

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1561

Press
~~Mis.~~

403 - 404

Dated

29 - 8 - 1864

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
29th August 1864.*

No. 403. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 13th August 1864, No. 5,204.

Read again letter from the Collector of Nellore, dated 13th February 1864, No. 37, recorded in the Board's Proceedings, under date 17th March 1864, No. 1,671.

Read also the following letter from J. I. MINCHIN, Esq., Collector of Kurnool, dated 12th April 1864, No. 43:—

1. I have the honor to return the Petition forwarded with the Board's Proceedings, dated 17th March 1864, No. 1,671, and to state that the tax therein alluded to, has throughout this District been remitted as an item of Moturpha.

2. The tax was one on Sheep, and charged solely on the number owned by shepherds in the village, totally irrespective of the extent of pasturage. It was never considered a grazing tax, but was a very heavy impost on a particular class of the community, being charged only on shepherds, and not on the cultivating class.

3. It was in the first instance, commuted to the License tax, and on the abolition of that impost was abandoned altogether.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.—Petition.

1. Resolved that the foregoing letters be submitted for the consideration and orders of His Excellency the Governor in Council, with reference to the endorsement of Government on Petition No. 2,596 of 1863.

2. The Petitioners are of the shepherd class and residents in the Kanigherry Talook, which formed formerly a part of the Kurnool District, but is now attached to the Nellore District. Petitioners complain that Moturpha tax is still collected from them, though the impost has been everywhere else discontinued by order of Government.

3. Mr. Dykes reports that when the villages in which Petitioners reside were transferred to his District, he found the Petitioners paying a tax on their flocks of sheep and goats at the rate of Rupees 26 per annum upon a flock of 400 in number, and that this tax was then credited to Moturpha. On the abolition of the latter tax he ordered the impost paid by Petitioners to be collected and credited to the head of "Pooleri or Grazing tax," as the tax corresponded to the Grazing tax levied in other parts of the Nellore District.

4. The Collector of Kurnool reports that the tax of which Petitioners complain was never looked upon in his District in the light of a grazing tax; that it was a heavy impost on a particular class of persons, assessed, it is true, according to the number of sheep owned by each shepherd, but without reference to the extent of pasturage on which the flocks grazed.

5. Under the circumstances reported by Mr. Minchin, the Board are of opinion that Petitioners are fairly entitled to be relieved from the tax in question, for the tax as levied in Kurnool was, as shown by Mr. Minchin, a professional tax, and was not, as in Nellore, a tax payable by all classes for the use of the waste as pasturage. The Board observe that in any case Mr. Dykes exceeded his powers in continuing under another name, without reference to the Board or the Government, an item of taxation which had been abolished by a special legislative enactment.

No. 404. ORDER THEREON, 29th August 1864, No. 1,561.

Miscellaneous.

1. The Government agree with the Board that the Petitioners are entitled to the relief sought, and they are of opinion that the Collector should have referred the question for orders.

2. It will be a matter for consideration by the Collector, in communication with the Board, whether the Ryots of the villages in question should not pay in lieu of the impost hitherto levied the lighter Grazing tax which exists throughout the Nellore District.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) C. G. MASTER,

Deputy Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 13th August 1864.

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(A true Copy and Extract)

W. A. L.
Sub-Secretary.

To J. D. Sim, Esq., Secretary to Government, R. D.,
with copy of Board's Proceedings, dated 17th March 1864, No. 1,671.

Copy to J. W. B. Dykes, Esq., Collector of Nellore.
to J. I. Minchin, Esq., Collector of Kurnool.

Exd. J. Wright.

Revenue
1861
Department

No. 2175

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

Pro: Board of Revenue 13th

July 13th to 19th 1861

Dated 13th August 1861.

20th 1861

21st 1861

21st 1861

No. 5,304

Submitting for consideration and orders letter from the Collector of Kurnool reporting on Petition No 2536 of 1863 complaining of Murturpa tax being still imposed on Petitioners

12034404

22 Aug 1861

15th 29 Aug 1861
With per order

22-1561-

The Government agree with the Board that the Petitioners are entitled to the relief sought, and they are of opinion that the Collector should have referred the question for orders.

It will be a matter for consideration by the Board in communication with the Board whether the reports of the village in question should not have and lie of the inquest with the Board the lighter growing tax which exists throughout the Bellary District

12th 29 Aug 1861
12th 29 Aug 1861

22 Aug 1861