M.R.O. 14—18,000—27-9-34.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 534 Press ~~Mis~~

1—3

Dated 1—4— ~~18~~ 1864

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Dangled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 1st April 1864.

No. 1. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 17th February 1864, No. 1,035:—

Read the following letters.

From the Collector of Tanjore, dated 30th January 1864, No. 22.

1. With reference to the Board's Miscellaneous Circular No. LIV, dated the 1st July last, I have the honor to submit the following proposals for the formation of the first Committees to be appointed for the superintendence of Native Religious Institutions in this District under Sections 3 and 7 of Act XX of 1863.

2. I regret the delay which has taken place in the submission of these proposals; but the subject being one of great importance I was anxious to give the matter my utmost care and consideration. It is almost unnecessary for me to observe that the selection of Members for the Committees had to be made with particular caution, not only to secure efficient and faithful management but to guard against the evils arising from dissentions and quarrels among the parties who are to form the Committees.

3. The arrangement which, after careful consideration, I consider the best and the least open to objection, is that the District should be divided into three Circles, and that each Circle with all the Hindoo Religious Institutions therein comprised, should be placed under the superintendence of a General Committee. These Circles I would propose should be termed severally the Tanjore, the Combaconum and the Negapatam Circle, and should be composed each of three Talooks as follows:—

Talooks.	
Tanjore..	Tanjore Circle.
Mannargudi.	
Pattukottai.	
Combaconum.	Combaconum Circle.
Myaveram.	
Shialli.	
Negapatam.	Negapatam Circle.
Nannilam.	
Tritrapoondi.	

4. The Committee for each Circle will hold its sittings and transact all business at the principal town of its name. Enclosed is a list of the Members whom I propose to constitute the first Committee for each Circle.

5. The number of Committees I have proposed will perhaps appear insufficient for the management of the numerous institutions in this District; but the chief difficulty is in finding persons of character and respectability, who will consent to act on the Committees, and who at the same time can be entrusted with the large powers and responsibilities which the Act under consideration gives. There are of course many persons willing to accept the trust; but whether a faithful and efficient discharge of duty can be expected from these parties, is somewhat questionable. As it seems to me the greater the number of Committees the greater will be the facilities for peculation and misappropriation; and the numerous contentions which would inevitably arise amongst the Members of the Committees would no doubt prove highly detrimental to the interests of the Institutions, and will, as a necessary consequence, fill the Courts of Justice with constant and endless litigation. Further, if the number of Committees were multiplied, the men of whom such Committees must of necessity be composed, will be utterly wanting in that weight and influence which are necessary for securing the respect and confidence of the people.

6. In the selection, however, which I have been able to make of Members for the restricted number of Committees now proposed, I have endeavoured to combine all the elements essential to the efficient and faithful discharge of the trust reposed in them; and I doubt not but that this arrangement will work more successfully than any other possibly can.

7. With reference to the suggestion contained in paragraph 2 of the Order of Government, communicated in the Board's Proceedings under reply as to nominating a separate Committee for

each persuasion, I do not conceive that it is contemplated to provide a Committee for each minor sect of the Hindu Religion. Such arrangement, if at all practicable, appears to me unnecessary, inasmuch as the Hindus, though they are to some extent influenced by antagonistic feelings of sect in their social intercourse, generally (and with the exception perhaps of one or two of the more bigotted classes) look upon all Institutions if at all with equal reverence and take the same interest in the well being of all such Institutions.

8. The arrangement proposed by me refers only to Hindu Religious Institutions. With regard to the Mahomedan Institutions, however, I do not conceive that any such Institution exists in this District which can be considered to fall within the definition given in Section 3 of the Act under consideration. These are generally under the charge of hereditary Trustees; most of whom call themselves descendants of the persons over whose graves the mosques were erected; where such is not the case the inheritance to the Trusteeship has been handed down through a line of disciples, the dying incumbent always nominating his successor. Further, it does not appear from the records of the Collectorate that any Mahomedan Religious Institution has ever been under the management of the Officers of Government, or that the power of nomination of Trustees thereto has ever been exercised by them.

Enclosure No. 1.

Abstract.—List of persons recommended to be appointed as Members under Act XX of 1863.

From the same Officer, dated Vellum, 10th February 1864, No. 33.

1. With reference to your Official Memorandum of the 3rd instant, No. 118, I have the honor to state that the arrangement proposed by me is, I believe, in perfect accordance with the wishes of the general body of the native community, though it is quite possible that some self interested parties such as the Trustees and servants of some few Pagodas, may be opposed to it.

2. I do not conceive also that there will be any difficulty from sectarian division, as the Members who have been chosen for the Committees are from their position and standing neither capable nor likely to be suspected of showing favor or disfavor to particular Institutions. Even should one or two Members be inclined to do so, they will, I conceive, from the constitution of the Committees as now proposed, be almost powerless, as they are composed of Members of both the Vishnu and Siva sects, and the majority are from their position and character known to be incapable of any unfair play.

---

1. Ordered that the above letters be submitted for the consideration and Orders of Government.

2. The Board are of opinion that Talook Committees composed of fewer Members would be more acceptable to the people, and more likely to administer effectively the trust committed to them than the three large Circle Committees proposed by Mr. Cadell.

3. In a District like Tanjore there can be no difficulty in selecting a sufficient number of individuals of respectability and influence in each Talook to form Talook Committees at least, and the Board much prefer this system.

No. 2. From W. M. CADELL, Esq., Collector of Tanjore, to J. D. SIM, Esq., Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, dated Tanjore, 16th March 1864, No. 257.

Sir,

1. As requested in your Official Memorandum of the 11th instant, No. 43, I have the honor to submit a revised list of persons recommended to be appointed as members of the Committees for superintending the management of Native Religious Institutions in this District.

2. These persons have no separate family or house names; but I have shown in the list their several professions or callings, with such further description where necessary, as would make their identification unmistakeable. I have also specified the place of residence of each.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
1st April 1864.

3. I should add that in the Negapatam Committee, I have substituted the name of Sevunttu-linga Chetty of Nagore instead of that of Bálusámi Chetty, as originally entered in the list submitted to the Board. During my late visit to Negapatam, I became acquainted with this person; and from the enquiries I then made I ascertained that he was beyond question one of the most leading and respectable members of the Hindu community.

No. 3. Order thereon, 1st April 1864, No. 534.

1. The Governor in Council resolves to adopt the Collector's scheme, which it is observed, that Officer states, is in perfect accordance with the wishes of the Native community generally; and he accordingly resolves, under the authority vested in him by Section VII, Act XX of 1863, to appoint the parties named in the list submitted by Mr. Cadell.

2. The Collector will re-publish the Notification of the appointments in his Gazette, and otherwise make it generally known in the District.

(True Extract)

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

To the Board of Revenue.
„ Collector of Tanjore.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

...ming the name of Members be so said for the
...o be formed for the Superintendence of Hindu
...Institutions in the District of Tanjore under
...Act XX of 1863.—

Committee for the

Tanjore Circle

...sri Sadasiva Dikshitar one of the Judges
...te Rája's County and Residing at Tanjore
...hani Pandittar a Judge of the late Rája's
...siding at Tanjore.
...ree Ram Sastrigal Head Officer of
...ree Vaikuntha residing at Tanjore
...i Selemi, Sastrigal Government Agency Officer
... Tanjore.
...ubbaya in Servigaru of the late Raj residing
...

Madali Mirasidar of Kottur in the Manna
residing in Kottur.

Committee for the

Combaconum Circle

...ri Ram Sastrigal R. R. Sastrigal Ramaswamy Sastrigal late
...Ramaswara residing at Combaconum.
...ga Sastrigal Trustee of Seshpanandal Mattam
...ing at Seshpanandal.

1. Gehu Subbaraya Chetti, Merchant residing at Cumbaconum
2. Vinkatapuni Chetti ——do—— do —— do
3. Chakravarti Ammiandi Chariyar, an Sivangar of the Ecclesiastical Order residing at Cumbaconum.
4. Sivaya Gnana Miandar Resident of Nakkadai
5. Ammiandi Pattanacheriyar, an Sivangar of the Ecclesiastical Order residing at Cumbaconum.

Committee for the Negapatnam Circle.

1. Subbaraya Naik, Merchant & Shanbogue residing at Tranquebar.
2. Shanmuga Chetti —— do —— do —— do
3. Senattaliya Chetti residing at Nagore.
4. Sanappa Mudaliyar —— do —— do
5. Agharappaiyar an Miandar, residing at Nanapatam
6. Tyagaraja Mudaliar Miandar Resident of Vadapudimangalam.
7. Venkatakalakatta Chetti a Merchant residing at Negapatam.

W. M. Goodrich
Collector

3. The number of Committees I have proposed will perhaps appear insufficient for the management of the numerous Institutions in this District; but the chief difficulty is in finding persons of character and respectability who will consent to act on the Committees, and who at the same time can be entrusted with the large powers willing to accept the trust; but whether a sideration given. There are of course many persons willing to accept the facilities faithful and efficient discharge of duty can be expected from these parties will be the facilities able. As it seems to me the greater the number of Committees which would inevitably arise for peculation and misappropriation; and the numerous contentions which would constant to the interests of the Institutions, and the numerous Courts of Justice with constant and endless litigation. Further, if the number of Committees were multiplied, the men of whom such Committees must of necessity be composed, will be utterly wanting in that weight and influence which are necessary for securing the respect and confidence of the people.

6. In the selection however, which I have endeavoured to combine all the elements essential to make of Members for the restricted number of Committees now proposed, I have endeavoured in item; and I doubt not but that this the efficient and faithful discharge of the trust reposed in them.

7. With reference to the suggestion contained in paragraph 2 of the Order of Government, arrangement will work more successfully than any other possibly can. communicated in the Board's Proceedings under reply as to nominating a separate Committee for each minor each persuasion, I do not conceive that it is contemplated to provide a Committee for each sect of the Hindu Religion. Such arrangement, if at all practicable, appears to me unnecessary,

Official Num of 11-3-64 No. 43

1864 Department.
In a Letter
From
The Collector of
Tanjore
To
The Secretary to
Government.
Dated 16th } March 1864
Rec'd } Rec'd 7/8/64.

No 225

1st Apl 164.
534

1-2

Revised List of persons recommended to be appointed as Members under Act XX of 1863.

16-9-64

2-6-91

2. The Board are of opinion that Taluk Committees composed of fewer Members would be more acceptable to the people, and more likely to administer effectively the trust committed to them than the three large Circle Committees proposed by Mr. Cadell.

3. In a District like Tanjore there can be no difficulty in selecting a sufficient number of individuals of respectability and influence in each Taluk to form Taluk Committees at least; and the Board much prefer this system.

(True Copies and Extract)

Secretary.

To J. D. Sim, Esq., Secretary to Government, R. D., with enclosure.

Copy to W. M. Cadell, Esq., Collector of Tanjore.

I am disposed to agree with the Collector - at all events the experiment may be tried. WW

Rtd. R. H. Lee.

- I concur with the Board - Most of the Pagodas are small & local, & the Commissioners prefer for their management persons who live in the neighbourhood & are personally known -

Received in Tanjore Dist. Office 5th August 1891.

Forwarded to the Collector of Tanjore.

Received under the Collector's Endorsement No. 4 of 1891.

I would adopt the Collector's recommendation that it is in accordance with the wishes of the Commissioners & those of the Board and explain to the Dist. Board & Taluk Committees

1864. Department.

No. 450.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

February 1864.

No. 1,035

Submitting for the consideration of Government letter from the Collector of Tanjore with the expression of the Board's opinion that Taluk Committees composed of fewer members would be more acceptable to the people than the three large Circle Committees proposed by the Collector.

4. The Governor, in Council resolves to adopt the Collector's scheme, which it is observed, that officer states, is in perfect accordance with the wishes of the native community generally; and he accordingly resolves, under the authority vested in him by section VIII Act XX of 1863, to appoint the parties named in the list submitted by Mr Cadell.

The Collector will cause publick the notification of the appointments in his Zillah, and otherwise make it generally known in the District.