Revenue Department.

Minutes of Consultations

14th September 1858

Book 62 & 63

Order № 1250 ⁊ 14 - Sept.r 1858

No. 62. Read the following Extract from the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 14th August 1858, No. 3086.

Read the following letters:—

From Acting Collector of Madura, dated 9th July in Consultation 14th August 1858.
„ „ „ of Tinnevelly, „ 16th „ „ „ „
„ „ „ of Tanjore, „ 24th „ „ „ „
„ „ „ of do. „ 6th August „ „ „

(Here enter Nos. 164, 236, 150 and 162.)

In Cons. 1st July 1858.
In Cons. 24th July 1858.

Resolved that the above letters be submitted for the information of Government, with reference to Extract Minutes Consultation, 29th June and 14th July 1858, Nos. 888 and 960, R. D.

2. In his letter above recorded, the Collector of Tanjore furnishes the information required by Government, regarding the scarcity of Silver coin in that District and the influx of Sovereigns.

3. Mr. Phillips states that considerable trade is carried on between Tanjore and Ceylon in Paddy, the staple product of the former Province, and that the shipments have hitherto been usually paid for, in Hoondies on Merchants at Madras, who again made their remittances by Accountant General's bills on the Tanjore Treasury. Mr. Phillips' enquiries lead him to believe that, owing probably to the recent commercial failures and depression of trade, this mode of receiving payment is no longer preferred, and the exports are paid for in Sovereigns (the current coin of Ceylon) which thus find their way largely into Tanjore.

			Cos. Rs.
1852-53.....	.....	...	19,67,470
1853-54.....	.....	...	16,66,166
1854-55.....	.....	...	21,39,467
1855-56.....	.....	...	13,96,329
1856-57.....	.....	...	14,15,600
1857-58.....	.....	...	13,45,311

Revenue from all Sources.

Fusly 1264, *A. D.* 1854-55.....	*Rs*...	54,75,000
„ 1265, *A. D.* 1855-56.....	„	58,55,000
„ 1266, *A. D.* 1856-57.....	„	56,29,000

4. This belief, Mr. Phillips adds, is to a certain extent confirmed by the falling off in the amount of the Accountant General's Bills drawn on his Treasury. The marginal abstract shews the amount of these Bills for the six years ending with 1857-58, and it will be seen from it that there has not been much variation during the last three years, when compared together; but a great decrease appears when the comparison is made with the three preceding years. The average of the former (1855-56 to 1857-58) being only Rupees 13,85,747—while that of the latter (1852-53 to 1854-55) is Rupees 19,24,368. It is clear from this that of late, a considerable amount of Silver has been withdrawn from circulation in Tanjore.

5. Another cause assigned for the scarcity of Silver, is the extinction of the Raj. Ten lacs of Rupees were formerly disbursed as the fifth share of the Rajah in the Revenue of Tanjore, and almost the whole of this was expended in the District.

6. The recent restriction in expenditure on Public Works, is cited by Mr. Phillips as another cause of the scarcity of coin.

7. The Board have no information regarding the Government remittances from Tanjore in coin by land, but the Statements of Imports and Exports of specie by sea on their account, are blank with the exception noted in the margin. Mr. Phillips however states, that the remittance of Public cashfrom Tanjore, has increased in proportion to the diminution in the local expenditure.

Sept. 1857..... *Rs.* 3,08,000 *to Bombay.*

8. Mr. Phillips is unable to affirm with any degree of certainty, that the influx of Sovereigns is likely to be permanent, but as the trade of the District with Ceylon is extensive, and a large portion of the lower classes emigrate to that Island and Mauritius, and usually bring back their savings in gold, a considerable number of Sovereigns must always be introduced into the district.

9. In a subsequent letter, the Collector reports that in the Keevalore talook Rs. 10,400 have been paid in Sovereigns out of a total sum of Rupees 51,724 collected during last month.

10. It will be seen from the letters of the Collectors of Tinnevelly and Madura, that Sovereigns are largely introduced into those Provinces also, and that in the latter, their present market value is only Rs. 9-14-0 each. This depreciation in value, Mr. Hathaway ascribes to their abundance, but it is no doubt owing also in some degree, to their not being accepted in payment of the public revenue, which (including all sources) is about 25 lacs per annum.

11. The Board append an Abstract shewing the total imports and exports of Sovereigns for the Presidency by sea during the last three years, according to the Customs Returns:—

SOVEREIGNS VALUED IN COMPANY'S RUPEES.

Imports by private Individuals.

Districts.	1855-56.	1856-57.	1857-58.	Total.
Rajahmundry...	.....	4,000	24,500	28,500
South Arcot...	.....	.....	120	120
Tanjore...	72,210	2,25,500	1,22,450	4,20,160
Tinnevelly...	41,375	94,810	1,99,200	3,35,385
Canara...	9,122	9,950	14,929	34,001
Malabar...	3,400	38,785	1,02,865	1,45,050
Madras...	9,11,665	13,91,551	25,61,323	48,64,539
Total Rs.....	10,37,772	17,64,596	30,25,387	58,27,755

Exports of do. by private Individuals.

Districts.	1855-56.	1856-57.	1857-58.	Total.
Rajahmundry...	.....	2,500	.....	2,500
Madras.....	700	.....	60,000	60,700
Total Rs.....	700	2,500	60,000	63,200

No Imports or Exports of Gold by Government.

(A true Extract.)

(Signed) J. D. SIM, *Secretary.*

Ordered in consequence that the following letter be despatched.

No. 63. From T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to the Government of Fort St. George; to the Secretary to the Government of India; dated 14th September 1858, No. 1250.

From Collr. of Tanjore to Bd.,	10*th June* 1858,		
Pros. of Rev. Bd. to Govt.,	22*d* ,,	*No.* 2168	
Order thereon,	24*th* ,,	,, 870	
From Acct. Genl. to Govt.,	25*th* ,,	,, 72	
Order thereon,	29*th* ,,	,, 888	
From Collr. of Tanjore to Bd.,	23*d* ,,		
From do. to do.	25*th* ,,		
Pros. from Bd. of Rev. to Govt.,	2*d July* ,,	,, 2288	
Order thereon,	14*th* ,,	,, 960	
From Ag. Collr. of Madura to Bd.,	9*th* ,,		
From do. of Tinnevelly to do.,	16*th* ,,		
From do. of Tanjore to do.,	24*th* ,,		
From do. do. to do.,	6*th Aug* ,,		
Board's Proceedings to Govt.,	14*th* ,,		

With reference to the Financial Notification of the Government of India dated 22d December 1852, No. 26, prohibiting the receipt of gold coins into the Public Treasuries, I have the honor by desire of the Governor in Council to submit copies of the correspondence noted in the margin which will shew that silver coin is becoming scarce in Tanjore and that Sovereigns are largely introduced into that District as well as into Tinnevelly and Madura, and to request that permission may be granted for departing from the terms of the Notification alluded to in such of the Districts of this Presidency in which the Government may find it necessary for the punctual collection of the public revenue. It will be observed that in Madura the present market value of the Sovereigns is stated to be

Rupees 9-14, and this depreciation in value is (though the Acting Collector ascribes it to their abundance,) in some degree owing to their not being accepted in payment at the Government Treasuries.

2. In Tanjore the scarcity of silver coin became so conspicuous that this Government were obliged as a temporary measure to authorize the receipt of Sovereigns; for, it was apprehended that without such permission the public revenue might fall largely in arrears. They will be received at par value, viz. Rupees 10, and are invariably to be remitted to the General Treasure at Madras when the Sub-Treasurer will sell them at a rate not less than that at which they wery received by the Collector.

No 1250

To The Secretary to the
Government of India.

Sir,

6 Copies
Dispr. 15
by Steamer

With reference to the Financial Notification of the Government of India dated 22d December 1852 No 26 prohibiting the receipt of Gold Coins into the Public Treasuries, I have the honor by desire of the Governor in Council to submit copies of the correspondence noted in the margin which will shew that Silver coin is becoming scarce in Tanjore and that Sovereigns are largely introduced into that District as well as into Tinnevelly and Madura and to request that permission may be granted for departing from the terms of the Notification alluded to in such of the Districts of this Presidency in which the Government may

From Coll. of Tanjore to Board 10th June/55
Progs. of Rev Board to Govt — 25 " " 2289
Order thereon — 24 " " 870
From Asst Coll to Govt — 25 " " 72
Order thereon — 29 " " 888
From Coll of Tanjore to Board — 23 " "
From — do — to — do — 25 " "
Progs from Bd of Rev to Govt — 2d July 2288
Order thereon — 14 " " 960
From Actg Coll of Madura to Bd 9 " "
From — do — of Tinnevelly to do 16 " "
From — do — of Tanjore to do 24 " "
From — do — do — to — do — 6th Augt
Board's Proceedings to Govt — 14 " "

may find it necessary for the punctual collection of the public revenue.

It will be observed that in Madura the present market value of the Sovereigns is stated to be Rs 9-14- and this depreciation in value is, tho' the Acting Collector ascribes it to their abundance, in some degree owing to their not being accepted in payment at the Government Treasuries

2. In January the scarcity of silver coin became so conspicuous that this Government were obliged as a temporary measure to authorize the receipt of Sovereigns; for, it was apprehended that without such permission the public revenue might fall largely in arrears. They will be received at par value Viz. Rs 10 and are

are invariably to be remitted to the General Treasury at Madras when the Sub Treasurer will sell them at a rate not less than that at which they were received by the Collector.

Fort St. Geo. 14 September 1858.

J P

Cons 20 July 58 No 1-2

-do- 22 July 58 No 48-6

Revenue 1858 Depart.
Cons 14th September.

No 1250.

To
The Secretary to the
Government of India.
Dt 14th Septr 58.

Rec'd do- 22d- Septr 58-
Re 1293-

Requesting that under the circumstances represented permission may be granted for receipt of Gold Coins in payment of Revenue in such Districts where the Silver Coin is becoming scarce and where the collection of Pub. Rev. might fall largely in arrears if Sovereigns are not used in the Treasuries.

No 62 & 63.