

THE HON. W. S. WHITESIDE.

Read—the following letter from J. GROSE, Esq., Collector of Coimbatore, to the Secretary to the Commissioners of Land Revenue, dated 10th June 1887, Reference on Mis. No. 876 :—

Though the transfer of the sub-magistrate's office from Aravakurchi to Pallapatti, in the Karur taluk, has been proposed by Mr. Leman, approved by the Board and sanctioned by Government (G.O.,* dated 9th February 1886, No. 103, Revenue), I have the honor to propose that it may be reconsidered under the following circumstances.

2. Subjects like the transfer of the head-quarters of sub-magistrates seem to me to be subjects in which the opinion of the people, as expressed by taluk boards, should have great weight. In their proceedings of the 28th March 1887, the Erode Taluk Board considered a mahazarnamah from the inhabitants of the Aravakurchi division, protesting against the transfer, and passed a strong and unanimous resolution (copy enclosed) in the same sense. They point out that, while Pallapatti is on a single road, Aravakurchi is the meeting place of five, and that, when the Nangangi is in flood, Pallapatti is completely severed from the greater part of the division. On receiving this resolution, I inquired on what grounds the transfer had been decided on, and found that it was because, first, Pallapatti is a larger village than Aravakurchi, and, second, Pallapatti contains many turbulent Lubbays.

3. It appeared to me that the first reason is deprived of force by the resolution to which I have referred, and which shows that Pallapatti will be less convenient for the people than Aravakurchi. With regard to the second reason, I consulted the Joint Magistrate, and I enclose his answer.† He shows clearly that there is no "abnormal turbulence" amongst the people of Pallapatti.

4. Accordingly, I deprecate the transfer. As the new building has not been commenced yet, the question‡ is still open for consideration.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

Letter from V. A. BRODIE, Esq., President, Erode Taluk Board, to the Collector of Coimbatore, dated 2nd June 1887, No. 116 L.F.

In reply to your letter of the 15th April, Reference on No. 540 (Mis.), I have the honor to state that the Aravakurchi people, on several occasions, have represented to me the hardship that

they and the rest of the division generally would suffer if the proposed transfer of the deputy tahsildar's office were made, but I always declined all interference in the matter as the transfer had been resolved on prior to my appointment to this division.

2. When they petitioned the taluk board, their petition was put down for discussion at a meeting, and at that meeting I concurred in the resolution of the majority in respect of all except the point that, if Pallapatti was a very turbulent village, it would be better to put a special police-station there than to make it the head-quarters of the magistrate, for a glance at the district map shows that Aravakurchi is more central, and that it is the point of intersection of several good and important high roads, whilst Pallapatti communicates by road with the rest of the division only through Aravakurchi itself.

3. On receiving your letter, I referred to the deputy tahsildar of Aravakurchi for information respecting the alleged turbulence of Pallapatti, and directed him to procure and submit to me a statement showing the number of cases reported from Pallapatti to the police-station during each of the past five years in comparison with the number reported to the station from the other villages included within its limits.

4. I now enclose his report, in which he states that there are not more cases of assault and other non-cognizable cases from Pallapatti than from other villages in his division in which there are factions, such as Nagamballi and Rajapuram, whilst of the 315 cases of grave crimes registered at the Aravakurchi police-station during the past five years, only 55 were from the village of Pallapatti, as against 260 from the other villages included within the local limits of that station, of which no less than 72 occurred in Aravakurchi village itself. His statement also shows only four cases of "rioting" in Pallapatti, as against 24 in the other villages attached to the station.

5. As the only ground that would, in my opinion, justify the transfer of the sub-magistrate's office to Pallapatti, which is much less central and less conveniently situated than Aravakurchi, would be abnormal turbulence on the part of its inhabitants, and inquiry does not show that such turbulence exists, I must reply to your question in the affirmative. I must also add that, during the 20 months I have been in charge of this division, the inhabitants of Pallapatti have given no trouble whatever.

6. I would commend to your favorable consideration the suggestion of the sub-magistrate that the strength of the station at Aravakurchi should be increased, not in order to cope with factions and disturbances of the place, but with the depredations of the cattle-lifters and other thieves residing on the borders of this district and Madura at that point.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.

EXTRACT from the Proceedings of the Erode Taluk Board at a meeting held on Monday, the 28th March 1887.

Read—

19. Mahazar from the inhabitants of the villages in Aravakurchi division, requesting the board to move the Government not to carry out the proposed change of the deputy tahsildar's cutcherry from Aravakurchi to Pallapatti.

Resolution—

The matter is not one in which the board have any power to interfere. They, however, deprecate the proposed change, for it does not appear that the Pallapatti villagers desire it, whilst it will cause much inconvenience to all the other residents in the deputy tahsildar's division; for, whereas the position of Aravakurchi is fairly central, Pallapatti is four miles to one side towards the Madura frontier, and whereas Aravakurchi is the meeting point of five high roads from different quarters, Pallapatti communicates with the rest of the deputy tahsildar's division by only one of these, viz., that from Pallapatti to Aravakurchi, and also when the Nangangi is in flood, Pallapatti village is wholly cut off from communication with the rest of the division by that rapid stream, which, when in flood, is unfordable and impassable even by boats. If, as alleged, Pallapatti is a turbulent and difficult village to manage, the remedy, it appears to the board, would be to put a police-station there and not to put all the rest of the inhabitants of the division to great inconvenience, e.g., the inhabitants of the populous manjah villages of Chinna Dharapuram, Thokkupatti, Rajapuram and Nanjakalakurchi. These facts are asserted by all the Karur members present, and their objections appear to the board in general only reasonable and in accordance with facts.

ENCLOSURE No. 3.—Mahazar.

Resolution—dated 8th July 1887, No. 329.

In 1886, transfer of the sub-magistrate's office from Aravakurchi to Pallapatti, in the Karur taluk of Coimbatore, was decided on by Government on the recommendation of the then Collector, Mr. Leman, supported by the Board of Revenue. The grounds for transfer were—

- (1) that Pallapatti is a larger village than Aravakurchi;
- (2) that it contained a turbulent population, and therefore required a resident magistrate;
- (3) that the office at Aravakurchi was a small unsuitable building, hardly sufficient to accommodate a sub-magistrate's office, much less a police-station and lock-up included.

2. In 1884, the inhabitants of Aravakurchi and the adjacent villages protested against the transfer on the following among other grounds:—

- (1) that Pallapatti is on the borders of the Madura district and not centrally situated;
- (2) that it is exclusively inhabited by Lubbais and that Hindus going there on business would be inconvenienced for want of accommodation;
- (3) that there is no choultry nor good bazaar there;
- (4) that in Aravakurchi a new office had been built for the sub-registrar, and therefore it would be inconvenient to make remittances from that place to the sub-magistrate's office if it were removed to Pallapatti; and
- (5) that Aravakurchi had been formerly the head-quarters of the taluk and that when, on removal of it, inconvenience had been felt and matters had been represented to the authorities, the present sub-magistrate's office was established.

3. This petition was transferred to the Collector, and, on receipt of a report, the petitioners were informed, in Board's Proceedings, dated 30th May 1884, Mis. No. 46/4, that the change had been decided upon for sound reasons.

4. In the mean time, the construction of a new office at Pallapatti had been deferred pending the settlement of standard designs for taluk cutcherries (Board's Proceedings, dated 16th September 1886, Mis. No. 6918).

5. In the letter read above, the Collector deprecates the transfer of the office from Aravakurchi—

- (1) because the people of the place do not wish it;
- (2) because Aravakurchi is the meeting place of five roads, while Pallapatti is on a single road;
- (3) because when the Nangangi river is in flood, Pallapatti is completely severed from the greater part of the division.

The Collector further points out that, while one ground on which the transfer was recommended was that the inhabitants of Pallapatti, who are chiefly Lubbais, are troublesome and that a police-station and a sub-magistrate's office in their midst would tend to keep them in order, it appears on inquiry that there is less crime in Pallapatti than in Aravakurchi and that no special measures are necessary. The Board, as now constituted, support the present proposal.

(True Copies and Extract.)

(Signed) M. HAMMICK,
Acting Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department,
with a mahazar, in original, to be returned.

Copy to the Collector of Coimbatore.

READ—G.O., dated 23rd July 1887, No. 1969 W., Public Works.

ABSTRACT.—Regarding the submission of revised plan and estimate for constructing a deputy tahsildar's cutcherry at Pallapatti, Coimbatore district.

ORDER—dated 19th August 1887, No. 806, Revenue.

Miscellaneous.

In view of the representations now made, the Government resolve to cancel G.O., dated 9th February 1886, No. 103, directing the transfer of the head-quarters of the deputy tahsildar of Aravakurchi to Pallapatti.

2. Orders will issue, in the Public Works Department, for the preparation of a plan and estimate for the reconstruction of the deputy tahsildar's office at Aravakurchi instead of for a new office at Pallapatti, which is no longer necessary.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. F. PRICE,
Ag. Secretary to Government.

To the Commissioners of Land Revenue, with one enclosure returned.
to the Public Works Department.

Exd. E. Fernandez.

70 Copies.

23rd Aug 1887
Communicated in
continuation of G.O. No.
1969 of 23rd July 1887
to the Supy. Engineer
to file for guidance
1st Aug 1887

Govt. of 1887 Madras.

REVENUE.

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G.O., 19th August 1887, No. 806.

23rd Aug 1887
AUGUST.

Deputy Tahsildar's Office.

Directing the issue of orders, in the Public Works Department, for the preparation of a plan and estimate for the reconstruction of the — at Aravakurichi instead of for a new office at Pallapatti.

28th 10/6
Rev. Dept.

With order

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* Communicated with Board's Proceedings, Mis. No. 1403, of 20th February 1886.

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† No. 116 L.F., 2nd June 1887 (copy enclosed).

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‡ Board's Proceedings, Mis. No. 6918, dated 14th September 1886.

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3. This petition was transferred to the Collector, and, on receipt of a report, the petitioners were informed, in Board's Proceedings, dated 30th May 1884, Mis. No. 4674, that the change had been decided upon for sound reasons.

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W. J. L. S.

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1929 Aug 19 65 September 1887

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With order

16.10.6

Revenue Dept

B5

A4