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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 841 A

Press
Mis.

Dated 8-7-1870.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

11/5/37

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department,
8th July 1870.*

No. 3. Read the following letter from the President of the Municipal Commission, Palghaut, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated Calicut, 1st July 1870, No. 71:—

I have the honour to inform you that the Vice-President of the Palghaut Municipality has brought to my notice a paragraph of the *Western Star* of the 21st May, which is evidently aimed at that Municipality, the only inland Municipality, and at Mr. Gay, the only Municipal Commissioner therein, who is by profession a contractor.

2. The article implies that such member has been for a long time, openly or indirectly interested in contracts with the Municipality, and that his special object seems to be to oust other contractors from competition.

3. From the Vice-President I learn that Mr. Gay has never been concerned in any Municipal contract, and that, moreover, during the past year but one petty contract has been given out by the Commission; all other work being executed under the Municipal Inspector by day labour.

4. Mr. Gay gives his services gratuitously in personally supervising and forwarding these works, so far as his leisure enables him to do so, and it is due to his character to contradict the accusation made by implication in the subjoined extract:—

“ A MUNICIPAL COMMISSIONER INTERESTED IN CONTRACTS.—Accounts from the most credible source state that a certain Municipal Commissioner in an outlying town of Malabar, who is by profession a contractor, has been for a long time openly or indirectly interested in contracts. Section 17 of the Towns' Improvement Act expressly forbids such a thing, and the very fact not only incapacitates him from serving on the Commission, but renders him liable to a fine not exceeding 500 rupees. The object of the law is very clearly to check speculation and disgraceful jobberies. In the face of this, that he should be permitted, nay encouraged by the local corporation, to perpetrate an illegality, speaks very little for the independence of that body. Is it because they can find no contractors to perform efficiently any job? There must be contractors to whom the greater number of the Commissioners seem to have no objection, but to oust whom from the field of competition appears to be the special object of the single disinterested Commissioner. We bring the state of things prominently before the President, who, we hope, will take this hint, and put a stop to such irregularities, if found existing in the inland town alluded to, as well as if in vogue elsewhere.”

No. 4. ORDER THEREON, 8th July 1870, No. 841-A.

To be recorded.

(True Extract.)

R. S. ELLIS,
Chief Secretary.

Exd. J. Wright,

Obbt. of 1870 ~~Stuor~~

PUBLIC.

Dated July, 8th.
Recd.

G. O., 8th July 1870, No. 841-A.

JULY.
Nos. 3-4.

Recording letter from the President of the Municipal Commission, Palghat, contradicting a statement in the *Western Star* to the effect that one of the Commissioners executes all Municipal Contracts.

Malabar Magistrate's Court

Kalicut 1st July 1870.

N^o 71.

From,

A. Macgregor Esq^r

President of the Municipal
Commission of
Palghat.

To

The Honorable R. S. Ellis. Esq. C. B.

Chief Secretary to Government

Fort St George

Sir,

I have the honor to inform you that the Vice President of the Palghat Municipality has brought to my notice a paragraph of the "Western Star" of the 21st May, which is evidently aimed at that Municipality, the only inland Municipality, and at Mr Gay the only Municipal Commissioner therein who is by profession a contractor.

The article implies that such member has been for a long time openly or indirectly interested in contracts with the Municipality and that his special object seems to be to oust other contractors from competition.

From the Vice President I learn that Mr Gay has never been concerned in any Municipal Contract, and that moreover during the past year but one petty contract has been given out by the Commission, all other work being executed under the Municipal Com.

pector by day labour.

Mr. Gay gives his services gratuitously in personally supervising and forwarding these works, so far as his leisure enables him to do so, and it is due to his character to contradict the accusation made by implication in the subjoined Extract.

I trust therefore that if Government think fit, this communication may be laid on the Editor's Table.

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

A. Macfay
President.

"A Municipal Commissioner inter-
ested in Contracts." "Accounts from the
most credible source state that a certain
Municipal Commissioner in an outlying
town of Malabar, who is by profession
a contractor, has been for a long time
openly or indirectly interested in contracts.
Section 17 of the Towns Improvement Act
expressly forbids such a thing, and the
very fact not only incapacitates him from
serving on the Commission, but renders
him liable to a fine not exceeding 500 Rupees.
The object of the law is very clear to check
speculation and disgraceful jobberies. In

"the face of this, that he should be permitted,
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perpetrate an illegality, speaks very little for
the independence of that body. Is it because
they can find no contractors to perform effi-
ciently any job? There must be contractors
to whom the greater number of the Commissioners
have no objection, but to one whom
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the special object of the single disinterested
Commissioners. We bring the state of things
prominently before the President, who, we
hope, will take this hint, and put a stop
to such irregularities, if found existing in
the inland town alluded to as well as if in
vogue elsewhere."

1890 Public Sept

from

The President of the
Municipal Council
of
Pittsburg

The Chief Secretary to
Government
at St. Louis

Notice 1st July 1890
Re: 6. St. Louis

No. 71

No. 11999

No. 841, 878, 914, 1890
(Revised)

Bringing to notice an article
published in the Union Star
of the 21st May, which seems
to be aimed against the
Pittsburg Business College.
The writer, in reporting
that the same may be
contradicted by the
author. With me and

Govt. of {1870} Madras.

Public

W/3

Dated July 8.

Recd.

End.

G. O. 8 July.

1870, No. 844.

Nos. 3-4

Recording letter from the
Pres. Genl. Commr. Polkham
containing a statement in
the Western Star to the effect
that one of the Commr's expenses
all Incl. Contracts.