M.R. O. 1—82,009—15-10-20.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Political DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 177 Press Mis

Dated 3 - 5 - ~~19~~ 1862

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Political Department,
3rd May 1862.

No. 9. Read the following Proceedings of Government in the Revenue Department, dated 28th April 1862, No. 904.

Authorizing the abolition by the Government Agent at Vizagapatam of the road Taxes, throughout the District, and the re-payment to the Zemindar of Jeypore of the sum of Rupees 5,000 paid by him in 1860, *for the formation of the road to Jeypore viâ Galikonda.*

(Vide Proceedings Revenue Department, dated 28th April 1862, Nos. 367 & 368.)

No. 10. ORDER THEREON, 3rd May 1862, No. 177.

To be recorded.

(Signed) A. J. ARBUTHNOT,
Acting Chief Secretary.

Exd. T. G'Connor.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following letter from E. G. R. FANE, Esq., Agent to the Governor, to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated Vizagapatam, 13th March 1862, No. 178 :—

SIR,

1. Referring to the order of Government, dated 28th February 1862, No. 446, paragraph 2, I have the honor to state, that as yet I have taken no measures to prevent the exactions therein noticed.

2. I had intended, as the Government are aware, visiting Jeypore in the early part of this year, to introduce the new Police. I intended simultaneously to put a stop to all road collections both in Jeypore and Paunchpentah. As I did not accept the excuses of the Zamíndárs for their collections, and was of opinion that no real protection was ever afforded to travellers, or any repairs to the passes ever made by the Zamíndárs making these collections, I was afraid, however, that in the event of the Zamíndárs persisting therein, redress would be difficult to obtain until the complete organization of the new Police, and as in the hilly portions of this district that has not been accomplished yet, I did not, as above stated, proceed in the matter.

Vide to Board 11th September 1861, No. 973.
Order of Government, 18th October 1861, No. 2,008.

3. On the subject of the tolls levied on the Brinjaries carrying Salt, Mr. Forbes addressed me a letter, dated the 12th ultimo, and I was on the eve of addressing the Government, through the Board of Revenue, for permission to at once abolish them in the district of Goonoopurum, where we have Police, and where these collections are largely made, when the Proceedings of Government now under acknowledgment reached me.

4. In 1845 the question of these tolls was discussed, and the Board were pleased to recommend that so long as there were no complaints by the Brinjaries, the collections might be allowed to continue on account of the alleged protection afforded by the Zamíndárs, and this order the Government approved of under date the 25th October 1845, No. 1,230.

Vide Revenue Board's Circular Orders, Vol. I, pages 475 and 476.

5. It will now be some six months before the District Superintendent of Police is prepared to take over the Jeypore Hill Táluqs, and as any further delay in the abolishment of the taxes might seriously affect the Salt Revenues in general, I request the opinion of Government as to whether I am to abolish all road taxes throughout the District, or only those in Goonoopurum; and if the former is decided upon, I beg they will cancel the orders of 1845 above referred to.

6. It appears that the road collections were not included in the assets of any of the Hill Zamíndáris, and are therefore illegal; but as the Zamíndár of Jeypore granted a sum of 5,000 Rupees last year to be expended on the opening out of the new road viâ Galikondah to his capital, the Government might allow him compensation to that amount, as although his road collections amount to 12,000 Rupees a year, this grant of his of 5,000 Rupees was given upon the implied permission given to him in the order of 1845, that he should be allowed to continue the collections on the score of the protection he afforded to travellers, &c., &c.

ORDER THEREON, 28th April 1862, No. 904.

1. The Government having recently had before them complaints against the Zamíndár of Jeypore for levying tolls on Salt conveyed from the Ganjam District, called upon the Agent in Vizagapatam to report what steps have been taken to prevent these exactions agreeably to the order of Government, dated 18th October 1861, No. 2,008. The letter above recorded is Mr. Fane's reply.

28th February 1862, No. 446.

2. Mr. Fane states that he has not hitherto acted upon the order of Government alluded to, as the new Police has not yet taken charge of the Jeypore Hill Táluqs, and are not likely to do so for six months more. But as the Salt Revenue is likely to be seriously affected in the meanwhile, he requests the orders of Government as to whether he is to abolish all road taxes throughout the District, or only in Goonoopurum, where a Police establishment is maintained. Mr. Fane

requests also that the orders of 1845, sanctioning the levy of tolls under notice by the Zamíndárs, may be cancelled.

3. The Government have carefully considered the subject, and they see no reason to suffer the continuance of the levy of the toll by the Zamíndárs. Their order dated 25th October 1845 sanctioned the collection of the toll because the Brinjaries were stated "to pay it willingly as a "sort of compensation for the expense to which the Zamíndár is subjected in keeping down the "jungle in different passes, and in posting guards to protect the Brinjaries from the attacks of "robbers and wild beasts." Again when the subject came under notice in 1859, the Board of Revenue recommended that the levy of the duties may be tolerated "until by opening "out roads, and establishing an efficient Police, its existence "becomes unnecessary," and the order of Government was "that matters be allowed to remain *for the present* as they are now." The state of things is now completely altered. The Brinjaries themselves object to the payment of the tax; the Agent states that no real protection was ever afforded to travellers, nor any repairs to the passes ever made by the Zamíndárs in return for these taxes, which it is observed are not included in the assets of the Zamíndáris. The Government have undertaken* the opening up of the Jeypore country, and have sanctioned† the establishment therein of an efficient Police.

Proceedings dated 4th August 1859, No. 3,011.

Political Order, dated 30th August 1859, No. 516.

* Public Works Order, dated 19th November 1861, No. 2,145.
Do. 8th February 1862, No. 161.

† Judicial Order, dated 28th June 1861, No. 838.

4. Under these circumstances the Government resolve to authorize the Agent immediately to abolish the road taxes throughout the District. The Inspector General of Police will be requested (through the Judicial Department) to introduce the new Police into these Hill Zamíndáris as soon as possible, in order that due protection may be afforded to travellers.

5. Under the circumstances stated in paragraph 6 of Mr. Fane's letter, dated 13th March 1862, No. 178, the Government authorize the re-payment to the Zamíndár of Jeypore of the sum of Rupees 5,000 paid by him in 1860, for the formation of the road to Jeypore viâ Galikonda. Orders will be issued from the Public Works Department as to the source from which the money is to be paid.

(True Extract.)

Secretary to Government.

To the Government Agent, Vizagapatam.
" Judicial Department.
" Public Works Department.
" Political Department.
" Board of Revenue.
" Accountant General.

Exd. T. McMootry.

Dist of Vizag.

9 of 10

Pol. 1862 Dep.ts

Pros: of Govt in the
Rev: Dt 904.
367-368

Dt 28th
Rd 29th April 62.
4 Enclosures

No 188

Authorizing the abolition by the Govt Agent at Vizagapatam of the Road Taxes throughout the District & the repayment to the Zamindar of Jeypore the sum of Rs 5000 paid by him in 1860, for the formation of the road to Jeypore via Galikonda

Noted 3d May 62
Recd Dec Dept