M.R.O. 14—10,000—21-4-22.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.C. No. 1559 — Press ~~Mis.~~

62.63

Dated 5. 8. 1861.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 5th August 1861.

No. 62. Read the following letter from E. B. THOMAS, Esq., Collector of Coimbatore, to J. D. SIM, Esq., Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Fort Saint George, dated Coimbatore, 11th July 1861, No. 35:—

SIR,

With reference to proceedings of the Improvement Committee in my absence, on the 6th June, I deem it my duty to forward a few remarks.

Memorandum by the President of the Improvement Committee.

1. Major Wapshare's letter to Government No. 23, on the subject of Reverend Mr. Griffiths' claim to compensation for a road to his former house, is stated to be a draft by Mr. Ouchterlony, adopted by the Committee* on the 6th June. As the resolution refers much to correspondence of my own with Reverend Mr. Griffiths formerly, I think it right to offer a few remarks. On the first point, the formation of the road in question (admitted to be entirely for the Reverend Mr. Griffiths' own convenience), I beg to observe, that in this and other matters, but especially of *paths* and *water-courses*, no opposition was ever offered to Mr. Griffiths, but such as was *unavoidably* elicited by Mr. Griffiths' notorious habit of ignoring the rights and boundaries of all his neighbors, through whose lands as well as Government's, he never scrupled or hesitated to cut and trace, as *he* fancied. The appeals to me to check Mr. Griffiths were constant, and such as I could not pass over, more especially as it was distinctly said to me in one of such appeals, that the writer "supposed Reverend Mr. Griffiths being "my relation, he was allowed to do as he liked."

* *i. e.* by those members who were present.

A few originals are enclosed in proof; their return is requested at convenience.

2. Of the *public utility* of the road, I cannot think so highly as the Committee; it is useful as an access to the few houses to which it leads, and as a pleasure drive, but as to its being part of some future approach to Mysore, or any other great public road, I think it very problematical; its present efficient state is from the public money spent on it; its *tracing* may be due to Mr. Griffiths originally, who is efficient, as may be fully admitted, at that work.

3. As to compensation, the Government will award what they think right and due; it was cut through Government land at no great cost at first, and if compensation was fairly and really due, it should, I think, have been claimed at once, when all the facts of the case could have been fully elicited and decided on. The road is a fair gradient, but I am not aware of any engineering difficulties in the way. I have stated shortly the facts of the case as I am cognizant of them; it does not appear whether the Committee have inquired, as I suggested, the facts from the old residents in that neighbourhood, who knew all that occurred, Mr. James, Mr. Higgins, Mr. Riley, Mr. Williams, Mr. Lowry, &c.

COIMBATORE,
4th July 1861.

(Signed) E. B. THOMAS,
Collector and President of the Improvement Committee.

No. 63. ORDER THEREON, 5th August 1861, No. 1,559.

Ordered to be recorded.

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

No. 35

Coimbatore Collr's Office
11th July 1861.

From,
E B Thomas Esqre
Collector of Coimbatore

To,
I D Sim Esqre
Secretary to Government -
Fort St. George.

Sir,

With reference to Proceedings of the Improvement Committee in my absence, on the 6th June, I deem it my duty to forward a few remarks.

I have the honor to be
Sir,
Your Most Obed Servt
E B Thomas
Collector

49/1861

From the Secy Dept of Internal Improvement Toronto 1861

Dept of Govt
Fort St George

To The Collector of Customs
Brockville

To The Secretary to Government
Fort St George

Dated 11th July 1861
Rec'd 18
No 33
With 6 enclosures.

Forwards a few remarks on the Proceedings of the Improvement Committee.

Rec'd 15th
Fort St George
5th August 1861.

Copy to the Collr of Customs Brockville

Improvement Committee 31st July 1861
No 1608/61.

36-6-65 +

Nos 62 & 63.

30th July R. 2nd Augt