M.R.O. 14—18,000—27-9-34.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1180 Press Misc.

1264-27

Dated 7— 7— 19 1864

Not to be folded or roughly handled

L
Q 85
L
A4

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 7th July 1864.

No. 126. Read the following Extract from the Proceedings of the Right Honorable the Governor General of India in Council, in the Home Department, under date the 20th June 1864, No. 3,835.

Read the following papers on the question of a uniform system of Weights and Measures for British India:—

Letters from the Government of Fort Saint George, No. 834, dated 13th May and No. 2,005, dated 7th November 1863, with enclosures.

Letters from the Secretary to the Calcutta Trades Association, dated 10th July and 17th December 1863.

Letter to the Secretary to the Calcutta Trades Association, No. 8,107, dated 30th December 1863.

RESOLUTION.

1. The Madras Government, in submitting for the consideration of the Government of India "the great importance of steps being taken for the reform of the various systems of Weights and "Measures in use in British India," suggests the appointment of a Committee consisting of a properly qualified person from each Presidency to consider and report on the scheme, which, as least disturbing the present scales and nomenclature, and bearing a simple relation with the system observed in England, may seem most worthy of adoption for all India.

2. Similarly the Members of the Calcutta Trades Association request the appointment of a mixed Commission "to make full investigation into the system of Weights and Measures now "prevailing in India, and to adjust the same to one Imperial standard." And they further suggest that the standard thus obtained should be made obligatory by Law "in every District "and Province in the Empire."

3. There can be no doubt, the Governor General in Council observes, that a uniform system of Weights and Measures for all India would be of great public advantage. It is equally obvious, however, that the difficulties in the way of attaining so useful an object are considerable. There is much to be done before a practicable scheme for general adoption can be discovered, and when discovered, it will, His Excellency in Council anticipates, be better introduced by indirect means than by direct penalties of Law.

4. The mode of dealing with the question which most recommends itself to His Excellency in Council, is to have a separate Committee of well selected persons for each Presidency and Province. Each Committee should consist of 3 or 5 Members—for preference 3, say a Civil Servant, a Merchant and an Engineer Officer—who should meet together in the chief City of the Presidency or Province, and deliberate on the subject, reporting the result of their labours to the Local Government or Administration; and the Report should be forwarded with any remarks which the local Authorities may deem necessary for the further consideration of the Government of India. Such Committees, His Excellency in Council believes, would, for the present at any rate, be more useful and far less expensive than a Central Committee for all India.

---

1. Ordered, that a copy of this Resolution, together with a selection of former papers on the subject from the Home Office Records, be forwarded to the Governments of Fort Saint George, Bombay, Bengal and the North Western Provinces, for information and guidance, and to the Foreign Department for communication to the Government of the Punjab and the minor Administrations.

2. Ordered also, that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the Calcutta Trades Association for information.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) ARTHUR HOWELL,
Offg. Under Secy. to the Govt. of India.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 7th July 1864.

No. 127.

Miscellaneous.

ORDER THEREON, 7th July 1864, No. 1,180.

Ordered that a copy of the foregoing Resolution of the Government of India be communicated to the Chamber of Commerce, with the intimation that the Governor in Council will be happy to appoint any Member of their Association whom they may name, to be a Member of the Committee to be formed for this Presidency.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. D. SIM,

Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.
,, the Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce.

Ezd. S. T. August

C. P. 20336

Extract from the Proceedings of the Right Hon'ble the Governor General of India in Council, in the Home Department, under date the 20th June 1864.

READ the following papers on the question of a uniform system of Weights and Measures for British India:—

Letters from the Government of Fort St. George, No. 831, dated 13th May, and No. 2005, dated 7th November 1863, with enclosures.

Letters from the Secretary to the Calcutta Trades Association, dated 10th July and 17th December 1863.

Letter to the Secretary to the Calcutta Trades Association, No. 8107, dated 30th December 1863.

RESOLUTION.

THE Madras Government, in submitting for the consideration of the Government of India "the great importance of steps being taken for the "reform of the various systems of Weights and Measures in use in British "India," suggests the appointment of a Committee consisting of a properly qualified person from each Presidency to consider and report on the scheme, which, as least disturbing the present scales and nomenclature, and bearing a simple relation with the system observed in England, may seem most worthy of adoption for all India.

2. Similarly the Members of the Calcutta Trades Association request the appointment of a mixed Commission "to make full investigation into "the system of Weights and Measures now prevailing in India, and to adjust "the same to one Imperial standard." And they further suggest that the standard thus obtained should be made obligatory by Law "in every district "and province in the Empire."

3. There can be no doubt, the Governor General in Council observes, that a uniform system of Weights and Measures for all India would be of great public advantage. It is equally obvious, however, that the difficulties in the way of attaining so useful an object are considerable. There is much to be done before a practicable scheme for general adoption can be discovered, and when discovered, it will, His Excellency in Council anticipates, be better introduced by indirect means than by direct penalties of Law.

4. The mode of dealing with the question which most recommends itself to His Excellency in Council is to have a separate Committee of well selected persons for each Presidency and Province. Each Committee should consist of 3 or 5 Members—for preference 3, say a Civil Servant, a Merchant and an Engineer Officer—who should meet together in the chief City of the Presidency or Province, and deliberate on the subject, reporting the result of their labors to the Local Government or Administration; and the Report should be forwarded with any remarks which the local Authorities may deem necessary for the further consideration of the Government of India. Such Committees, His Excellency in Council believes, would, for the present at any rate, be more useful and far less expensive than a Central Committee for all India.

ORDERED, that a copy of this Resolution, together with a selection of former papers on the subject from the Home Office Records, be forwarded to the Governments of Fort St. George, Bombay, Bengal and the North-Western Provinces, for information and guidance, and to the Foreign Department for communication to the Government of the Punjab and the minor Administrations.

Ordered also, that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the Calcutta Trades Association for information.

(True Extract.)

Offg. Under Secy. to the Govt. of India.

Ordered that a copy
of the foregoing resolution of
the Govt of India be communi-
=cated to the Chamber of Comm[erce]
with the intimation that the
Governor in Council will be
happy to appoint any mem-
=ber of their Association whom
they may name, to be a mem-
=ber of the Committee to be
formed for the purpose
=desired.

From Secy to Govt
of Bombay
in Public Dept
dated 7th July 1864
Forwarding Copy of
Resolution of Govt of India
in Finance Revenue & Agriculture
Dept dated 20th June 1864
on the subject of the
Appointment of a Committee
to consider the Question
of Weights & Measures
with a view to the
Introduction of a
Uniform System throughout
India

Dated 20th June
Recd 28th July 1864

No 3835

From the Secy Chamber of
Commerce dated 2nd Aug. 64
No 2187 in Fo.
To the Committee for
Weights and measures Appeal
No 1021 Forwarding Copy of
Resolution together with Papers
connected with the Introduction
of the System of Weights &
Measures for information
& guidance

No 1180 of 1864

Recd 7th Aug 1864

Secy to Govt of Bombay
Public Dept
Copy of Resolution of Govt of India
in Finance Revenue & Agriculture Dept
dated 20th June 1864
on the subject of the Appointment
of a Committee to consider the Question
of Weights & Measures with a view to the
Introduction of a Uniform System throughout India

No 1180

Dated 20th June 1864

Received 28th July 1864

Answered 2nd Aug 1864

No 3835

Forwarded Copy of Resolution of Govt of India
in Finance Revenue & Agriculture Dept
dated 20th June 1864
on the subject of the Appointment
of a Committee to consider the Question
of Weights & Measures with a view to the
Introduction of a Uniform System throughout India
for information & guidance

No 1180 of 1864

Recd 7th Aug 1864

Secy to Govt of Bombay
Public Dept

No 1180

Dated 20th June 1864

Received 28th July 1864

Answered 2nd Aug 1864

No 3835

Forwarded Copy of Resolution of Govt of India
in Finance Revenue & Agriculture Dept
dated 20th June 1864
on the subject of the Appointment
of a Committee to consider the Question
of Weights & Measures with a view to the
Introduction of a Uniform System throughout India
for information & guidance

No 1180 of 1864

Recd 7th Aug 1864

Secy to Govt of Bombay
Public Dept