M.R.O. 14—10,000—21-4-22

# MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

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## Government of Madras.

**DEPARTMENT.**

| | |
|---|---|
| G.O. No. 1604 | Press ~~Mis.~~ |
| 52-53 | |
| Dated 26 — 11 — 1859. | |

***Not to be folded or roughly handled***

## *Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, for the month of November* 1859.

No. 52. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 14th November 1859, No. 4674.

Read letter from the Officiating Collector of Salem, dated 24th October 1859, No. 219, requesting sanction for the abolition of the ghee tax collected from certain Malayalies on the Jevudy and Yallagherry hills in the Triputtúr tálúq.

(In Con. 31st October 1859, No. 5385.)

Submitted to Government with the Board's recommendation that the Officiating Collector be authorised to abolish the very objectionable tax on the manufacture of "ghee" by the hill tribes inhabiting the Javaji Mala, and Yalagherry Mala, amounting to Rupees 505 per annum.

(A true Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON, *Acting Secretary.*

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No. 53. ORDER THEREON, 26th November 1859, No. 1604.

The tax in question being of trifling amount and being objectionable in many points of view, the Government do not hesitate to sanction the proposal to abolish it. The Board of Revenue will instruct the acting Collector of Salem accordingly.

2. The arrear now stated to be due is hereby remitted.

3. Due care should be taken by the Collector to publish the purport of this order to all concerned.

(Signed) J. D. BOURDILLON,
*Secretary to Government.*

Salem, Collectors Office
Coseor, 24th October 1859

No. 219.

From

J. J. Knox Esq.
Officiating Collector of Salem.

To

W. Sudlerton Esq.
Ag Secretary to the Board of Revenue
Fort St. George

Sir,

I have the honor to report for the information of the Board the following circumstances and my proposal thereon.

2. There are two Hills called Savajee Malâ and Yalagherry Malâ situated in the Talook of Tripatore which were rented out during the time of Tippoo Sultan to persons who paid Government a certain sum and collected taxes as for as they could on every thing taxable and after the assumption of the Country by the British up to Fasly $\frac{1230}{1820}$ the same system was followed -

While

3.

While this renting System was in existence among other modes of raising money, the renters were in the habit of Sub renting the right of buying all ghee produced on the hills to certain persons to whom alone the Malayalees were permitted to sell the ghee. The enclosed list will shew the revenue collected on the ghee rent from Fusly $\frac{1231}{1821}$ to $\frac{1267}{1857}$.

4. In Fusly $\frac{1245}{1835}$ the Malayalies addressed Mr. Orr the then Collector stating that they suffered much loss and great inconvenience from the power over them being given to strangers and from the restrictions binding them to sell the ghee to a particular person (i.e Contractor) and requesting that they (Malayalies) might be allowed to sell the ghee as they pleased and at the same time consenting to pay the Government any sum which the Government may fix.

5. Mr. Orr then fixed a sum of Rupees 505 as ghee tax and gave the contract to the Malayalies who after dividing this sum among themselves according

× For Sanjeé hills ... 463.
For Yelagherry hills. 42.
505.



according to the number of cattle each possessed, collected the Revenue and paid it into the Taluq treasury.

6. The Malayalies now complain that their cattle have greatly diminished thro' Murrain and that all the inhabitants of the hills are in a state of wretched poverty and quite unable to pay this ghee tax.

7. The Tahsildar has brought the case to my notice because there are arears of 29½ - 14 - 11 and as there is neither puttah nor moochilka and as none has existed since Fusly 1251, he is of opinion he cannot proceed to attack their property.

8. I would beg to point out to the Board the anomalous nature of this impost upon these hill people. In his elaborate and interesting letter on the Motturpha in this District dated 23d. March 1855 No. 34, Mr. Brett did not consider this tax come under the head of Motturpha and it can hardly be called Land Revenue for we still retain a tax on their ploughs

and

and digging knives which is in place of land revenue and in those hills there is little regular cultivation and what there is, easily defies the discovery of a revenue officer and it would be equally impossible to number their cattle unless another tribe of hill people could be enlisted in our service. I venture therefore to propose to the Board the total abolition of this burden falling as it does on human beings whose lives and habits are near a kin to the wild beasts among whom they live and from its nature peculiarly oppressive, it is uncontrolled for we must trust the headmans assertion for the cattle any individual may possess and it is objectionable because it tends to a reduction and not an increase in the amount of cattle in places where live stock affords the readiest means of livelihood with the increase of which wild beasts must of necessity be destroyed.

9. I believe Government are anxious



anxious to remove taxes of this description and both on principle and on the ground of the impossibility of collecting the tax, I trust I may be permitted the pleasure of proclaiming its abolition.

I have &c.
(Signed) J. J. Knox.
Off. Collector.

Salem, Collectors Office, Coimbatore, 24th October, 1854.

(A true Copy)

C. Anderson
Ag. Secretary.

No. 4674.

PROCEEDINGS of the BOARD of REVENUE, dated 14th November 1859.

Read letter from the Officiating Collector of Salem, dated 24th October 1859, No. 219, requesting sanction for the abolition of the ghee tax collected from certain Malayalies on the Jevudy and Yallagherry hills in the Triputtoor taluq.

(In Con. 31st October 1859, No. 5385.)

Submitted to Government with the Board's recommendation that the Officiating Collector be authorised to abolish the very objectionable tax on the manufacture of "ghee" by the hill tribes inhabiting the Javaji Mala, and Yalagherry Mala, amounting to Rupees 505 per annum.

(A true Extract.)

Acting Secretary.

To J. D. BOURDILLON, Esq., Secretary to Government, R. D.

Copy to Officiating Collector of Salem.

Exd. J. Wright.

1859 Dépôt

Enclosure in Proceedings of the Board of Revenue to the Secretary to Government Revenue Department dated 14th November 1859 No. 4674.

Encl. 1 Reply.

D 2121/59.

Letter from the Officiating Collector of Salem to the Board of Revenue, dated 24th October 1859 No. 219. regarding the abolition of the Ghee tax.

Recd. 31st October 1859

5385

Recd. 26th November 1859

Revenue 1859 Reports
Proc: of Govt & Sovt
1: 2121.)

(Proceedings of the
Board of Revenue.

Dated 14th Sept 18 } November 1859.
Recd 18 }
Exd with despatch
2 Encls. Returned 9-1-60

No 4674

Madras 26th November

Submitting with the Board's recommendation a letter from the H.J. Collr of Salem requesting sanction for the abolition of the ghee tax collected from certain Malayalies on the Servady and Yallagherry hills in the Tripatore taluq.

With our order

This tax is of such trifling amount and is objectionable in so many points of view that I do not hesitate to support the proposal of the Board of Revenue to abolish it

Wtmunday

Ootacamund Nov 19. 1859.

The tax is one very open to objection alle & should be abolished - W.M.

No 1604.
The tax on the manufacture of toddy being objectionable on many grounds, the Governor in Council does not hesitate to support the proposal of the Board of Revenue to abolish it. The Board of Revenue will therefore issue the necessary orders.
By order &c
(Signed) C. Bird
Chief Secy to Govt

No 52 of 60.

C 18 Nov. R. 22 Nov.