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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 2083 Press ~~Mis.~~

397-398

Dated 17 July ~~19~~ 1869

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
17th July 1869.

No. 397. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 21st June 1869, No. 4,460 :—

Read the following letter from the Collector of North Arcot, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Vellimalai, 24th March 1869, No. 62.

I HAVE the honour to forward, for the favourable consideration of the Board, and for eventual submission to Government if they see fit, copy of a letter* from my Assistant, Mr. Gibson, recommending that the salary of the post of Sub-Magistrate of Vencatagherrycottah should be increased from Rupees 50 to Rupees 70 per month.

* Dated 15th March 1869, No. 95.

2. All that is stated in this letter is quite true. Experience has shown that, owing to the feverish character of the place, the post, at its present salary, is only sought as a means of obtaining a footing on the list of Sub-Magistrates by those who might otherwise have difficulty in getting themselves placed.

3. The place was last conferred upon a Musselman, in the hope that the more generous mode of living open to that creed might render him less susceptible of fever. This expectation has not been fulfilled, and the present Sub-Magistrate has suffered much from malaria as well in his own person as in his family.

4. Considering, therefore, that it is the very "Siberia" of the district, and that residence there sooner or later affects the health of all who are officially connected with the place, it seems to me but fair that the emoluments of the post should be raised to the same scale as those of the Sub-Magistrates of Arnee and Tirupathy, which are Rupees 70 per mensem. I recollect distinctly that Mr. William Robinson, when visiting the spot with myself during the famine crisis, was of this opinion, but I cannot find it recorded in any of the reports made by him at that time.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From E. GIBSON, Esq., Assistant-Collector, to the Collector of North Arcot, dated Chendragherry, 15th March 1869, No. 95.

YOU will remember that when rather more than a year ago the question was finally decided as to whether or not the head-quarters of the Sub-Magistrate and Deputy Tahsildar of Vencatagherrycottah, in Palmanair Talook, should be removed to a more salubrious locality, or whether it would not be even better, considering the unhealthiness of the neighbourhood, to abolish the office altogether, it was determined to retain the office, and to allow the head-quarters to remain as before at Vencatagherrycottah : accordingly the new Cutcherry is now in course of construction, and the station may be regarded as permanently fixed.

2. At the commencement of 1868 a grant of some three or four hundred Rupees from special funds enabled me to clear the nullah from which drinking water is drawn by the inhabitants, and to cleanse the town thoroughly, removing old buildings and repairing the roads. It was hoped that the sanitary condition of the place might, under these circumstances, improve, but the expectation has been disappointed.

3. Some few months ago the present Sub-Magistrate represented to me that his pay (Rupees 50 a-month) was less than that of any other Sub-Magistrate in the district, and requested that I would forward his application for a small increase. It is true that the work is not heavy, but, considering that in addition to magisterial he has also to transact revenue duties, it is probable that he finds as much to do as, for instance, the Sub-Magistrate of Arnee, whose pay is Rupees 70 a-month; and I cannot but think that some compensation in the way of additional stipend should be attached to an appointment in which the health of the incumbent must certainly become seriously and permanently impaired.

4. "In conclusion, in begging you to place the matter before the Board for their favourable consideration and submission to Government, I must mention that the present Sub-Magistrate, Dustagheer Sahib, who went to Vencatagherrycottah exactly a year ago, has, during that time, in addition to suffering himself from constant attacks of fever, lost by death both his mother and his wife by the same disease. The sufferings of the latter were, I am told, most distressing, as she lay prostrate from paralysis for several months before her death.

In this letter the Collector of North Arcot recommends that the salary of the Sub-Magistrate of Vencatagherrycottah, a station in the southern part of the Palmanair Talook, should be raised from Rupees 50 to Rupees 70.

2. The station is extremely unhealthy, and the difficulty of filling it up satisfactorily became so great that after trying the effect of a transfer of the office to Kistnapuram, a village three miles off, in vain the Collector advised the Board in December 1867, to abandon the station altogether.

3. The Third Member, who was soon afterwards on special duty in North Arcot, visited the locality and made careful inquiries on the spot. He reported that the charge of the Sub-Magistrate was large and important, and peculiarly liable to feel the effects of unfavourable seasons and epidemics, and that it was at a great distance from Palmanair, a place which the people strongly objected to visit.

4. It was finally resolved that a Sub-Magistrate must be retained at Vencatagherrycottah, an old native town on the Bangalore road, the site of a Police-station, and the seat of a considerable trade. Mr. Robinson advanced a small sum of money to effect sanitary improvements, but the place has continued to be sickly. The present Sub-Magistrate has himself suffered severely, and his mother and wife have died from the effects of the climate. The station has come to be regarded as a penal settlement, and the only plan by which it can be made an object of ambition, and good men attracted to the post, is to raise the pay.

5. The Board accordingly resolve to submit these *Proceedings to Government*, and earnestly recommend that they will raise the pay of the Sub-Magistrate of Vencatagherrycottah from Rupees 50 to Rupees 70.

No. 398. ORDER THEREON, 17th July 1869, No. 2,083.

Miscellaneous.

THE Government cannot sanction any additional expenditure. The Board will call upon the Collector to report if the salary of any other Sub-Magistrate cannot be reduced to raise that of the similar

ceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
17*th July* 1869.

Vencatagherrycottah. The Government observe that there are ten Sub- in North Arcot, six on 100 Rupees each per mensem, three on 70 ch, and one on 50 Rupees.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) R. A. DALYELL,
Acting Secretary to Government.

d of Revenue.

leman.

Revenue Department

No. 2083.

Proceedings of the Madras Govt.

Under date the 17th July 69

Read the following

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue

Recommending that the salary of the Sub-Magistrate of Venkatagherrycottah in North Arcot District be raised from Rs 50 to 70 per annum.

(G.O. 17th July 69 No 2083)

The Government cannot sanction any additional expenditure. The Board will call upon the Collector to report if the salary of any other Sub Magistrate cannot be reduced to raise that of the Venkatagherrycottah Sub-Magistrate. The Govt. are of opinion that the Collector should be asked to state whether any reduction can be made in the salary of the Sub-Magistrate of Nosh

Agent

Govt. of {1869} Madras.

REVENUE.

To

THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

Dated July, 17th.

Read. Encl.

G. O., 17th July 1869, No. 2,083.

JULY.

Nos. 397-398.

Pro- of the Board of Revenue
25- Aug^t 69 C^t No 2924.

Salary of Sub-Magistrate of Venkatagherrycottah in North Arcot District.—Collector to report if it cannot be raised by reduction of the salary of any other Sub-Magistrate.

