பொ. ப. புது எண்.
———— 24
———— துறை.

குறிப்பிட்டவர் பொறுப்பிலிருக்கும் பதிவுக் கட்டிலிருந்து எடுக்கப்பட்ட தாள்.

அச்சு / பலகை / வாளம் எண் ————, தேதி ———— 193 .

எடுத்த தேதி.	எதன் பொருட்டு: துறை.	நடப்பு எண்.	ஆண்டு.	தாள் எடுக்கும் எழுத்தர் அல்லது சிறமெழுத்தர் கையொப்பம்.	திருப்பிக் கொடுத்த தேதி.	திருப்பெற்றவரின் கையொப்பம்.

M.R.O. 14—10,000—21-4-22

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1726 Press ~~Mis.~~

486-487

Dated 27-9- 1860.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 27th September 1860.

No. 486. Read the following letter from W. GREY, Esq., Secretary to the Government of India, to J. D. BOURDILLON, Esq., Secretary to the Government of Fort Saint George, dated Fort William, 17th September 1860, No. 2,016 :—

SIR,

1. I am directed by the Governor General in Council to draw the attention of the Honorable the Governor in Council to the "Bill for imposing a duty on Arts, Trades, and Dealings, "and to require dealers in Tobacco to take out a License," as settled in Committee of the whole Legislative Council and republished in the *Calcutta Gazette* of the 8th instant.

2. It will be seen that the Bill has been much modified in details since it was last published, so as to remove some of the objections then urged against it. As now limited, it will not apply to cultivators or laborers, to professional persons or persons paying Income Tax, or to any, in fact, but artizans or dealers—persons exercising "any lawful art, trade, or dealing, for gain or "profit" who do not pay Income Tax. It will be a supplement to that tax, and not an additional impost.

3. Among the points on which the opinions of the local Governments and of Officers selected from among the most intelligent and experienced servants of Government are desired, are the following :—

(1.)—What rules is it desirable to fix for the classification of persons subject to duties under Schedules A and B ?

(2.)—Is it desirable to prescribe by general rules, or to include in the Act any and what forms and process so as to enable persons liable to the tax, to pay their duties and obtain their licenses with the least possible delay and trouble ?

(3.)—How far should the Bill be made applicable to Military Cantonments, and is any special clause necessary for the purpose ?

4. A sketch of the instructions which it is proposed to issue with the Act when passed is annexed to this letter.

5. As it is proposed to read the Bill a third time when the Legislative Council re-assembles in November, with a view to its becoming law before the 1st January, it is desirable that replies should be received to this Circular with as little delay as possible, and I am desired also to suggest that the necessary arrangements for the collection of the tax should be well considered in anticipation, so as to allow of their being carried out directly the Act comes into operation.

Instructions regarding the collection of the Duty on Arts, Trades, and Dealings, and on the grant of Licenses to deal in Tobacco.

The spirit of many of the instructions relating to the working of the Income Tax will apply to this Bill also ; but it must not be forgotten that there is an essential difference in the character of the two Bills which renders all inquiry into the income or profits of any one subject to this Bill for taxing artizans and dealers unnecessary, and such inquiry should be strictly forbidden except when specially invited by any one professing inability to pay the tax, and with a view to securing his own exemption.

As at present limited, the Bill will not apply to cultivators or laborers, to professional persons, or to any but persons exercising "any lawful Art, Trade, or Dealing for gain or profit," and not subject to Income Tax, and also to dealers in Tobacco.

All such "Arts, Trades or Dealings," known or followed in a district, must be arranged into three classes, into one or other of which every one subject to the tax will fall without reference to the precise amount of income which he may derive from his calling,—the nature of which may be taken as a rough index to his probable profits. Thus when a man's art, or trade is given, it should be at once apparent to which class he belongs, and what he will have to pay.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 27th September 1860.

As a general rule, every man liable to tax should be allowed to state the particular art, trade, or dealing which renders him liable to taxation, and should be classed accordingly, without delay or inquisition; should he have misdescribed his calling, the fraud cannot long escape detection, and will be easily rectified.

In those parts of the country where the Village system exists in some degree of integrity, and where the Village Officers are recognized as a branch of the public service, little difficulty can be found in carrying out the provisions of the Act without harassing the tax-payers, or exposing them to vexatious delays and extortion of the minor officials.

But where the village machinery does not exist in any recognized form, special measures must be adopted to secure the same ends.

To some extent the machinery of the Income Tax Collectors will be available, but there will be numerous large communities who will furnish contributors to this tax on arts and trades, but which pay little or nothing in the shape of Income Tax, and special machinery will be there required.

It is difficult to lay down any general rule as to the course to be adopted in such cases. Zamíndárs, Táluqdárs, or headmen of various denominations may often furnish an agency which will do all that is required with less trouble and annoyance to the tax-payers, than a stipendiary agency of strangers.

But whatever the agency, it must be of such character and in such numbers as to enable every man to comply with the requirements of the Act, without taking him far from his own home. It must be borne in mind that to the great mass of persons who will pay this tax the loss of a day will be a very serious evil, and that delay in enabling them to pay their tax and to comply with the provisions of the Act, will seriously enhance the burden of the tax. Every precaution must be taken to prevent this, and to make compliance with the requirements of the Act as easy and as little vexatious a process as possible—and the process of renewal year by year of the Licenses for the Tobacco tax, or of the receipts for payments of the tax on artizans and dealers should be simplified as much as possible.

Mechanical appliances, such as printed and stamped forms of License, may often be used so as to materially assist the local Officers by avoiding delay and, trouble in assessing or collecting the tax under Schedule B. In like manner printed forms of receipts adapted to each class of assessment under Schedule A may facilitate the collection of the tax on artizans or dealers.

With regard to Tobacco Licenses it is to be remembered that the object desired by Government is, that every one who now deals in Tobacco, whether by wholesale or retail, should continue to do so, paying the fee for License according to the extent of his business. The rates have been purposely fixed low so as to avoid the risk of forcing any one who now deals in Tobacco to close or contract that branch of his business, and thus to bring all Tobacco dealers under registration and moderate taxation with the least possible enhancement of the price of Tobacco to the consumers.

No. 487. ORDER THEREON, 27th September 1860, No. 1,726.

Ordered to be referred to the Board of Revenue for early consideration and report.

(Signed) C. G. MASTER,
Deputy Secretary to Government.

No. 2016

FROM

W. GREY, ESQUIRE,
Secy. to the Govt. of India,

To

The Secy to the Govt of Fort St George

SIR,

Dated Fort William, the 17*th September* 1860.

HOME DEPT. I AM directed by the Governor General in Council to draw the attention of the Govt in Council to the "Bill for imposing a duty on Arts, Trades, and Dealings, and to require dealers in Tobacco to take out a Lincense," as settled in Committee of the whole Legislative Council and republished in the *Calcutta Gazette* of the 8th instant.

2. It will be seen that the Bill has been much modified in details since it was last published, so as to remove some of the objections then urged against it. As now limited, it will not apply to cultivators or laborers, to professional persons or persons paying Income Tax, or to any, in fact, but artizans or dealers—persons exercising "any lawful art, trade, or dealing, for gain or profit" who do not pay Income Tax. It will be a supplement to that tax, and not an additional impost.

3. Among the points on which the opinions of the local Governments and of Officers selected from among the most intelligent and experienced servants of Government are desired, are the following:—

1*st.*—What rules is it desirable to fix for the classification of persons subject to duties under Schedules A and B:

2*nd.*—Is it desirable to prescribe by general rules, or to include in the Act any and what forms and process so as to enable persons liable to the tax, to pay their duties and obtain their licenses with the least possible delay and trouble?

3*rd.*—How far should the Bill be made applicable to Military Cantonments, and is any special clause necessary for the purpose?

4. A sketch of the instructions which it is proposed to issue with the Act when passed is annexed to this letter.

5. As it is proposed to read the Bill a third time when the Legislative Council re-asembles in November, with a view to its becoming law before the 1st January, it is desirable that replies should be received to this Circular with as little delay as possible, and I am desired also to suggest that the necessary arrangements for the collection of the tax should be well considered in anticipation, so as to allow of their being carried out directly the Act comes into operation.

I have the honor to be,

SIR,

Your most obedient servant,

Secy. to the Govt. of India.

R. for 22. Septr 186

No 419.
420

— 15. Septr 186 Rs
268 269

Ft.

From the Secy. to the Bd. of Rev. 3d Oct. 1860 C. No. 2164 Encl 25 Octr 60 No 1961

Forms Bd of Revd 5 Sept 60

C. 2113.

No 486 & 487.

Revenue 1860 Depart
Pro. of Govt for Septr

No. 2087

From the Secretary to
the Govt of India -

Dated 19 September
Recd 26 1860.

1. Encl.
Draws attention to the "Bill for imposing a duty on Arts, Trades & Dealings and requiring dealers in Tobacco to take out a License," as modified and republished in the Calcutta Gazette; and calls for opinions on certain points - also forwards a Sketch of the instructions to be issued with the act when passed.

No. 1726. 27. Septr.
With an order

No. 1726

Ordered to be referred to the Board of Revenue for early consideration and Report.

Fort St. Geo.
27 Septr 1860.

To the Board of Revenue with an Encl.

Copies 27