M.R.O. 14—10,000—21-4-22

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 962	Press ~~Mis.~~
61-62	
Dated 2 . 5 . 1862	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 2nd May 1862.

No. 61. Read the following letter from A. WEDDERBURN, Esq., Collector and Magistrate of Cuddapah, to the Honorable T. PYCROFT, Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated Muddenpully, 26th April 1862, No. 11 :—

SIR,

1. I have the honor to bring to the notice of Government, that there are reports abroad very prejudicial to the character of Mr. Morison of the Forest Conservancy Department of Cuddapah.

2. Having received a private communication from his Overseer, Webb, that Mr. Morison was not acting according to rule, which requires that money for licenses should be paid into the Treasury *before* the issue of licenses, I issued a Circular in the District Gazette of 22nd February last, prohibiting the transit of timber without a treasury receipt previously obtained, and reported to the Officiating Conservator of Forests what I had done. I called on the Tahsíldár of Rajempett to report what was the practice in his Táluq regarding licenses, and on receiving his report that money was not paid into the Treasury before the issue of licenses, but in lump sums without specification by the Assistant Conservator, I brought the same officially to the Officiating Conservator of Forests' notice on the 8th March 1862, and requested that an Officer of his Department should be deputed to enquire and report on Mr. Morison's irregularity.

3. Mr. Morison's Overseer, Mr. Webb, has since then officially accused Mr. Morison to Major Morgan of habitual drunkenness, and incapacity for duty, and has insinuated a charge of corruption.

4. Major Morgan has requested me to investigate this charge.

5. Mr. Morison is not my Subordinate, and is not residing in this District at present, but at Pútúr in North Arcot.

6. My Head Assistant is now at Códúr in the jungles, under Mr. Morison's supposed supervision, making enquiry regarding the issue of licenses. Mr. Morison's writer, after giving a deposition before Mr. McQuhae that his master had, in consequence of inability to write from having boils in his hands, employed him to sign his name to licenses for three months back, and as the money collected had not been paid into the Treasury, he said that Mr. Morison intended to repudiate these licenses and accuse him of forgery and embezzlement, shortly afterwards committed suicide.

7. I consider that Mr. Morison's alleged habits and incapacity for duty should be inquired into personally and on the spot by an Officer of the Conservancy Department; and further, if there be grounds for a criminal prosecution, that it should be brought by an Officer of that Department against Mr. Morison, before the Head Assistant Magistrate, now at Códúr. I beg that Government will be pleased to issue orders at an early date to this effect, for, although I have again written to Major Morgan, that Officer is on the Neilgherries, and orders cannot be expected for some time, owing to the distance and time occupied by the post.

8. I understand that Captain Beddome of the Forest Department is at the Presidency. It is only a few hours run by rail, thence to Pútúr. I do not wish my Head Assistant to be detained for a lengthened time in a feverish locality, and consider that there should be a Departmental examination of Mr. Morison and of the proceedings of his Subordinates, at an early date. Mr. McQuhae, acting magisterially, should have the charges and evidence brought before him, and cannot be expected to proceed into another District, in order to ascertain Mr. Morison's habits and capacity for departmental duty.

No. 62. ORDER THEREON, 2nd May 1862, No. 962.

The Government believe that Captain Beddome is now about to proceed on a tour of inspection through Cuddapah and Kurnool, and as it is an object to avoid delay in investigating Mr. Morison's conduct, the Government resolve to instruct Captain Beddome to undertake the duty at once. The Government do not understand why Major Morgan did not himself enquire into the conduct of his Subordinate, instead of throwing that duty on the Collector.

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

ordinate, in-
stead of throw-
ing that duty
on the Clerk.

J. D. S

Encl. to Lt. Gen. T. May 62.
4 Do the Conservator of Forests Dist. 5 Red Copy v.
Do the Collector of Caddapah v
14 " 2d " " Rev v
1 Do Captain R. E. Reddome v
Collr of Nundydroog
1st of Revd

From Court of Frank 7th May/62
No 1257.

C. No 61 1862.

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1862

Revenue Department
Pro: of Govt Secretary
No 12464

From

The Collector and
Magistrate of
Cuddapah

To

The Chief Secretary to
Government
Revenue Dept
Fort Saint George

Dated 26th April 1862
Rec'd 30th April 1862
No 11.

Bringing to Government notice reports against Mr Marison of the Conservancy department and requesting that an Officer of that Department may be deputed to inquire and report on them at an early date, as the Collector's letter to the Officiating Conservator has not yet been complied with to that effect.

No 962. 2nd May
With an Order

No 962.

The Pnt Letter that Capt Dt Beddome is now about to proceed on a tour of inspection through Cuddapah & Kurnool, and as it is an object to avoid delays in investigating Mr Marison's conduct The Pnt Collector & Magt Capt Dt Beddome to undertake the duty at once. The Pnt do not understand why Major Morgan did not himself enquire into the conduct of his Sub.