M.R.O. 14—13,000—27-8-24

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 1042 Press ~~Mis.~~

313 · 314

Dated 18 - 5 - 1865.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
18th May 1865.

No. 313. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 9th May 1865, No. 2,346.

Read the following letter from P. GRANT, Esq., Collector of Coimbatore, to R. A. DALYELL, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 4th April 1865, No. 56 :—

SIR,

1. I have received Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 18th March 1865, No. XVIII., Board No. 1,538, in which information is called for in paragraph 6 of the Government Order which accompanies them, as to the mode which should be adopted to raise funds for the construction and maintenance of the District roads.

2. The best, and as it appears to me, the only course which can be followed in this District, is to levy a rate of 2 per cent. on the payments of each Ryot as is being done in the Districts which are now being settled by the Settlement Department. The rate is light, and would not fall heavily on the people. They would complain at first, but when they found that their roads and public Chuttrums were really being put in order, they would become reconciled to the cess. It is now imposed in this District in all cases in which a reduction of assessment is made, and is readily acquiesced in. The imposition of tolls, except in particular localities, I do not advocate. The tolls on the road between the Railway station and Coonoor are doing well, and no one, I think, has any reason to complain of them, as the road is in good order, and has cost much money to bring it to its present condition. A larger sum will, however, be required to keep it in order than is now raised, and, I think, the location of a toll near Ootacamund for the levy of toll on wheeled carriages only on the Coonoor road is a question deserving the consideration of Government. The existing road is a good one, but it cannot be maintained in its present state unless funds are raised in the manner proposed. The levy of toll on wheeled carriage is alone recommended, as all pack bullocks, asses, &c., find their way from Coonoor to Ootacamund by the old or low road, which is kept up at a trifling annual cost. The levy of toll at the Bhowany bridge at Sattimungalam was sanctioned by Government in their Order, dated 6th December 1864, No. 2,207. The rate of toll is Annas 4 for a laden and Annas 2 for an empty bandy. I beg to recommend that during the hot months, that is from February to May, both months inclusive, whilst the rivers are empty, these rates be reduced by one half, as, in order to escape the toll, people do not hesitate to take their bandies over rough country to the fords at the above rate of toll, it is thought that the bandy-men will take advantage of the bridge.

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1. Submitted to Government with the Board's recommendation that the Collector be authorized to reduce the rates of toll at Sattimungalam, and that the establishment of a toll on the Coonoor and Ootacamund road be taken into consideration as proposed.

2. The Board will address Government at length on the subject of the maintenance of roads when they submit the Draft Act called for in the Order of Government, under date 5th April 1865, No. 741.

No. 314. ORDER THEREON, 18th May 1865, No. 1,042.

Local Funds.

1. The proposed reduction of toll at the Bhowany bridge to half rates during the dry weather, from February to May inclusive, is sanctioned.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
18th May 1865.

2. The Government consider that the circumstances of the carriage road from Coonoor to Ootacamund are such as to warrant the imposition of a toll on wheeled traffic, but before sanctioning its establishment they desire to know at what rate the Collector proposes to levy it, and what will be the whole charge for toll on a cart from the Pothanoor station to Ootacamund, a distance of some 55 miles.

3. He will also submit an estimate of the proceeds of the new toll, and the cost of its collection.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
Acting Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.
,, the Collector of Coimbatore.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

No. 2,346.

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 9th May 1865.

Read the following letter from P. GRANT, Esq., Collector of Coimbatore, to R. A. DALYELL, Esq, Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 4th April 1865, No. 56 :—

1. I have received Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 18th March 1865, No. XVIII., Board No. 1,538, in which information is called for in paragraph 6 of the Government Order which accompanies them, as to the mode which should be adopted to raise funds for the construction and maintenance of the District roads.

2. The best, and as it appears to me, the only course which can be followed in this District, is to levy a rate of 2 per cent. on the payments of each Ryot as is being done in the Districts which are now being settled by the Settlement Department. The rate is light, and would not fall heavily on the people. They would complain at first, but when they found that their roads and public Chuttrums were really being put in order, they would become reconciled to the cess. It is now imposed in this District in all cases in which a reduction of assessment is made, and is readily acquiesced in. The imposition of tolls, except in particular localities, I do not advocate. The tolls on the road between the Railway station and Coonoor are doing well, and no one, I think, has any reason to complain of them, as the road is in good order, and has cost much money to bring it to its present condition. A larger sum will, however, be required to keep it in order than is now raised, and, I think, the location of a toll near Ootacamund for the levy of toll on wheeled carriages only on the Coonoor road is a question deserving the consideration of Government. The existing road is a good one, but it cannot be maintained in its present state unless funds are raised in the manner proposed. The levy of toll on wheeled carriage is alone recommended, as all pack bullocks, asses, &c., find their way from Coonoor to Ootacamund by the old or low road, which is kept up at a trifling annual cost. The levy of toll at the Bhowany bridge at Settimungalam was sanctioned by Government in their Order dated 6th December 1864, No. 2,207. The rate of toll is Annas 4 for a laden and 1 Annas 2 for an empty bandy. I beg to recommend that during the hot months, that is from February to May, both months inclusive, whilst the rivers are empty, these rates be reduced by one half, as, in order to escape the toll, people do not hesitate to take their bandies over rough country to the fords at the above rate of toll, it is thought that the bandymen will take advantage of the bridge.

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1. Submitted to Government with the Board's recommendation that the Collector be authorized to reduce the rates of toll at Sattimangalum, and that the establishment of a toll on the Coonoor and Ootacamund road be taken into consideration as proposed.

2. The Board will address Government at length on the subject of the maintenance of roads when they submit the Draft Act called for in the order of Government, under date 5th April 1865, No. 741.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

R. A. Dalyell
Sub-Secretary.

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

Copy to P. Grant, Esq., Collector of Coimbatore.

Exd. J. Wright.

Pro. 5th April 63 No. 65-
6th December 64 No. 150.

Rev. 1865. Department.

Pro. of Govt. for May

No. 1270.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

Dated 9th May 1865.

Despd.

Rec. 13th.

From the Coll. of Coimbatore
of 30th May to 6th Inst.

No 2,346.

Submitting letter from the Collector of Coimbatore, and recommending that authority be given for the proposed reduction in the rates of toll at Sattimangalam, and that the establishment of a toll on the Coonoor and Ootacamund road be taken into consideration.

No. 1042. 18 May

With an order

14 Feb. Ord. of Govt. dated 19th May
to Collector of Coimbatore

313-314.

No. 1042.

The proposed reduction of Toll at the Bhowany bridge to half rates during the dry weather from February to May inclusive, is sanctioned.

The Govt. consider that the circumstances of the carriage-road from Coonoor to Ootacamund are such as to warrant the imposition of a toll on wheeled traffic - but before sanctioning its establishment they desire to know at what rate the Coll. proposes to levy it - and what will be the whole charge for Toll on a cart from the Pothanoor station to Ootacamund - a distance of some 55 miles.

He will also submit an estimate of the amount of the new Toll & the cost of its collection.

18th May 1865.