

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No.	950	Press
		~~Mis.~~
Dated	21-9-	19.66.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department,
21st September 1866.*

No. 113. Read the following letter from the Controller of Military Accounts, to the Secretary to Government, Military Department, Fort Saint George; dated Fort Saint George, 7th September 1866, C.

I have the honor to forward a letter from the Inspector General of Ordnance and Magazines, dated 5th September 1866, No. 2602, intimating that the Municipal Commissioners for the Town of Madras claim the right to levy a tax on a Depot containing Coal, the property of Government, situated on the North side of the Railway Terminus.

2. The charge, if admissible, can be met from the head, "Contingencies" in the Ordnance Department, but I have the honor to submit the question whether Government is liable to the tax.

From the Acting Inspector General of Ordnance and Magazines, to the Controller of Military Accounts; dated Fort Saint George, 5th September 1866, No. 2602.
Ordnance Department.

I have the honor to inform you that the Municipal Commissioners for the Town of Madras have claimed the right to levy a tax on a Depot containing Coal, belonging to the Ordnance Department, situated on the North side of the Railway Terminus.

2. The grounds on which the tax is claimed are that Government are not exempt from the Registration and License fees approved under date 6th December 1865, and published in the *Fort Saint George Gazette*.

3. I have, therefore, the honor to request you will be so good as to inform me how the charge is to be met, no provision having been made in the Ordnance Budget for meeting such charges, though the amount (being small) can be spared from the head "Contingencies," if you recognize the tax as chargeable to Government.

Referred for orders in the Public Department on the question of the liability of Government to the tax.

FORT SAINT GEORGE,
8th September 1866.

(Signed) R. HAMILTON, Colonel,
Depy. Secy. to Government.

No. 114. ORDER THEREON, 21st September 1866, No. 950.

The Coal Depot, equally with other buildings belonging to Government (those within the Fort excepted), is subject to the Municipal Tax.

(True Extract).

Secretary to Government.

To the Military Department.
,, Barrack Master.

Exd. J. H. Burns.

Public Department.

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Recd the following letter
from the Comptroller of Military Ac-
counts.

Core enter 7th September 1866 C

Order 21st Sept^r 1866 No 950.

The Coal Depot, equally
with buildings belonging to
Government, (those within the
Fort excepted), is subject to the
Municipal tax.

W. J. [Signature]

The Public Dept } despd 26/9
" Barrack Street }
" Examiner of Revenue [Signature]

White 1860. Department.

No. 9570

PROCEEDINGS OF GOVERNMENT

Dated. 27th / 5th / 1866

When I was in the Kitchen House
with my Subordinate, engaged
in receiving Petitions. On a sudden
I felt as if I was shaken and
the same was experienced by the
rest of the attendants though the
Deem to have taken no notice of
it, their attention having been
probably engaged otherwise. A
rattling noise was heard among
the tiles of the building of the Kitchen
House, and from the direction of
the sound among the tiles and
the direction of the shock
could at once perceive that the
shaking was a general one whether
it was a stream of melted minerals
or anything else was moving from
the South to the North. The shock
did not last longer than one
second. So did the sound in
the tiles of the roof. The shock
was felt at the same time throughout
the town and from the reports I have
since called for I learn that it
manifested itself on all sides
of the Heshah except the South.
Its influence was felt as far as
the Village of Parani, on the North
13 miles; Calavanur on the East

94
16 miles and Semudaganur on
the west 14 miles. The phenomenon
seems to have occurred also at
certain villages in the Tindivanam
Taluk, as I could gather from
the reports of the District Officer Taluk
who had been to those villages.
In the town it is said that
females, who were drawing water
from a well in the Bazar Street
of the town, saw some force shake
them and binding to throw them
downward they were observed
turning in different directions
in such a manner.
~~The Officer who was with me in the Kitchen House did not~~
with me in the Kitchen House did not
report to me of themselves until
they were called by me. It is
rather to be surprised that the
District Officer who was on the
spot did not himself feel the
shock although all that were in
him felt it and immediately
reported it to him. I have to be
satisfied that no one of the Village
Officers thought it necessary to report
the occurrence to me of his own accord
and without a requisition from me, but
when

12
26-10-36

M.B.O. 1-29,000-16-10-36

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	950	Press Mis.
Dated	5-8-	1967

Not to be folded or roughly handled

26-10-36

when so many people both in the Town
and the surrounding villages experienced
the unusual shock, in consequence
of the Earthquake which occurred on

Wednesday }
27 July 1867 }
Laid on the table
of the Library of
the University of
Cambridge

Charles Hall

27
1867
Vol. 11. 1185-1186
"Pross" August 11/1867

deposited from the
Library of the University
of Cambridge
from the Librarian of
the University
27 July 1867.
He
Reporting that
an Earthquake took
place at Westminster

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department.

5th August 1867.

No. 23. Read the following letter from the Collector of South Arcot, to the Acting Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Cuddalore, 27th July 1867, No. 43.

I believe it is usual, if not required, to report to Government any unusual phenomena coming under the notice of public Officers, and accordingly I have the honor to submit the accompanying copy of a report* from the Tahsildar of Villapuram, detailing the occurrence of the

* Dated 27th instant.

shock of an earthquake, as supposed, on the evening of the 3rd instant.

2. Stree Baliah sent me at the time a brief notice of the earthquake in Tamil, when I wrote to him myself in English, directing him to give me every particular connected with its occurrence and further, I desired him to ascertain from all parts, within reasonable distance, whether the supposed earthquake was felt by any one elsewhere. The enclosed report is the reply to this, and from the details given there would seem no reason to question that what was experienced was really an earthquake, though apparently felt over a very limited area.

3. I have had no report from other parts of the District showing that the earthquake was sensible to any one elsewhere, and my inquiries have failed to elicit any information about it in Tindevanum, to which place apparently it extended. Tindevanum is about 20 miles in a direct line from Villapuram.

4. The description given by the Tahsildar is interesting, and possibly accounts may have reached, or may reach Government, proving that the phenomenon was not confined to the locality of Villapuram and its neighbourhood.

5. I may add that nothing was felt of the earthquake in Cuddalore so far as I can learn, notwithstanding this place is only distant, in a direct line from Villapuram, about 22 miles.

6. The fact may be of interest to the Astronomer, or to others engaged in scientific pursuits relating to phenomena of the kind.

From the Tahsildar of Villapuram, in charge of the Treasury, South Arcot, to the Collector of South Arcot; dated Cuddalore, 27th July 1867.

I beg to acknowledge receipt of your Demi-Official of the 5th instant, and to submit in reply that, to the best of my belief, I am not mistaken in my impression of the earthquake at Villapuram.

2. Having never experienced an earthquake before, I could not testify to the exact nature of the shock from past knowledge. The fact of having felt a shock is however certain, and the impression it made on me is too strong and deep to leave any doubt as to the occurrence of a phenomenon occasioned by some agencies at work beneath the surface of the earth. The following circumstances have led me to conclude that the shock was caused by an earthquake, though not strong enough to be perceived by extremely superficial observers.

3. The phenomenon occurred at 5 p. m. on the 3rd instant, when I was in the Cutcherry house with my subordinates engaged in receiving petitions. On a sudden I felt as if I was shaken, and the same was experienced by the rest of the attendants, though they seem to have taken no notice of it, their attention having been probably engaged otherwise. A rattling noise was heard among the tiles of the building (Cutcherry house), and from the motion of the sound among the tiles, and the direction of the shock, I could at once perceive that the subterranean agency, whether it was a stream of melted minerals or any thing else, was moving from the south to the north. The shock did not last longer than one second, so did the sound in the tiles of the roof. The shock was felt at the same time throughout the town, and from the reports I have since called for

5 August 1867 H: 95a
 communicated to the Madras
 Literary Society, and to the for-
 : went to the names for information.

W. H. Thomas Literary Society.
 human ment. H. Thomas.
 Editor's Public.

"58"
 1867

Public 1867

from the collection of

South

The Chief Secretary to

Government

Madras

Date 27/3 Aug 1867

No 43

Enclosed 1-1

No 1185 Forwarding

Copy of a letter from
 the Secretary of the
 Museum on the subject
 of the occurrence of
 South grubs in that
 every on the 23rd inst.

With an exhibit -

23. 24.

Proceedings of the Maaras Government, Public Department,

5th August 1867.

I learn that it manifested itself on all sides of the Kasbah, except the south. Its influence was felt as far as the village of Parani on the north (13 miles), Valavanur on the east (6 miles), and Sennacannaram on the west (11 miles). The phenomenon seems to have occurred also at certain villages in the Tindevanum Taluq, as I could gather from the ryots of Veedur of my Taluq, who had been to those villages.

4. In the town itself some females, who were drawing water from a well in the Bazaar street, felt suddenly some force shaking them and tending to throw them down, and they were observed running in different directions in confusion.

5. The officials who were with me in the Cutcherry did not report to me of themselves, until they were asked by me. It is rather to be surprised that the District Moonsiff who was on the spot did not himself feel the shock, although all that were with him felt it and immediately reported it to him. It is to be regretted that no-one of the Village Officers thought it necessary to report the occurrence to me of his own accord and without a requisition from me, but when so many people both in the town and the surrounding villages experienced the unusual shock, it leaves little doubt of the earthquake having occurred.

No. 24.

ORDER THEREON, 5th August 1867, No. 950.

Communicated to the Madras Literary Society, and to the Government Astronomer, for information.

(True Extract).

Acting Chief Secretary.

To the Madras Literary Society.
,, Government Astronomer.

Érd. J. Tulloch.

N^o 43

Imm. C. W. Pease Esq.
Canaan South West.

To the Hon. R. S. Ellis Esq.
 Acting Chief Secretary of the
 Govt of the Empire

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 27th inst. in relation to the
 Government being furnished with a copy of the
 Proceedings of the Council of Public Officers, and also a copy of the
 Report from the Lake Survey of Vittapuran, detailing the
 occurrence of the shock of an Earthquake as supposed
 in the evening of the 3rd Instant.

2. Lin. Rubra

1. Sri Batiah sent me
at the time a brief notice of
the Earthquake in Tamil where
I endeavored to inform myself in
English describing him to give
me every particular connected
with the occurrence. & further
desired him to ascertain from
all parts within reasonable
distance whether the supposed
Earthquake was felt by any
one elsewhere. The enclosed
Report is the reply to this and
from the details given there
would seem no reason to
question that what was
experienced was really an
Earthquake though apparently
felt over a very limited area.

3. I have had no
report from other parts of
the District showing that
the

Earthquake was sensible to
any one elsewhere, and my
inquiries have failed to
elicit any information
about it in Ceylon except
to what place appeared to be
the source. Since then it
about 120 miles in a direct
line from Vellore.
The description given
by Mr. Batiah is interesting
especially inasmuch as it
mentions the fact that
the earthquake was not
confined to the locality of
Vellore & its neighborhood.
I may add that
nothing was felt of the
Earthquake in Ceylon
so far as I can learn
withholding the possibility

when I was in the Palace I was
with my Subordinates engaged
in receiving petitioners. On a sudden
I felt as if I was shaken and
the Palace was surrounded by the
rest of the attendants though the
Deen Khan took no notice of
it, their attention having been
probably engaged otherwise. A
strange noise was heard among
the lines of the army (the Palace
being) and from the direction of
the south came the shock and
the direction of the shock
could not be perceived that the
Sublime Porte gave another
was a strong and excited voice in
everything else was moving from
the South to the North. The shock
did not last longer than one
second. So did the sound in
the time of the shock the shock
was felt at the same time therefore
the Town and from the reports I have
since collected I learn that this
manifested itself from all sides
of the Pashah except the South.
Its influence was felt as far as
the Village of Pashan on the North
43 miles; Pashan on the East

[illegible]