

Revenue Department

No 389

Inten 23 - 3 - 1859

Fort Saint George, Revenue Consultation of 1st April 1859.

No. 6. Read the following (Circular) Extract from the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 14th March 1859, No. 880.

Read Extract Minutes of Consultation, dated 2d March 1859, R. D., No. 265, regarding the closing of Public Offices in the Revenue Department on Sundays.

(In Con. 3d March 1859, No. 886.)

Ordered that paras. 1, 2 and 5 be circulated to all Collectors for their information and guidance.

2. Resolved also that Mr. Maltby's explanatory Minute be laid before Government.
Dated 14th in Con. 14th March 1859, No.

(A true Extract.)

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

No. 7. ORDER THEREON, No. 389; dated 23d March 1859.

The Government regret that there was anything in their former order to give pain to Mr. Maltby. They did not at all suppose that Mr. Maltby wished Christian servants of the Government to perform ordinary duty on Sundays. The remark noticed in his present Minute had reference to his argument against closing offices on the Sunday, drawn from the Public inconvenience of such a measure; and it noticed the fact that though that argument extended to offices presided over by Christians, Mr. Maltby did not wish to make it applicable to them.

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

IN CON. 14TH MARCH 1859, No. 1035.

MINUTE.

The Extract Minutes Consultation of 2d March 1859 No. 265 in the Revenue Department conveys the instructions of Government on the closing of Public Offices in the Provinces on the Sunday. Having already recorded remarks on this question, it is not my purpose to enter further into it now, or to offer any observations on the course which Government have directed to be followed.

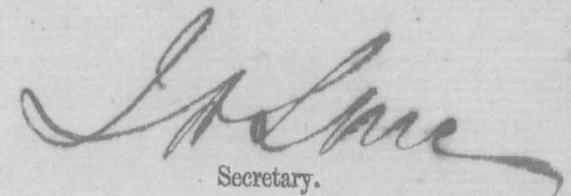
2. There is however one observation in para. 4 which is so unjust to myself that I cannot pass it by in silence. I allude to the following passage "But on the other hand he (Governor in Council) does not suppose that Mr. Maltby would require Christian Officers to transact ordinary business on Sundays" It is thus implied that my views on this point were at least doubtful and I am the more surprised at being exposed to such misconstruction because I closed my Minute with an expression of satisfaction that the papers about to be laid before Government would show "that the Christian servants of the State have long been relieved from official work on Sundays."

3. In short, the question discussed in my Minute did not relate to Christians, who had already been relieved from official duties on the Sunday. It related to quite a different subject viz., whether all public offices were to be closed even at places where there were no Christian Communities and whether Hindoo and Mahomedan servants were to be always relieved from work on Sundays, thus causing interruption to the ordinary business of the people.

4. I request that this explanatory Minute may be laid before Government in justice to myself on this particular occasion, and because misconstruction of meaning must tend to damp the free expression of opinion on difficult questions.

(Signed) E. MALTBY,
Member of the Board.

(True Copy)


Secretary.

REVENUE BOARD OFFICE,
Fort St. George,
14th March 1859.

N^o 389

Extract from the Minutes of Consultation
Under date the 23rd March 1859

Read the following extract
from the Proceedings of the Board
of Revenue

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Handwritten initials

March 14th 1859 (p. 880)

~~secret~~ that the Board of the
provision even had been so.
to suppose that there was ^{any} ~~been~~
time within the import ~~board~~
time a ~~to~~ ~~business~~ ~~has~~
meaning - they

there was
request that ^{anything} ~~any~~
in their former order to give
~~to Mr. Malby~~
Lair to Mr. Malby -
they

This amendment ab-
-tracted in Comment
March 22/59

The Government
did not at all suppose that
Mr. Malby wished Christian
servants of the Government
to perform ordinary duty
on Sundays. The remark
noticed in his present mi-
nute had reference to his
argument against closing
offices on the Sunday,
drawn from the public
inconvenience of such a
measure; and it noticed

The

N^o 6

N^o 632/59

Minutes by Mr. Malby

March 14th 1859

N^o 380

Extract from the
Proceedings of the Board of
Revenue dated 14th March 1859

Enclosure

1859

the fact that though
that argument extended
to offices presided over
by Christians, Mr. Maltby
did not wish to make it
applicable to them.

JA

Copied to S. A. of Am.
Pip. 23.
1 - Mr. Maltby

4/2
No.
Extract from the Minutes of Consultation

Under date the March 1859

Read the following Extract
from the Proceedings of the Board
of Revenue. —

(Here entered March 1859 No. 880)

There was an ~~an~~ The Government regret that
the tenor of the previous order should
to ~~be~~ have led Mr. Maltby to suppose
that there was any intention either
to be unjust towards him or to
misconstruct his meaning. They
did not at all suppose that Mr.
Maltby wished Christian servants
of the Government to perform ordi-
nary duty on Sundays. The remark
noticed in his present Minute
had reference to his argument
against

the
th against closing offices on the
th Sunday, drawn from the public
to incommence of such a measure;
by and it noticed the fact that though
did that argument extended to offices
as presided over by christians, Mr
Mottley did not wish to make
it applicable to them. — met off

(A True Extract)

Secretary to Govt

To The President and Members
of the Board of Revenue

Tuesday - 22 March.

My dear Bourdillon

Your note & its enclosure reached me late last night. — When I wrote my explanatory Minute I was not aware that the Govt Order was to be published in connection with the allusion to me in it. I therefore limited myself, wishing to avoid discussion to one point upon which it was important to me that my meaning should be rightly understood by the members of the Govt.

Had the Govt Order not been laid upon the Editor's table, the draft now sent by you would have been satisfactory so far as it shows that the members of Govt did not suppose me to have any idea of requiring "ordinary work" from Christian Officers on Sundays. But I should have objected to that part of it which speaks of my attributing to the Govt an intention to be unjust towards me. I never supposed any such intention & attributed the Govt Order to a mere personal of my Minute. I would also have wished it to be understood that I did not wish the force of the reasoning upon which the Draft says that the passage complained of by me was inserted in the Govt Order. — In all our Provincial

Cat cherries

Officers, Christian servants are ^{so} few that their absence on Sundays need entail no inconvenience. When inconvenience is caused by Christians obtaining from work, it is for a legitimate purpose viz the enjoyment of due religious rights & privileges. But of the Native Community is unconvinced by ^{in places where there are no Christians} Hindu & Mohammedan servants being relieved from work on Sundays, although they have no religious duties to attend to, the case would appear in a different light.

The publication of the Govt order has however made a great change in my position, & I have now to be set right in the opinion of the general community of my personal friends & of the officers in the Provinces, who on reading the Govt order, naturally, as it was with the Proceedings of the Board & my Minute, would suppose that I had directly opposed a measure for the observance of Sunday & even implied a wish that Christian servants should be required "to transact ordinary business" on that day.

This is of course a position in which I cannot wish to be left, & it is one for which your present draft provides no remedy.

With these remarks, I must leave the matter in the hands of Govt. - Had all the papers been laid on the Editor's table I should not have feared misconstruction because my Minute would have shown my real views & proved that I was arguing against the arguments used by the Board, & not against the measure recommended by them, in respect to which I abstained from discussion (see Pg) - I do not however wish to prep for anything which Lord Harris desires to avoid, & therefore do not urge now for the publication of my Minute. But I trust that Govt. will give me the means of satisfying my friends that a mistaken idea of my views was expressed in their first order, & will allow me to make use of my Minute, should any disparaging comments be made upon me by the Press, in consequence of the Govt order having been laid upon the Editor's table.

Yours sincerely
J. M. M. M.

these -

sent 2 let.

Waltham, 4 mks 1

sent; every mks 1

was authorized to

in the letters in the

case as to whether

would be the function

of substituting him

Dec 22/97

J. D. Bourdell Esq

at 1 p.m. on Saturday.

Received the note marked

by you from Mr. Hallett.

I did not know he had

the paper in question

and had been placed in his

edition letter. I wrote to

Mr. Barron about it

I received his note No 2.

I then wrote to Mr.

Hallett. To mention that

It had been so placed & I missed
his note No 3.

In the mean time I
found the order. I now
translate in a box which
had been in the morning.
morning.

I translate it especially
into the notes. In order
that the explanation may be
found on the Editors table
at once as possible.

I think the draft might
be altered a little as I have
proposed.

It is unfortunate that
the misapprehension should have
occurred - as I do not see
that it can be avoided. It
seems all the papers in the
table - now. I do not see
the subject at the present time
should be as well avoided.

Copy in L.H. 1 to 3.
August 1859. No 38

Revenue 1859. Sept. 1st. D
to 10th 1859. 1859. 1859.

No 389.

Contract with of 1859.
of 23rd March 1859.

5-6

8-3 1859

60/100

No 647.

On the subject of the
closing of Public Offices
in the Revenue Department
on Sundays -

This to be
Lined in 1859