M.R.O. 14—10,000—21-4-22.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 503 62-63	**Press** ~~**Mis.**~~
Dated 5 - 3 - 1862.	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 62. Read the following letter from the Reverend JAMES F. KEARNS of Parthiamputtúr of Ottapedaram Táluq, Tinnevelly, to His Excellency the Governor in Council, Madras, dated 31st January 1861, No. 507:—

SIR,

1. I have the honor to endorse your Excellency a copy of a letter addressed by me to J. Silver, Esq., Collector of Tinnevelly. I also endorse your Excellency the receipt furnished me by the Village Mirásdár for my Income Tax, and I beg respectfully to solicit your Excellency's attention to his signature.

2. I am induced to lay the matter before your Excellency, because but a very short time has elapsed since the Village Accountant called upon me and on the authority delegated to him, as he said, by the Tahsíldár, required me to furnish him with a return of my income, which I refused to do. And because, further, the order issued by the Tahsíldár to the Mirásdár, and in which my Income Tax was specified, obtained a *publicity* which could have been avoided, and which, to my mind, is at variance with the wishes of Government and with the spirit of the Act. And still further, because, the Mirásdár now engaged in collecting the tax is quite incompetent and his incompetence leads necessarily to a publicity which *can* be avoided.

From the Reverend JAMES F. KEARNS of Parthiamputtúr of Ottapedaram Táluq, Tinnevelly, to J. SILVER, Esq., Collector of Tinnevelly, dated 31st January 1861, No. 507.

SIR,

Under Section 44, Act XXXII of 1860, I had the honor to forward to you my Income Tax Returns, thereby hoping to secure that secrecy provided by the Act, and which every gentleman naturally desires, I was therefore not a little astonished yesterday evening (the 30th instant) when the Village Accountant and the Mirásdár presented me with on *open* order from the Tahsíldár (in Tamil), directed to the last named official, authorizing him to collect the amount of my Income Tax, specified in the order (Rupees 25-12-0). I should mention that, the Mirásdár being unable to read the order, a third person was called to perform that office for him. Surprized as I was, in deference to your authority, by which the Tahsíldár was acting, I paid the Tax, and demanded a receipt; but the collecting Mirásdár being unable to fill up that document, he, again, had recourse to the aid of another, who did it for him, after which he attached his signature to it in a manner which leads me to believe that he is unable to *write* more, a not very uncommon circumstance with Tinnevelly Mirásdárs. It is needless after this to say that the English words upon the receipt were beyond his comprehension. Both the Accountant and Mirásdár are *unpaid* by *Government* and are not bound by any oath of secrecy. Now, I very respectfully submit that, the *mode* adopted and the *persons* appointed to collect my Income Tax, gave to my private affairs undue publicity; a publicity which I did not anticipate. The amount which I paid as Income Tax is now well known in the village, and the fondness of the Natives for gossip is such, that in the course of a few days I expect that the people of the entire District will know it. The Accountant referred to above, called upon me only a very short time ago and informed me that the Tahsíldár required him to obtain from me the return of my income; but being unwilling to acquaint Natives with my private affairs, I declined, but now apparently, unnecessarily. Under these circumstances I have the honor to inform you that I am addressing the Madras Government upon the subject.

No. 63. ORDER THEREON, 5th March 1861, No. 502.

1. Referred to the Board of Revenue in continuation of, and with reference, to the Orders of the 8th and 16th February 1861, Nos. 311 and 367, on similar complaints.

2. The receipt which accompanies this letter is printed in a double form, one portion to be given to the payer, and the other to be retained by the receiver. In the present case the payer has been put in possession of the whole document.

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

R. D.

No. 502

ceedings of the Madras Government

Underdate the 5th March 1861.

Read the following letter

F. Kearns

from the Revd. Jences, of

Parthiamputtur of Ottapedaram

Taluq Tinnevelly.

ining of the Pro:

ertain Village

Tinnevelly - where:

prescribed by the

Act is entirely

(Here enter 31st Jany 1861 No. 307)

1. Referred to the Board of Revenue in con: tinuation of and with re: ference to the orders of the 8th and 16th February 1861 Nos. 311 & 364, on similar co: complaints.

2. The receipt which accompanies this letter is printed in a double co: form; one portion to be given

given to the payer, and the other to be retained by the receivers. In the present case the payer has been put in possession of the whole document.

C J M

J D S

Letter B — No 1

13 Copies to the Board of Admiralty with Rect. Rect'd 26

Complaint of the Rev. J. F. Kearns on Commutation and the Collection of the Income Tax

8th Feb. 1861.
No. 107.
16th Feb. 1861
No. 210-217.
207-212 Rec.

Revenue 1861 Departt
Pro: of Govt for March.

No. 502.

Pro: of the Madras Government.

Dy 5th March 1861.

From Bd of Rev. 6th April/61
No. 947 - in Pro: 27th April No. 946

Letter from the Reverend J. F. Kearns of Parthiampuliyur in Tinnevelly forwarding copy of a letter addressed to the Collector complaining of irregularity in the Collection of Income Tax, referred to the Board of Revenue.

No. 62 to 63.

L