M.R.O. 14—13,000—27-9-24

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 1695 — Press ~~Mis.~~

230. 231

Dated 14—9—1866

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 14th September 1864.

No. 230. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 2nd September 1864, No. 5,721.

Read the following letter from A. HATHAWAY, Esq., Collector of Bellary to W. HUDLESTON, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Camp Gutti, 26th July 1864, No. 125:—

1. I have the honor, at his request, to forward for the information of the Board of Revenue the enclosed original* letter of the 23rd instant, No. 66, from my Acting Sub-Collector, and to observe, that I would wish the expression which he objects to in paragraph 2 of the said letter to "mean the work of the Sub-division, in addition to the extra work temporarily given to him."

* To be returned.

2. I neither had, nor have, any wish to express dissatisfaction with Mr. Reid as a public Officer. The extra work which, through circumstances, has been thrown on both him and myself, has been very trying to both of us; but I can safely state, that I have not shrunk from my full share of it. I have already stated in paragraph 5 of my letter to the Board, of the 18th instant, No. 118, that Mr. Reid had as much work (*i. e*, appertaining to his own charge) as he could efficiently perform.

3. As regards Mr. Reid's remark, in the concluding portion of paragraph 3 of his letter, I would observe, that my reasons for referring the case of the Tahsildar of Alur to him was, that the heavy arrears which I found in my own Office, were sufficient fully to occupy my time. Moreover, I found that an inquiry into the case in question had already been commenced by Mr. Reid, and that he was cognizant of the matters connected with it; he having prepared a Memorandum on the said case. On my assuming charge of the District, I however took charge of the Talooks of Bellary, Adoni, and Raidrug, and the revenue charge of the Talook of Hospet.

4. On the death of the late Deputy Collector, Streenevas Row, I was obliged to make over charge of two Talooks (Tadipatri and Gutti) to the Acting Sub-Collector, retaining Alur for myself; but never contemplated that so long a time would elapse before the appointment would be filled up; and even up to this time, I may add, the Officer appointed has not arrived.

5. On the 17th ultimo, on Mr. Reid's proceeding to Bellary, I assumed charge of these two Talooks, and found a most heavy, as well as discreditable state of arrears; one item of which was twenty-five cases of concealed cultivation and bribery, ranging from 1861. I have nearly cleared off this miscellaneous accumulation; and in lieu of the charge of the Talooks of Aluri and Raidrug which I gave to Mr. Reid, I have now, in addition to the charge of the Talooks of Gutti and Tadipatri, and the Revenue charge of Bellary and Adoni, and all the general correspondence, &c., which falls upon the Collector, the charge of the Talooks of Hindupur and Dharmavaram, and the trial of magisterial cases connected with Mudacasira, Pengonda, and Bookapatnam, which are all in the Sub-division, so that I consider therefore my statement "that I had relieved Mr. Reid of a great portion of the Police work of his Division" to be correct; he having only the trial of cases connected with Anantapur and Kaliandroog in connection with the Sub-division; of which, he formerly stated to me, that the Police work was so heavy as compared with that of other Talooks. Mr. Reid will be returning early next month to Anantapur, when he will have charge of the Sub-division only; as I shall then make a point of relieving him of all extra work, and take it all myself.

6. I may further observe, that since the 17th ultimo, he has had the services of the Assistant Collector at his disposal, for such matters as Mr. Lilly could investigate connected with the Collector's ordinary charge.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From J. W. REID, Esq., Acting Sub-Collector of Bellary, to A. HATHAWAY, Esq., Collector of Bellary, dated 23rd July 1864, No. 66.

1. Although I can but ill spare the time, want of which has hitherto prevented me from writing this letter before, I feel it to be my duty to myself to take exception to the tone of the

letter which you wrote to the Board of Revenue on the 22nd ultimo, that is to say, that part of it in which you spoke of me, and to express my opinion that your statements in that letter were not fair to me, and calculated to throw on my character as a public Officer, aspersions which I do not in the least deserve.

2. In the letter under notice you have been pleased to express yourself in the following terms, "the work of the Sub-division appears to be too much for this Officer." This expression is without any modifications, and I cannot but think that if the Board of Revenue are unaware of the true state of the case, and if they believe your statement, they will be under the belief that the Sub-division is too much for me, or in other words that I am unfit for the post I hold. And it is on this account I consider it necessary for my own protection to lay before the Board of Revenue in this letter, which I have the honor to request you will forward to them, the reason for there being arrears in the Sub-division.

3. I arrived in the Sub-division in September 1861, and till August (I think it was) 1862, which was the time when the Honorable J. C. St. Clair left the District for Coimbatore, I had charge only of the Sub-division *proper*. In September I was placed in charge of Tadipatry Talook, besides the Sub-division proper, and cases from Uravakonda and Gutti were committed to me till end of November when you assumed charge of the Sub-division and Tadipatry, and sent me to do the Jamabundy of Alur, Raidrug, Bellary, and Huvinahadagaly, and to have charge of Raidrug, Huvinahadagaly, Bellary, Hospett, and Kudlighi, and Harapanahully, and the Kumply Sub-Magistrate magisterial charge. I arrived at Anantapur on the 10th February 1863, and on that day assumed charge of Tadipatry and Sub-division proper, and cases from Uravakonda still were being committed to me. On the 28th of February 1863, you ordered me to assume charge of Raidrug instead of Tadipatry, the cases triable by a Magistrate with full powers being committed to my Court. You left the District on the 21st April 1863, being succeeded by Mr. Wedderburn, who, though the Honorable J. C. St. Clair returned in May 1863, withdrew no work from me till, in July 1863, I wrote begging I might be relieved of the extra work entailed on me justly during the Head Assistant's absence, for which however there was now no reason, as the complement of Officers was complete; and Mr. Wedderburn then withdrew the Raidrug Talook from under my charge in July 1863, and in January 1864 ordered cases to be committed to his Court by the Sub-Magistrate of Uravakonda and Kulleyandrug, those from Tadipatry being sent to me. Till February 18th, 1864, matters went on in this way, and then I had to assume charge of the District, which I held till the 18th March, when I was relieved by Mr. Minchin. You assumed charge of the District on the 1st April, and on the 4th of April you referred to me the case against the Alur Tahsildar for investigation. This investigation was not a duty that ought to have been imposed on me, but I cheerfully obeyed your orders. On the 29th of April, the Deputy Collector died, and for the last six weeks preceding my departure to Bellary, I had charge of the two Talooks of Gutti and Tadipatry, besides my Sub-division.

4. I beg to state that since the introduction of the Penal Code, which confers on us powers formerly held by Sub-Judges, the trial of all cases formerly investigated by that Officer now devolves on Magistrates with full powers. My file in 1862 amounted to 199 Calendars and 16 Register cases, and my file in 1863 was 208 Calendars and 13 Registers.

5. There is one other portion of the letter now commented on which I consider likely to give an erroneous impression of the facts of the case, in which after saying you have relieved me of the temporary charge of the Gutti and Tadiparty Talooks (which is quite true), you add that you have relieved me of a great portion of the Police of the Division. You have, it is true, assumed charge of the Dhurmavaram and Hindupur Talooks, and ordered that cases from Madacasira, Pennakonda, Bookkapatnam, and Tadipatry be committed to you, but you do not state that all cases from Alur, Adonie, Raidrug, Sirguppah, Anantapur, Uravakonda, and Kulleyandrug are still committed to me. It is true crime is not so frequent in Alur and Raidrug and Adonie and Sirguppah ranges, but your assertion that you have relieved me of a great portion of the Police work of my Division is not strictly correct.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
14th September 1864.

6. In writing this letter I have no wish to have it understood that I do not think it but fair that when extraordinary work is thrown on you as now by the absence of a Deputy Collector, I ought to bear a portion. I ought and cheerfully do so, but I have felt that your remarks have been in this case made without due consideration and explanation to the Board of the circumstances of the case, and that such facts as would enable the Board of Revenue to form an opinion as to whether the arrears of work were due to laziness on my part, or to pressure of work, were not laid before them in your letter.

7. You are aware that the absence of an Arzi written by Raghaviah, which is an important link in the evidence against him, and which is not forthcoming, is the cause of delay in deciding the case.

Ordered to be recorded.

No. 231. ORDER THEREON, 14th September 1864, No. 1,695.

Miscellaneous.

Ordered to be recorded.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) C. G. MASTER,
Deputy Secretary to Government.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

assumed charge of the Dhurmavaram and Hindupur Taluks, and ordered that cases from Madacasira, Pennakonda, Bookkapatnam, and Tadipatry be committed to you, but you do not state that all cases from Alur, Adonie, Raidrug, Sirguppah, Anantapur, Uravakonda, and Kulleyandrug are still committed to me. It is true crime is not so frequent in Alur and Raidrug and Adonie and Sirguppah ranges, but your assertion that you have relieved me of a great portion of the Police work of my Division is not strictly correct.

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Ordered to be recorded.

(True Copies and Extract.)

Secretary.

To A. Hathaway, Esq., Collector of Bellary,
with orignal enclosure returned.

Copy to J. D. Sim, Esq., Secretary to Government, R. D.,
in continuation of Board's Proceedings dated 2nd July 1864 No. 1078

Exd. J. Wright.

Pro 13 July 64 Nos 206-207

Revenue 1864. Department.
Pro: of Govt. for Sept.

No. 2371

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

Dated 2nd September 1864.
Dept 6 days
Rec'd 7th

No. 5,721. 8th 1695.

RECORDED.

14th Sept
1864.

Recording letter from Collector of Bellary submitting, with remarks, letter from Acting Sub Collector taking exception to certain words used by him regarding the heavy work in the sub-division.

Nos 230 & 231