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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1606 Press / ~~Mis.~~

362 363

Dated 28-7-1862

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 28th July 1862.

No. 362. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Military Department, dated 18th July 1862, No 2,515:—

Declining to concede to the Pensioners in Vizagapatam the privilege of obtaining liquor from the Canteen. } (Vide Military Proceedings, 18th July 1862, Nos. 285—288.)

No. 363. ORDER THEREON, 28th July 1862, No. 1,606.

Communicated to the Board of Revenue, with reference to Government Order 10th June 1862, No. 1,274, paragraph 2.

(Signed) P. P. HUTCHINS,
Acting Deputy Secretary to Government.

4. Under Act 32 of 1845, spirits manufactured in India by the European process can be sold only to the Officers of Government for the public service, or to the Abkarry renter for retail in his limits, and under Regulation I of 1820, the sale of country manufactured spirits in Districts that have been farmed out, can be carried on by the Farmer and his sub-renters only.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON, *Secretary.*

ORDER THEREON, 10th June 1862, No. 1274.

1. The Government approve of the Board's Orders, and must express their great dissatisfaction with Mr. Fane for his illegal and ill-judged proceedings in this matter. They are unable to admit the goodness of his motives as any excuse for his conduct, seeing that he allowed the privilege, illegally conceded by him, to be so grossly abused.

2. The proposal to restore to the Pensioners the privilege of obtaining liquor from the Canteen will be disposed of in the Military Department. The Acting Collector will strictly enforce the Abkarry Laws in future.

(True Extract.)

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

Referred for the observations of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief.
12th June 1862.

From the Adjutant General of the Army, Head Quarters, Ootacamund, 24th June 1862, *No.* 153;
to the Secretary to Government, Military Department.

Relative to Pensioners at Vizagapatam being allowed to draw spirits from the Canteen.

I have the honor, by order of the Commander-in-Chief, to acknowledge the receipt of the Proceedings of Government, Revenue Department, referred for His Excellency's observations by your memorandum, dated 12th June 1862.

2. It is concluded that the Pensioners referred to are those who have been Pensioned since 18th December 1840, and who are debarred the privilege of drawing spirits from the Public Stores—that is, from the Commissariat.

Vide G. O. C. C. 25th June 1853, *No.* 43.

3. Sir Hope Grant observes that under G. O. C. C. 1st May 1861, No. 38, which was published consequent on the representation of the Controller of Military Finance, and approved by Government, Officers Commanding Regiments are strictly enjoined to restrict their Indents for Malt Liquor and spirits to the lowest limit necessary to meet the authorized allowance for their own men:—and unless this rule is relaxed in some measure, which the Commander-in-Chief considers undesirable, His Excellency does not see how the Pensioners can be allowed to draw spirits from Canteens.

Vide Proceedings of Government, 28*th March* 1861, *No.* 1152.

With Report from the Controller of Military Finance, 9th July 1862, *A.*

ORDER, No. 2515, 18*th July* 1862.

The Governor in Council observes that, with the exception of men pensioned prior to the 28th December 1840, Pensioners have no claim to be supplied with liquor by Government at any Station, and His Excellency concurs in opinion with the Commander-in-Chief that the provisions of the Order* restricting the issue of Arrack from the Government Stores to those Military Classes only who are entitled to receive it, should not be relaxed.

* *G. O. C. C., 1st May* 1861, *No.* 38.

2. The drunkenness and intemperance of the Pensioners at Vizagapatam appear to have been complained of subsequently to the measures adopted by the Collector, and animadverted on in the Proceedings of Government above recorded,—and equal facilities for drinking to excess being obtainable whether the men get their dram from the Canteen or elsewhere—the necessity for making any special provision on behalf of the Pensioners in question contrary to the Regulations, is not apparent.

(True Extract.)

Deputy Secretary to Government.

To the Revenue Department.
" Adjutant General.
" Dy. Adjt. Genl. H. M.'s British Forces.
" Controller of Military Finance.

Exd. J. E. Cashart.

MILITARY DEPARTMENT.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following papers:—

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department.

Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 27th May 1862, No. 3424.

Read the following letter from the Acting Collector of Vizagapatam, 17th May 1862, *No.* 405; *to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, Fort Saint George.*

1. The general prevalence of drunkenness amongst the Military Pensioners at this Station has been frequently before me, and the General Officer and the Chaplain have more than once begged my attention to it.

2. It appears that about eight or nine months ago an Order was received, declaring Pensioners ineligible to the long standing privilege of getting liquor from the Veteran Company's Canteen. The poor fellows applied in a body to Mr. Fane, who, very good naturedly, but, as I surmise, very illegally, undertook to set up a separate Grog Shop on their account, so that each man might receive his two drams of *Rum* a day.

3. Now, for a Distiller to sell Rum otherwise than to a Government Officer empowered to purchase the same on account of the public service, or to Abkarry renters for retail sale, is a highly penal offence, particularly in the case where the liquor reaches any European Sailor or Soldier (*Vide* Sections II and III, Act XXXII of 1845); nevertheless, at the Collector's request, Mr. John Young, a partner in the house of Arbuthnot & Co., and Manager of that Firm's great Sugar Factory up here, promptly agreed to let a man named "David," a Native Christian, who keeps a Punch House in the Fort, have sixty gallons a month for the consumption, by retail, of these old Soldiers. The correspondence* I enclose.

* *Mr. Fane, to Mr. Young,* 17-10-61.
Mr. Young, to Mr. Fane, 23-10-61.

4. The consequences are the general drunkenness and intemperance I have referred to, and which are more particularly described in the depositions (herewith submitted) of two respectable householders who live in the neighbourhood. As the shop was opened by the authority of one Collector, I apprehend it would be inexpedient for another to close it; I therefore submit the case for orders. Beyond sending for the man "David" and severely admonishing him, I do not see my way to any punishment under the Abkarry Laws. He is not the District renter, nor does he hold under him. And this brings me to say, that this separate arrangement between Mr. John Young, "David" and my predecessor is, further, resulting in a considerable loss of revenue.

5. I have another point to refer. There is no correspondence to be found, but the Sarishtadár informs me that Mr. Fane told Mr. John Young that he was at liberty to sell Rum to the numerous Europeans (chiefly Pensioners) employed in his Sugar Factory. This, too, I apprehend is irregular.

6. I admit that it is hard that Pensioned European Soldiers should have no respectable place where to get a dram of spirits, and that, in arranging with "David," Mr. Fane acted on his view of what was best. I believe however that the arrangement is unauthorized, and most certainly "David" is not strong enough for the post. The best remedy would be to restore to the Pensioners the privileges of the Canteen, which include the privilege of being looked after. If the Board could get the Military authorities to do this, it would be a very great boon. Drink in moderation the men must have, and they should be able to procure it, like the effectives, in a decent, orderly, well regulated place. News rooms, Libraries, Chaplains and Missionaries might then have some influence on their conduct. Of their present squalor, wretchedness and misery, no words of mine could afford any adequate description.

From E. G. R. Fane Esq., Collector, Vizagapatam, 17th October 1861, *No.* 1031; *to J. Young Esq., Dimlipatam.*

I have the honor to inform you, that the European Pensioners at this Station, not being allowed any liquor in the Regimental Canteen, I have at their solicitation permitted David

Brothers to open one for their use, and therefore request, you will inform me whether you have any objection to furnish them with Rum manufactured at Chittivalsah, not exceeding sixty gallons per month, on their Indent, which will be countersigned by me in signification of my consent.

2. Whatever is your charge for the Rum, David Brothers agree to pay on demand.

From John Young Esq., Bimlipatam, 23rd October 1861 ; *to E. G. R. Fane Esq., Collector of Vizagapatam.*

I have the honor to acknowledge your letter of 17th instant, No. 1031, enquiring if I am willing to supply Rum from the Chittivulsah Factory to David Brothers on their Indents countersigned by you.

I will be prepared to do so, and I observe that the quantity is limitted to 60 gallons per month.

The deposition on oath of Captain George Robert Hodson, resident of the Fort Vizagapatam.

My house is about fifteen to twenty yards from Berrand's Lane. In Jamati street, just beyond the lane, is the Punch-house, commonly called "Hotel" kept by David Samudram. He keeps a Liquor Bar. It is much frequented by the European Pensioners. These men go in sober and come out drunk. This goes on every day, and incessantly, from morning to evening. The place has been open about a twelve month, since the abolition of the privilege formerly enjoyed by the Pensioners of getting liquor at the Veteran Company's Canteen. The liquor sold is Rum. I am informed and believe that it is procured from the Bimlipatam Factory belonging to Mr. Young. The most disgusting scenes go on daily-wild and indecent singing-men lying about on the pials of the neighbouring houses dead drunk, filthy acts of all kinds The neighbourhood is constantly disturbed. The shop is a perfect nuisance.

The other day at seven in the morning, Sir G. Whitlock and I were walking across the green to go to Warfield's premises, to see a boat building for Sir George, when a Pensioner was found by us lying dead drunk on the road, just opposite the Pay Office. Sir George sent for a file of Soldiers and had him carried home.

I have often thought of mentioning this to you, and am very glad to have been sent for by you.

The deposition of Mr. David Scott Turner, resident in the Fort at Vizagapatam, on oath saith.

I am attached to the Office of the Deputy Medical Storekeeper of the Northern Division. The Store is next door to Captain Hodson's. I go there every day, and I live in the same neighbourhood. I have heard Captain Hodson's Deposition read. Substantially my experience is the same as his. The Pensioners constantly come drunk out of David's premises—and the place is a perfect nuisance.

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1. Ordered that the above letter with its enclosures be submitted to Government, with the Board's strong recommendation, that if possible the former system of allowing the European Pensioners to obtain liquor from the Canteen of the European Veterans be re-established, and the disgraceful state of things described by Mr. Carmichael be thus remedied.

2. The existing arrangement is as illegal as it is objectionable, and although the illegality could be removed by arranging with the Abkarry renter to license the man David as his sub-renter, so that the sale of Rum by Messrs. Arbuthnot and Co. should be to the renter's representative, still it is evident that the liquor shopkeeper in question is incapable of maintaining order, and Mr. Carmichael should at once stop his sales which, as at present carried on, are unlicensed and illegal under Clause 9, Section VI and Section IX, Regulation I of 1820. It is not likely that the renter will be able to find any properly qualified person to whom to sub-rent a shop for the supply of liquor to European Pensioners, and in mercy to these old servants of the State, the Board trust that it may be found possible to restore the former system.

3. The sale of Rum by Messrs. Arbuthnot and Co. to the workmen in their Factory is clearly illegal and penal, which Mr. Carmichael should at once notify to Mr. Young.

Go. 18th April 1861 No. 317-318
10th Volume 1862 — 134-135

Rev. 1862 Dec. 5th
Pro. of Govt. for July
No. 2086.

Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Military Dept.

Dated 18th July
Received 23rd } 1862

No. 2515.

No. 1606.

Communicated to the Board of Revenue with reference to GO 10th June 1862 No. 1274 Para 2.

Govt. St. George
28th July 1862

Declining to concede to the Pensioners in Vizagapatam the privilege of obtaining liquor from the Canteen.—

5 Copies To the Bd of Revenue with Despatch
Ors. In Dec 5

No. 362 & 3631

No. 1606. 28 July

Letter and Order