M.R.O. 14—10,000—21-4-22.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 1974 Press ~~Mis.~~

164-165

Dated 11-10-1861.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 11th October 1861.

No. 164. Read the following letter from H. FORBES, Esq., Member of the Legislative Council, to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, Madras, dated Fort William, 27th August 1861 :—

SIR,

1. I have had the honor to receive your letter of the 31st ultimo, No. 1,517, transmitting the Draft of a Bill "for the levy of a money cess in lieu of the fees now paid or payable by the "people towards the remuneration of the village Officers in the Revenue and Police Depart-"ments," and requesting me to adopt the requisite preliminary measures for bringing the Bill under the consideration of the Legislature as soon as possible after the Government have determined the maximum of the cess to be imposed.

Proceedings of Government 31st July 1861, No. 1,516 paragraph 10.

2. The decision of the Government as to the rate of the cess has not yet reached me, and even should it do so by the next Mail Steamer, it would arrive too late to enable me to advance the proposed measure to any useful stage before the Council rises on the 7th proximo for its annual recess. There will now be only two more meetings of the Council during this Session, and even were the Bill in question read a first time on the 31st instant, it would not be possible that with all its appendices it should be pointed and have been considered by the members so as to be set down for discussion at a second reading on the 7th proximo. It will not advance the progress of the Bill in the least degree to read it a first time only, and I do not, therefore, propose to proceed with it to this stage, even should the information still wanting reach me before the Council adjourns.

3. I am not of opinion that this is to be regretted. The Bill raised a very important question indeed, and one that it would, I think, be very difficult to place before the Legislature, as at present constituted, in such a way as would lead them to view it in the light in which it has appeared to the Madras Government. A separate local Legislature will, in all probability, very shortly be constituted, and the measure is one that will be more satisfactorily dealt with by that body.

4. It is, however, the want of the information for which I was requested to wait that has alone prevented my proceeding with the Bill.

No. 165. ORDER THEREON, 11th October 1861, No. 1,974.

Ordered to be recorded.

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

R- 31st July 61 Nos 421-422

4-8-11

(3) Rev. 18 Department
Pris. of Govt for October
No. 2168

From H. Forbes Esq
Member of the Legislative
Council

Dated 27th Augt 1861
Received 12th Septr

No

No 1971 - 11th October

No 1974

Ordered to be recorded

Forbes H. Geo
11th October 61

From the Secy to the
Bd. of Rev. dy 1st Feby 62
& No 140 -

Informing that the Draft
Bill for the levy of a
money cess in lieu of the
fees now paid or payable
by the people towards
the remuneration of the
Village officers in the
Revue and Police Depts
could not possibly be
brought to the hearing
of the Legislative Coun-
cil during this Sessn
for want of certain
information

Recorded

No 164 & 165 -

c 16th Sept. 61 17th